

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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Sunday 24th September 2023



**10.30am: Harvest Festival Service led by
Rev Richard Atkinson.**

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, this morning, are Gill Marks and David Wilderspin.

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

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

Hymns	StF 110 136 727 130 124
Readings	Ruth 2: 1-9 Matthew 13: 1-9
Organist	Derek Matthews
Streaming	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.



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

All children MUST be accompanied.

**The flowers this week are in loving memory
of Sarah and Carol – still the sunshine in my heart.**

Dave Rogers.

For those who have not yet heard, Circuit Meeting agreed, earlier this month, to invite Richard to remain as our Superintendent Minister, which means he will be staying in the Circuit until at least 2029. 😊

Family News: Pearl is now back home, recovering quietly, and not quite ready yet for visitors. If you would like updates on Pearl, please ask Pauline Noble.

We will be holding **TWO** coffee mornings to support this worthwhile charity:

- **Wednesday 27th September** here in our Welcome Space coffee bar, from 10am to 12.30pm.
- **Saturday 30 September** at 34 Manor Road, HP 20 1JD from 10am to 12.30pm.

Offers of cakes will be most welcome.

Thank you for your support. Chris Sara.



NEXT SUNDAY, 1ST October, we will hold a retiring collection for the British Red Cross Emergencies Fund, which is currently responding to the need for help after the earthquake in Morocco and the floods in Libya, which have devastated thousands of people's lives.

Please note that there will be **no notice sheet for Sunday 8th October**. Any notices can be given to the Church Stewards to read out that Sunday.



**The Lunch Club will start on
Wednesday 4th October at 12:30pm.**

It is open to ANYONE and EVERYONE, so if you are planning on coming, please let Richard or Gill (01296 748659) know by **Sunday 1st October**. Please tell us if you have any allergies or intolerances and also if you are vegetarian or vegan.

On the day, we will ask you to make a donation to cover the cost of your 2-course meal.

Future dates will then be **Wednesday 8th November** and **Wednesday 6th December**, and again we ask that you book in by the Sunday before, to help with catering.

Looking forward to seeing you at this new venture. Gill Marks



NEXT Saturday 30th September 2023 at 6:30pm.
Holy Trinity Church, Prestwood

Listen to Mark Jennings playing music from Bach,
Albeniz, Tarrega and more!

Funds raised will go towards supporting some of Kenya's
most vulnerable children to access quality education and
turn their lives around!

*Tickets are £15 per adult (including a glass of wine)
or £10 per concession.*

To order, email office@karibuni.org.uk, call 01296 614887 or
purchase on the door. *See posters on noticeboards.*



Karibuni Children

Our next Messy Church is on

Saturday 7th October from 3.45pm till 6.00 pm.

Our theme will be *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour
Dreamcoat*. Please come along and join in the fun. Please
come along and join in the fun. To help with catering,
please email amc22messychurch@gmail.com by Thursday 5th October to let
us know if you're coming along.

Many thanks. Margaret Miskin



This year's **LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL** forms
are now in the Welcome Space Coffee Bar.

The Shoebox Appeal is especially important this year as
they strive to ensure that more boxes are delivered into
Ukraine, as well as the other countries that they support.

Boxes must be ready by Friday 3rd November and can either be given to me
or left in the office. If anyone wishes to give a donation of money, I can then
send it to Link to Hope, or I can fill a box on your behalf. Any single items
from the list are also gratefully received. Shoeboxes are always given to
convey love from a stranger to a stranger, and this year they will be sorely
needed. Please support this annual appeal.

I have a few spare shoe boxes if anyone needs one but I've found that Clarks
shoe shop are very helpful.

Many Thanks. Margaret Miskin



CHURCH READINGS October - December 2023:

A new sheet is now on the noticeboard, so if you are willing to join our rota for reading the lesson in Church from time to time, **please sign up** for the week you would like to read, with just your name (no contact details) and a steward will contact you during that week with the reading. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the stewards or Richard.

Aylesbury Foodbank. Currently the Foodbank are asking for donations of: **Chocolate, chopped tomatoes/pasta sauce, tinned fruit, longlife fruit juice, tinned fish, biscuits, table sauces, soup, tea & coffee. But ALL donations are welcome!**



DEREK TREKS BRITAIN [LEG 5] Continued.

Derek is raising funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation. Having exceeded the original target of £1,000 each, the new target we have set, to keep the Old Boy motivated, is £10k, divided equally between the three charities.

September 14th. Day 3

Derek started the morning with great sea views from Bovisand, a super location to head for his starting point of Wembury.

He headed from Wembury to Plymouth, walking around the bay that encloses Plymouth Military Installations which protect the dockyard. He took a small ferry from Mountbatten Point to the dockyard. This historical site saw the sailing of the Mayflower 400 years ago this Saturday - September 16th!

Just 102 brave passengers seeking a new life in America. The Pilgrims founded the first permanent European settlement in New England.

Less willing emigrants were the Tolpuddle Martyrs. Six English farmers who were sentenced to 7 years in a penal colony for organising trade union activities in their Dorset village of Tolpuddle. They sailed from Plymouth in 1834, bound for Australia.

The Early colonists arriving in Canterbury, New Zealand in 1850 also sailed from here.

Back to today, and Derek watched a Naval Supply Ship anchored outside the port, approached by a supply barge. The front of the supply ship had a conventional hull, but the rear resembled the shape of a catamaran. The supply barge went to the rear of the ship, between the two outer parts, and disappeared from view. He wondered if munitions were being loaded, as the transaction was taking place safely (from the public's point of view) out at sea, rather than dockside.

Anyone who knows Derek will know how he chats to just about everyone he encounters in life. Today, when pausing to look at one of the many coastal batteries hewn into the cliffs, he met a fellow walker, and apparent soul mate, Kurt, from Austria. Kurt was walking in the opposite direction, and yet they clearly had quite a conversation. Kurt also loves the British coastline, and spends holidays here walking different coastal paths. They had so much in common, that despite a 15-year age difference, they did wonder if they had the same father!!

The terrain here is very steep; Derek says that ten miles feel like twenty, and "If you're not going up, you are going down."

He appreciates that he will not be covering ground as quickly as he had hoped. Another day without a Greggs - how long can our Hero continue without his favourite sustenance? Only time will tell.

September 15th. Day 4.

Starting again from Plymouth, Derek paused on the Hoe to admire Smeaton's Tower. The Lighthouse is a memorial to civil engineer John Smeaton, who designed the third, and most notable, Eddystone Lighthouse, which was in use from 1759 - 1877.

Another point of interest is a statue of Drake, who allegedly said he had time enough to finish his game of bowls, and still thrash the Spanish, when the Spanish Amada was spotted off shore.

In the Barbican area of Plymouth there is an archway which leads through to the Mayflower Steps, believed to be the site where the Pilgrim Fathers sailed from England to America in 1620. One side of the archway is the American flag and the Union Flag is on the other side.

Anchored off shore is the replica of a Spanish tall ship, of the time of the Armada.

Derek caught the ferry from Plymouth Harbour across the Sound, entering Cornwall at Cawsand on the Rame peninsula. This area is known locally as

'Cornwall's Best Kept Secret', a stunning area. It was used in the filming of 'Mr Turner', starring Timothy Spall as the Great Artist.

Derek continued along Whitsand Bay with its sheer cliffs and dramatic scenery. Offshore here, the wreck of HMS Scylla now provides a reef favoured by divers, and the Eddystone Lighthouse is always within sight on the horizon. Actually, in spite of its name, not an appropriate walk for OAP's, he next passed Port Wrinkle! He then skirted close by the Monkey Sanctuary, which we had visited on honeymoon, just 55 years ago. It was quite new then, having been opened 3 years previously by Jeff Williams, the father of classical guitarist, John Williams.

I remember vividly the guide who showed us round (possibly Mr Williams?) showing us 2 puncture holes at the top of his skull, just behind his forehead, he had received following an attack by (I think) a woolly monkey. He had made the mistake of stroking, or patting, the female partner of the attacker, who was swift to see off his competitor.

A hard lesson learnt, but he understood his error, and did not blame the monkey at all. Anyway, back to 2023....

Passing the Monkey Sanctuary, Derek dropped down into Looe, to visit their RNLI station. Here he met Liz and Josephine, doing an excellent job, manning the shop. They kindly introduced him to the crew, and a delightful character resembling the Ancient Mariner, Ray. Ray is full of wonderful stories of RNLI Looe, and the heroes who do now, and have in the past, manned the station. A great end to a great day.

Oh.....that reminds me...the Old Boy had GREGGS sausage roll and hot chocolate for his breakfast today! 😊



At Looe RNLI Station!

September 16th. Day 5.

A second day of rain today as Derek set off from Looe. Lots of ferries carrying tourists along the coast had been cancelled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday this week due to the poor weather

More 'up and down' terrain, similar to that in the area from Durdle Door, and described by Derek as like a section of Vienetta ice cream.

He met lots of lovely fellow walkers today including Nicki and Neil, and two lovely ladies visiting from Vancouver, and a couple who are both NHS workers. The latter were recharging their batteries after a stressful time following the

birth of their granddaughter, Amelia, who weighed just 1lb 1oz at birth! Amelia is now 3 months old and doing really well.



Polperro

He walked through the pretty fishing village of Polperro, still quite unspoilt with a single lane of traffic through the village. The village has its own Fishermen's Choir, performing traditional Cornish songs, as well as more modern choral music. The choir was actually formed in 1923. On selected Wednesday evenings in the summer, they can be found on the Fish Quay of Polperro entertaining locals and visitors alike. They raise a lot of money for different charities.

Derek spotted seals and bottlenose dolphins at Lantivet Bay, between Polperro and Fowey. Unfortunately, shortly after, he slipped on loose gravel and twisted his weak knee. He was forced to leave the coastal path and walked down to a car park where a lovely couple took pity on him and took him to Polruan where he was able to catch a ferry to Fowey. From here it was an uphill walk to a pub called 'The Safe Harbour'. He had been advised that this was the end stop for the bus. He asked the barmaid about bus times, and was told the timetable was not reliable, so he ordered a coffee, having been told the bus would be clearly seen doing a 10-point turn outside to go back down the hill!



Looking through to another room he saw a silhouette he recognised; he grabbed the shoulder of the unsuspecting chap from behind, and greeted him in German - it was his friend Kurt, from Austria who he had met 2 days ago. They had parted then saying that they hoped their paths would meet again! Perhaps they will yet again, although Kurt, once again left in a different direction.

Derek eventually got back to his accommodation. He wears a support for his knee anyway, so apart from rest, and prayer, there is not much he can do for now. No Greggs today, either. Nevertheless, he said it had been a good day's walk, with many nice encounters on the way.

September 17th. Day 6

Derek awoke early to a sore knee. He noticed that his knee was not the only thing to have been damaged when he slipped on that clifftop; his right boot also suffered, but should still be waterproof, and, I am advised, should last to the end of this current Leg.

For once, Our Hero decided to do the sensible thing, and declare a rest day (after going to Church).

He found his way to Plymouth Central Hall Methodist Church, where he was given a warm welcome by the Minister, Gareth and the congregation, who sent their love and greetings to everyone at Aylesbury Methodist Church.

It was an excellent service, the theme being how, as Christians, to be generous. Gareth introduced Derek to the congregation, who gave him a round of applause. Many came over to speak to him at the end of the service, some to donate, some just to hear of his venture, and cheer him on. Later, over coffee, Church Steward and Local Councillor, John, kindly asked if anyone in Aylesbury was aware that its idiot was missing!

Derek spent a rainy afternoon admiring more sites/sights of Plymouth. This included a few ancient buildings, including a gutted church which has been left as a memorial of the almost total destruction of the City in WW2. For anyone familiar with Berlin, much the same as the gutted Church in the Kurfursendamm. How futile war is.



*The gutted Church
memorial*



Plymouth, in spite of the rain, was bustling with activity due to a three-day International Fish Fair. The fish, added their own pungent aroma to the ambience of the Barbican and Plymouth's harbours.

There were big exhibitions of Plymouth's proud seafaring history, and that of the Seafarer's Mission, as well as lots of Street food.....not all fish.

Derek visited the RNLI shop, run by, as ever, delightful people, a couple this time, Sue and David, who had very recently had their photos taken with the entire Crew when they were presented with their certificate for 20 Years Voluntary Service. Amazing service! Well done, Sue and David.

So, another RNLI station visited, another Greggs (breakfast), and Wetherspoons for Sunday Lunch. This man knows how to live!

Monday, Sept 18th. Day 7.

After having a restful day yesterday, our Man set off in the rain, and caught the bus back to Fowey. From here he took the ferry to Mevagissey. This was a bit of a jump down the coast, but I think we should allow him that, with the awful weather, plus a dodgy knee!

He describes the coastline here as "cliffs and rocky shores".

He spotted seals in the harbour, and dolphins a bit further out to sea.

He followed the road where he could, but the weather was treacherous, and he has already had one narrow escape on this Leg. I think, just for once, he may have taken to heart the lecture given by his Secretary - one of many!

He therefore caught local buses, when available, around the creeks, then continued walking to St Mawes. He describes a splendid castle here, but weather too bad to explore.

Not the weather for stopping and chatting, so the only encounter he reported was with a nice young man, Josh, who took pity in him at one point and led him to shelter.

No Greggs, no RNLI today. Not much fun, I would think. I have just got absolutely drenched putting the bins out - have had to get changed. Why DOES he do it, I ask myself?

Does anyone understand?

If you wish to donate to any of the charities, you can find them on this link: www.justgiving.com/team/derektreksbritain and the opening paragraph will guide you to your chosen charity. You can follow Derek's journey on facebook.

ELLESBOROUGH SILVER BAND CHARITY CONCERT

An **Autumn Evening** of live music from stage and screen

Saturday 7th October. 7.30 – 9.30pm

The Church on Fairford Leys, Hampden Square
Fairford Leys, Aylesbury HP19 7HT.

No ticket required – donations at the door to support
Karibuni Children and the band.

Refreshments and Karibuni merchandise
available in the interval



Mad Harvest

Father God, You gave us this world
So that it could grow.
You gave us birds and animals
To cover the pristine land.
You gave us fish, dolphins and whales
To fill the pure blue sea.
You gave us blue skies above us,
With soft white clouds.
A virgin world
As seen from above.



All You ask, is that we take care of it.
Grow trees so we can breathe.
Take care of the land so we have
Vegetables and fruit to eat.
Look after animals so we have milk
To make cheese and butter.
Fish from the sea will sustain us,
If we wish to eat it.
You only ask that we look after it
And not abuse this beautiful land.



But, come the Harvest. What did we do?
We tore down trees and burnt the wood.
So, we now have problems breathing,
As the trees were our lungs, helping
Filter harmful gases from the
atmosphere.
We kill animals, by taking their land.
We overfish the beautiful oceans.
Many small species are no longer.
Some waters have become polluted,
Filthy and undrinkable.

Father God. Your Blessed children
Are being taken from this land.
Plucked from this earth by bombs,
Bullets, disease and drought.
Little children, hardly grown
Pulled from rubble that was their homes.
This Mad Harvest will never end
Whilst people continue to fight
Over land and produce,
That does not belong to them.



We will only have a Peaceful Harvest
If the World Leaders understand
That we were only lent this
Beautiful unsullied, fertile world.
And you cannot turn it into a
Bloodied Killing Field.
These wars and greed must end.
A Harvest is meant to be a good thing.
Not a cull.
Please, Father God. Bring Peace
To Your World,
So that the next Harvest will be
An Awesome one.

2023© Babs



Prayer Requests. If you have requests for people or situations to be included in the prayers, there is a Prayer Request folder in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for you to write in, or you could let Richard know in advance.

Our Prayer Group also meets on alternate Tuesdays, 10.45-12noon, and are very happy to receive prayer requests. They would also welcome anyone who would like to join them.

Please email Ruby: rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk



Next Week

Mon	25 Sept	6.15pm 7.30 - 9.00pm	Girls' Brigade AMC FOOD BANK
Tues	26 Sept	9.30am 2.00pm 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Banner Group Boys' Brigade
Wed	27 Sept	10am – 12.30pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thurs	28 Sept	10.00am From 1.45pm	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group Blood Donor sessions
Frid	29 Sept	2.30pm	Social Badminton Club
Sat	30 Sept	10am – 12.30pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning at 34 Manor Road, HP 20 1JD

Sunday 1st October 2023

**10.30am: Service of Holy Communion
led by Rev Richard Atkinson.**

The designated fire officers are the Duty Stewards

First Aid boxes are located in each of the kitchens

**Fire doors are not to be wedged open, except those fitted with Dorgard
(Please ensure other doors close behind you after passing through)**

Duty Manager (Roger Kirk: 01296 415312 Mobile: 07484 392734)