The cross at the end of the Easter Sunday service last year, decorated with flowers by the congregation.
SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30am Morning worship and Young Church
Evening services as below

Refreshments are served in the Hub following the morning service every Sunday

WORSHIP DURING APRIL
(Easter services detailed in middle pages)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Preacher</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 7th</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Rev Hilary Cheng</td>
<td>Sacrament of Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 14th</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Mr Peter Dawe</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Rev Hilary Cheng</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 21st</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Rev Hilary Cheng</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Mrs Dallion Roye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 28th</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Rev Mmasape Zihle</td>
<td>Church Anniversary</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Followed by a shared lunch</td>
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OUR STEWARDS AND SENIOR STEWARDS

- Senior Steward: Carole Merriman
- Stewards: Janet Evans, Gillian Farnfield, Hazel Mathews, Carol and Dumisani Moyo, Pat Ovenden.
Letter from our Minister

Dear Friends,

Many people have commented to me that Easter is very 'late' this year, with Easter Sunday being the 21st April. Unlike Christmas, the date moves about each year. The calculation is made according to the moon, so Easter takes place on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the northern Spring Equinox which occurs around 21st March.

The word 'Easter' comes from a pre-Christian goddess named Eostre who was celebrated as the beginning of spring. Easter is called Pascha in Latin and Greek, meaning 'passing way' or 'Pesah' in Hebrew, which is the Jewish word for Passover. This is very fitting as the dates for Easter and Passover usually coincide.

Easter is the oldest and most important festival in the church calendar. It takes place at the end of Holy Week, a week in which we journey from the jubilation of Palm Sunday, through Maundy Thursday, when we think about the Last Supper, Good Friday when we contemplate the trial and death of Jesus, on through Easter Saturday when Jesus' body lay in the tomb, through to celebration of the risen Jesus on Easter Day.

Some churches hold a sunrise, or sonrise, service early on Easter morning remembering the women who went to the tomb at daybreak. We give and receive Easter eggs, symbols of the empty tomb. We celebrate that Jesus died for our sins so that we might know complete forgiveness and discover eternal life.

As we approach the Easter season once more, consider what it means to you that Jesus died on the cross for your sins, so that you could be set free from all your wrong doings, because Jesus paid the price for you.

Wherever and however you are spending Easter this year, remember the wonder of God's love for you, given through his Son Jesus. And when it comes, I wish you a very Happy Easter.

Hilary
2019 Dates for your diary

All events held here at Winchester Road unless stated otherwise

Sun 7th April: Going forward Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sat 13th April: Church Spring Clean, 9am-1pm (see page 7)

Thurs 18th April: Maundy Thursday service, North Chingford Methodist Church, 7.30pm

Fri 19th April: Good Friday service with Peter Dawe, 11am

Sun 21st April: Easter Sunday, Sacrament of Holy Communion at 9am, and service at 10.30am

Sun 28th April: Church Anniversary service with Mmasape Zihle, followed by a shared lunch (see page 15)

Wed 8th May: Bullying and Harassment Course, Westminster Central Hall. Email beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

Sat 11th May: Church Growth Tea Party, 3-5pm (see page 6)

Sat 11th – 18th May: Christian Aid Week

Fri 24th May: Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Sun 2nd June: Annual Church Meeting will be held after the morning service

Sun 9th June: Young Church Anniversary & Church Parade

Sat 15th June: Winchester Café, 10am-4pm, proceeds for JMA

Sat 15th June: Gun & Knife Crime Conference, Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, 10am-5pm, Early Bird tickets £11 until 17th May, then £13.50. For more info visit: www.methodist-central-hall.org.uk/gun-knife-crime-conference-at-methodist-central-hall
Sat 22\textsuperscript{nd} June: Cream Tea at Pat & David’s

Sat 20\textsuperscript{th} July: Winchester Café, 10am-4pm

Mon 29\textsuperscript{th} July – Fri 2\textsuperscript{nd} August: Holiday Club (see page 24)

Sun 4\textsuperscript{th} August: Holiday Club service

First & Third Wednesday of each month: Open Fellowship, 2.30-4pm (see page 18)

Every Friday during term time: Coffee Morning, 10am-12noon, to support Action for Kids

Second Friday of each month, Oct-May: London Methodist Luncheon Club, 11.15am coffee / 12.10pm lunch, Lancaster Hall Hotel, Craven Terrace, W2 3EL (see page 19)

Tee Hee
Why do scuba divers fall out of the boat backwards?
Because if they fell forward they’d still be in the boat!

Save the date!

Rev Hilary Cheng personally invites you to a Tea Party on
Saturday 11\textsuperscript{th} May
From 3-5pm
In the Hodgson Hall
To celebrate what we are as a Church and to explore what we can become.
A church spring clean has been fixed for Saturday 13th April, 9am - 1pm.

Jean and I have identified several prime targets:
1. Gutters & traps on the flat roofs.
2. 2 Church vestibules, empty, clean and replace only what we need. Dispose of the remainder.
3. Areas to the side of the organ, behind the yellow curtains. As above.
4. Rehang yellow curtains.
5. Top of cupboards in the memorial hall.
6. Top of cupboards in the billiard room & behind cupboards.

Cleaning materials will be provided.

Tea & coffee will be available.

Roger & Jean.
Count your blessings…

In February preaching at Winchester Road, the Revd. Norman Grigg took Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, referred to as ‘The Beatitudes’, words recorded in Matthew 5: 3-10 as the subject of his sermon. Thumbing through the different translations of the Bible on my bookshelf I found that most versions translated the original Greek text as 'blessed' or 'blest' whereas the Good News Bible (our pew Bible) begins each statement with Happy are they etc. and gives the section the heading 'True happiness'. The world attributes happiness to wealth status and possessions and some people see this as a sign of God's approval. I would find it difficult to be happy if I was being persecuted or was the subject of lies and insults. Each of the beatitudes tells us that a blessing will come as a result of our showing meekness, mercy or peace, or if we are seeking righteousness, or if we are mourning or being persecuted.

This led me to look for hymns inspired by Jesus’ words. In Singing the Faith there are two hymns based on the Beatitudes one old and one new. John Keeble (1792-1866) was the son of a Gloucestershire Anglican Clergyman who had a brilliant career at Oxford University. He was the author of a best-selling book of religious poems entitled 'The Christian Year' which led to him holding the post of Professor of Poetry for ten years. He also served as Vicar of Hursley (near Winchester) for thirty years but his fame rests mainly on his leadership with John Henry Newman of the 'Oxford Movement' which aimed to reintroduce Roman Catholic forms of worship into the Church of England. Keeble College, one of the colleges of Oxford University, was founded in his memory. Keeble took one of Jesus beatitudes as the theme for his hymn Blest are the pure in heart STF 244.

Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God:
the secret of the Lord is theirs
their soul is Christ’s abode.

Blest are the poor in spirit STF 245 comes from the pen of David Haas, an American Roman Catholic writer described as an author and composer of contemporary Catholic liturgical music who served at one time as a university composer-in-residence. He is currently Director of the Emmaus Centre for Music Prayer and Ministry in Minnesota. He
takes up several of the beatitudes in this hymn, the first line of his five verses being:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{Blest are the poor in spirit} \\
&\text{Blest are they, the lowly ones} \\
&\text{Blest are they that show mercy} \\
&\text{Blest are they who seek peace} \\
&\text{Blest are you that suffer hate.}
\end{align*}
\]

Haas comes from the folk song tradition and the hymn has a simple tune unlike many of the modern irregular hymns.

I cannot leave this topic without reference to a hymn, or just its chorus which is lodged in my memory but does not occur in any Methodist Hymn books and I don't know where I learned it.

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{Count your blessings name them one by one,} \\
&\text{Count your blessings, see what God has done,} \\
&\text{Count your blessings, name then one by one,} \\
&\text{and it will surprise you, see what God hath done.}
\end{align*}
\]

This is the refrain of a hymn written by Johnson Oatman which, according to my searching online, can be found in a Baptist hymn Book. The first verse encourages us to thank God for the good things that happen to us.

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,} \\
&\text{When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,} \\
&\text{Count your many blessings, name them one by one,} \\
&\text{And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.}
\end{align*}
\]

A brief biography of Oatman online merely records that he was born in Medford New Jersey, USA in 1856 and studied for the Methodist Episcopal ministry, then served in a number of churches and wrote over 5,500 songs. He died in 1922. The English Methodist evangelist Gypsy Smith, who was born locally and liked the hymn said that “In London men sing it, the boys whistle it, and the women rock their babies to sleep on this hymn”.

Allen Steel April 2019
We prepare young people with skills for life

**DON’T PANIC!**

The cubs and scouts do loads but that's because we already have one good team in place. We will share the kayaking, sailing, camping, karting etc... We're not starting from scratch

**What do we need?**

We need a team... and we meet on a Wednesday. (Our one free night at the hall in Winchester Road Methodist Church).

We need a Cub Scout leader, somebody who can be the one in charge before the end of July this year.

We need some assistants in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, people who can come (some on a rota, perhaps).

**Why do it?**

It is fantastic fun... if you enjoy the company of kids, it's a chance to build fires, sail boats, climb mountains and do all sorts of silly stuff.

Sometimes it works perfectly...the sun shines, the tents dry, the kids swim and everything is perfect.

Sometimes it goes very wrong...it rains, the train is cancelled, the minibus gets lost, the kids are hungry and everything seems dreadful... you buy them all chips and they sit steaming up the windows of the chippy as they dry out... guess what? That’s the evening that they remember with the fondest memories.
What do you reckon? Is this for you? Could you bring a friend?

Another group in the district recruited a parent and he brought a good friend along with him and together they run a fantastic programme...

Who should we ask?

If not you, who? Help us out please and have think...

Let me know what you think and gimme a call if you want a chat:
Mike Hayward 07854505171 Chair of Group Committee; or
email: Susan.payne@wfs-Scouts.org.uk our Scout and Group Scout Leader

Thanks for reading all the way to the end, that's a great start.

---

Scrambled Bible Names

Can you figure out these Bible names by rearranging the letters?

1. Jaileh ________
2. Henteps ________
3. Ulpa __________
4. Bamhara ________
5. Lisas ________
6. Anho _______
7. Raash _______
8. Nana _______
9. Ossem _______
10. Utist _______
Sunday 14\textsuperscript{th} April
\textbf{Palm Sunday}
10.30am
Here at Winchester Road
Crosses made from palm branches will be handed out.

Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} April
\textbf{Maundy Thursday}
7.30pm
North Chingford Methodist Church

Friday 19\textsuperscript{th} April
\textbf{Good Friday}
11am
Here at Winchester Road
(N.B. There will be no Walk of Witness this year.)
Sunday 21st April
Easter Sunday

9am
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Here at Winchester Road

10.30am
Easter Sunday Service
Here at Winchester Road

The items that have been placed on the cross, at the front of the church, during Lent will be removed and the cross will be decorated with flowers; if possible, please bring a daffodil or some cut flowers.
See last year’s Easter cross on page 2.

We will also be collecting small chocolate eggs (Crème Egg size) during the service to be given to the children of Joseph Clark and Whitefields schools.
BIBLE BRAIN TEASER – answers!
In last month’s newsletter, there were 16 books of the Bible hidden in a brain teaser paragraph. How did you do? Did you find the bonus one? Here are the answers:

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts ... and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job and there was nearly a mass exodus. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit, it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Well done to Louise Griffiths who found all 16 when she got home following the Care Lunch, and also to Sylvia Dixon and Shirley Seaman who found 17!
Church Anniversary – Sunday 28th April

We are celebrating our Church Anniversary on 28th April. Mmasape Zihle will be leading the service. We will be having a shared buffet meal, in the Hodgson Hall, after the service.

We welcome everyone to stay to share the meal and are asking you to bring something to share.

Please can you let us know if you will be staying.

We have a list of food items. Please speak to us and let us know what you will be able to bring.

If you are unable to provide food then a small donation towards essential items would be appreciated.

Hazel Mathews, Pat Ovenden and Jan Dent

Lent Group

A Lent Group has been meeting in Room 1 at 2pm every Tuesday. The theme is ‘At The Cross’ Reflecting in a new way on the crucifixion of Jesus, considering the perspective of those who witnessed it themselves. This will continue with sessions on the 2nd, 9th and 16th of April.

You are welcome to come along to join the group which consists of members of various churches in Highams Park.
My Easter Story for Church

Easter. It’s something that is celebrated annually. We all love the dinners, chocolate eggs and holidays that we get at that special time of year. It’s practically like Christmas, but with more chocolate and the weather is warmer. Awesome, right?

In the midst of this popular celebration, what is Easter? What does it mean? What is the origin? You might think that’s it’s just an excuse to stuff your face with chocolate, but there’s a deeper, truer meaning.

Well, if we travel back 1965 years, we’ll find that one of Jesus’s disciples, Judas Iscariot to be precise, betrayed him to the Roman Empire, who loathed Jesus, in exchange for money. Judas agreed and told the Roman Empire where he was hiding out.

Jesus’s friends were shocked and distraught when they realised that Jesus was to be killed. Judas, with a sack of coins replacing his conscience, sneaked away. The Romans made a crown out of holly thorns and placed it on his head. They then took two criminals to also be crucified with him.

Three equal crosses were built, two the men on the sides and Jesus in the middle. They nailed the three on the crosses while a terrified audience watched with horror.

Jesus was dead. That very day, they buried him with the two other men.

On Sunday, some of his friends came to his grave to mourn. When they came there, they realised the tomb rock had rolled out of place, so the cave was open.

Suddenly, two angels flew out of the tomb, glowing brightly. Jesus’s friend was astonished.

“Don’t be scared!” they said. “Jesus has been resurrected. He is alive!” The two angels pointed behind Jesus’s friends.

There was a gardener. The disciples had a closer look.
It was Jesus.

So, that is the Easter story. How it all began. A story of betrayal deformed into a story of another beginning. Easter is about new life and some do not reckon it whenever they bite into a chocolate egg.

So, try and remember the sacrifice He made, thousands of years ago. And don’t eat too much chocolate!

This article was submitted by Pouran, one of our Young Church members who attends Cookie Club.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev Jonathan Mead and his wife Lia on the birth of their son Brecon Oy Shimada-Mead.

Circuit Stewards

The Circuit is looking to appoint Circuit Stewards. If you are interested or would like to recommend someone, please speak to Hilary.

Hilary would really appreciate having at least one person from her section to take up this position.

Please consider whether you could do this role.

Thank you

Hilary

‘He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.’

~ Matthew 28:6
## WINCHESTER ROAD OPEN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

A varied programme of speakers and members’ interests.

Meets on first and third Wednesday of the month, 2.30pm-4pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3(^{rd}) April</td>
<td>Flowers with Pat O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17(^{th}) April</td>
<td>Rev Hilary Cheng: An Easter theme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1(^{st}) May</td>
<td>Robert Burridge: The Titanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15(^{th}) May</td>
<td>Carole Merriman: Bobbin Lace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, please speak to Sylvia Dixon.

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### Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped at and attended the Winchester Café on 23\(^{rd}\) March which raised £291.

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### Prayer for knife crime

Protecting Lord,
You watch over your people with care and compassion.
We are living in turbulent times when knife crime is on the increase.
Within our own Circuit, many areas are affected by knife hostility.
We ask that you will help us to play our part, as the Body of Christ, in the communities we serve and to stand up for what is right.
May our churches be a safe haven to those who are afraid or in distress.
May we show understanding towards those who provoke trouble, and work with them, those who are victims, and their families and friends, to bring calm and stability.
Protect all your children, and show us how to be people of change, who represent the love you came to bring, so that our societies may become safer environments for everyone.
In the name of Jesus, we pray,
Amen.

*Rev Hilary Cheng*
Church Anniversary Gift Day
Sunday 28\textsuperscript{th} April 2019

Our Church Anniversary Service this year will be led by Rev Mmasape Zihle. We cordially invite all members and friends to join us on this occasion.

Last year Gift Day raised £10,747.72 from Church members, friends and organisations. £2,750 was immediately put into the Memorial Hall Roof Fund. CCTV & updated Wi-Fi were installed, new laptop & microphones have been purchased for use in the church. The remaining £3,000 is currently being held in General Fund. We still hold £10,000 in loans from members which are required to be repaid before the end of the Church financial year August 2019. Any gifts we receive this year will therefore be used to repay all outstanding loans, with any remaining put into a Memorial Roof Fund, as the roof of the Memorial Hall will need replacing in 2 or 3 years’ time.

Gifts will be received during the service on Sunday 28\textsuperscript{th} April. Please put your gift in an envelope, found in the pews and if you wish your gift to count as a gift aid donation, mark it clearly with your name. If you are unable to attend on the Sunday, you can put your donation into any previous or subsequent offertory collection.

Thank you for all your help and support in the mission of this church.

Yours in Christ

Hilary Cheng                Jean Norton
Minister                    Treasurer

\begin{center}
\textbf{LONDON METHODIST LUNCH CLUB}
\end{center}

Second Friday of each month from October to May at the Lancaster Hall Hotel, Craven Terrace, W2 3EL.
11.15am coffee / 12.10pm lunch with guest speakers.

\begin{align*}
\text{Friday 12\textsuperscript{th} April: } & \quad \text{Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness} \\
& \quad \text{Camilla Wheal-Communications Officer} \\
\text{Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} May: } & \quad \text{Clapham Night Hub} \\
& \quad \text{Rev Eleanor Jackson}
\end{align*}

For more information, please speak to Mary Burgoine.
Last Autumn, some of our Young Church members were busy planting daffodil bulbs. Erin and Dylan planted some in the grass in front of the window of Room Two, and Dean planted some in the bank in Wickham Road. The daffodils are now out in bloom. Thank you for your hard work! (See some of our budding gardeners on page 23.)

An Easter poem by Pouran

Easter

It’s that delightful time of year
It’s the time to eat all the sweets you want
It’s that special time to share.

Yes, it’s full of fun, I admit
Probably the best part in spring
But what does it truly mean?
What message does it bring?

Jesus was God’s son
A holy young man
But he was mercilessly betrayed,
By an apostle, a fan.

His name was Judas Iscariot
To the Romans, he gave Jesus away
He was offered a large sum of money
His devotion started to fray.

The Romans took Jesus away
Decided to crucify him then
In front of all the people
The woman and men.

Put on a wooden cross
With two criminals by his side
He shouted his last words to his father
And died.

A few days later, after he’d died
A few friends came to mourn
They came to pay respects
On that sad Sunday morn.

Suddenly, two angels flew out of his tomb
He shone bright and bold
Their robes were a clean white
And their belts were pure gold.

“Don’t be scared!” they assured
To Jesus’s friends, the shocked five
“Jesus has been resurrected!
He is alive!”

The friends looked behind them
Without Jesus, they could not bare
Over by the fields was a gardener
Jesus was there.
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem...

The Chief Priests were plotting

How can we get rid of Jesus? He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...

I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you.

How much?

30 silver coins

30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed.

Ex. 31:32

I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...

Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home.

Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples.

The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use.

Peter and John got the meal ready.

That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.
Follow the Easter story using the Bible references, then look for the words in the puzzle.

Into Jerusalem
read Matthew 21:1-11
DONKEY • ROAD • COATS
BRANCHES • PALMS
KING • HOSANNA

The Last Supper
read Matthew 26:17-30
TWELVE DISCIPLES
PASSOVER
ROOM • BREAD
WINE • SON • MAN
BODY • BLOOD
CUP • MEAL

Betrayal and Death
read Matthew 26:36-27:56
GETHSEMANE
PRAY • BETRAY
KISS • ARREST
MESSIAH • CHRIST
SON • ACCUSED
CRUCIFY • JESUS
CROWN • THORNS
ROBE • TREE
NAILS • CROSS
DARKNESS
QUAKE • DEATH
LOTS • DICE

Burial and Resurrection
read Matthew 27:57-28:20
TOMB • STONE • LINEN
BODY • BURY • THREE DAYS
MORNING • MARY • ANGEL • HEAVEN • LORD • GOD
RAISED • JOY • GO TELL • GOOD NEWS • PEACE • SPIRIT
SAVIOUR • PRAISE • EASTER • I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS
Cookie Club children enjoyed dancing in bubbles as we celebrated the good news of Jesus.

Erin and Dylan with the daffodils they planted last Autumn.
Holiday Club
Monday 29th July– Friday 2nd August

Holiday Club this year will be from Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August. For children aged 5 to 11 (Reception to Year 6.) More details to follow.

Please tell Laura Pease if you are able to help for all, or part, of the week.

Our Mission
We are a church at the heart of Highams Park which seeks to discern and follow God’s direction.
Our aim is to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour through the life of the church and outreach to the community.
We promote worship and fellowship enabling us to grow towards God.
We are an inclusive church where all are welcome.

HALL & ROOM HIRE
If you would like to hire one of our halls or rooms, please contact Oliver Shykles admin@winchesterroadchurch.org.uk 020 8531 8663

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT MONTH’S NEWSLETTER
If you would like to submit an article, joke, poem, prayer or item of interest, please contact Alex Fletcher on wrmc.newsletter@btinternet.com or 020 8531 5047 by end of Wednesday 24th April please

What’s orange and sounds like a parrot? A carrot.