UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
Minister: Rev. Richard Landon
64 Swakeleys Drive
Tel: 01895 234862

Pastoral Assistant: Mrs. Anne Dove
Tel: 01895 639148

SUNDAY SERVICES
11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.
(Communion, 1st Sunday morning, 3rd Sunday evening in the month)

JUNIOR CHURCH
11.00 a.m. every Sunday

ST. GILES'
Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Philip Robinson
Rectory: Tel and Fax: 01895 622970
Church: 01895 622971
Curate: Rev. Mike Bisset
Tel/Fax: 01895 676092
Hon. Curate: Rev. Ken Tombs
Tel: 020 8574 3738

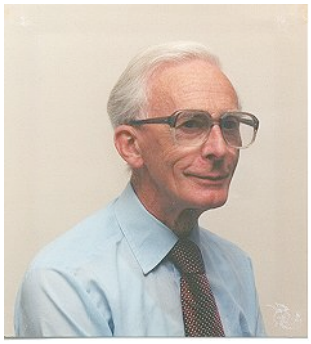
SUNDAY SERVICES
8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
9.45 a.m. 1st SUNDAY, FAMILY SERVICE including HOLY COMMUNION – others, Holy Communion
11.30 a.m. 1st and 3rd, Matins with Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evening Service

For weekday services and events for both churches see notice boards and weekly newsletters.

Ickenham Church News

October 2001

"GOING HOME"
MEMORIES OF CHARLES H. WOLFF 1926 - 2001
(From tributes paid at the U.R.C. Thanksgiving Service for his life - 31st August)



Charles was a man who wore many hats.

There was his musical hat – for not only did he, with Joyce, belong to the church choir but also the Uxbridge Choral Society and the Broadheath Singers and from time to time they both were guest singers with Hillingdon Choral Society.

There was the hat he wore as an Ickenham U.R.C. Elder. He took his calling as an Elder to heart, nurturing and caring for those for whom he was responsible – and as such it soon became apparent that he was the obvious choice of person to wear the…..

Church Secretary's hat. He held this position for 12 years, carrying out this role reliably and conscientiously, not just on the administrative side, but also on the pastoral side. To Charles, the well-being of the congregation was so important, and I know that as Alan Cassingham's Elder, he supported him, and Robin, during their time at Ickenham.

You can't keep a good man down – and so it was that after a gap of a few years Charles wore another hat and became Church Treasurer, putting this hat on rather reluctantly when the church was unable to find anyone else. He did this job so well, and made the figures so understandable, that really it was no surprise when he was approached by the West London District Council of the URC to become their Treasurer. I know that it took some heart searching for him to accept this call – but he did so, and had the unenviable task (with other District Treasurers in Thames North Synod) of deciding what each individual church's contribution to the Maintenance of the Ministry fund should be.

Charles also served on the Property Committee at Ickenham URC – the body responsible for the upkeep of the premises and of the manse. He eventually became Chairman of this small group and I know – because he said – how difficult it was to wear both the hats of the Treasurer and of Chair of the Property Committee. On the one hand having to say 'Be careful!' and on the other hand wanting to say 'Spend'!

He wore the sound man's hat (looking after the sound system in the church) and the heating man's hat. And a supporting hat! I remember how he supported those of us who went from Ickenham URC and trained for the ministry and how he was always interested in our progress.

And there was the fun hat! When Joyce and John led the YPG, Charles and I went with them when they took the YPG on holiday. I have fond memories of playing 'Pass the Pig' with him and the others; of Charles bemoaning the fact that no-one would play chess

with him so I took him up on the challenge – and two minutes later he had won the game! But my predominant memory for some reason is of the same holiday, when we had got to the top of some incline somewhere in Yorkshire and we had all been lying down recovering. Charles suddenly stood up, took of his jacket, lay down again on his side and, with a yell of glee, rolled back down the hill! How he enjoyed it!

This was Charles – not just an administrator, but a man of integrity, with a sense of humour – and a sense of fun. A man of humility, kindness, integrity, fun and honour. A man who was proud of his Christian calling and who lived his life as a witness to his heavenly Father, in whose heavenly choir he is now singing – and, at the same time, on the look out for hills to roll down!

LIZ DAVIES**.**

A Composition for Charles

If I were to compose a piece of music as a tribute to Charles, it would be one where the bass part held much significance, for we know Charles' foundations were solid, self-evident and sound.

I could take the risk of adding some fairly complicated entries of the parts because Charles was reliable, and trustworthy, and could cope with more than the mundane.

The time signature would probably be a fairly conventional one not altering after every couple of bars because Charles was not into things of a gimmicky nature.

The key signature would most certainly be a sharp one because Charles was always on the ball and quick witted.

In my composition there would be little time for any rests because that's not how we perceive him.

The voice parts could be made to move contrapuntally showing how Charles could work on several projects at once, and his ability to work well with so many people.

The dynamic markings would vary but mainly the piece would be "piano" because Charles worked quietly and humbly.

I would use lots of quavers and semiquavers with a few trills thereby fitting in a lot in a small space of time.

It would be the sort of piece to make you feel uplifted because somehow that's how he came across.

Towards the end of the piece I would make a gradual decrescendo and rallentando and after the last bar would be added "fine" to symbolize the end of something quite beautiful.

And who would publish it for me? – well no one charging too much!
WENDY WILLIAMS

BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION

The lovely grounds of St Giles Church in lckenham

CHURCH BOASTS HEAVENLY GROUNDS

A well-groomed church is in line for a coveted title after being nominated for the Best Parish Ground title.

The serene, picturesque grounds of St Giles Church in Swakeleys Road, Ickenham is up for the top award after judges in a best churchyard in England and Wales' contest saw pictures of its grounds.

After examining 400 entries, the panel from the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group was particularly impressed by the 14th century building's neat, small hedges and the parish's commitment to recycling waste.

After many months of hard work, the team of 14 volunteers, who keep the historic grounds in 'presentable order', are proud of the praise.

John Ralph, the verger of St Giles, said: "We're very pleased because we try and keep the grounds as neat and tidy as possible. I think we've kept the grounds idyllic and it really does look like a picture postcard."

He explained that the gardeners do everything including mowing the lawn, pruning trees and bushes and have only started planting this year as the churchyard already has dozens of beautiful wild flowers such as Welsh Poppies.

"With the recycling we collect all the old flowers from the gravestones and all the green waste and compost them in big piles," said Mr Ralph. As well as attractive plants, the churchyard houses three Grade 2 listed graves and a Grade 1 listed yew tree that is over 450 years old.

An 'unannounced judge' is due to pay a visit this week to the church as part of the contest's next stage and the parish hopes that it will be one of the 12 finalists competing for a first prize of £1,000. The winning three churches will be announced in November this year with all 12 finalists to be featured in a calendar.
STOP PRESS *We have been informed that our churchyard is on the final 12 shortlist. This means that a picture of St. Giles' church will definitely appear on the 2001 calendar. By the time you read this article the final result will be known, and can be found by* **logging on to:www.eigonline.co.uk/whats_neu/index.html after 5p.m. on 30th September.**
Main story Courtesy of Hillingdon & Uxbridge Times

DROP-IN FOR THE BEREAVED Third Monday of each month. St. Giles' Church Hall, 2-3.30 p.m. A friendly, informal opportunity for a chat, over a cup of tea, with other bereaved people and pastoral visitors. The next meeting is Monday 15th October (Also Monday 19th November). Just come along, or ring the Rectory (622970) if you would like to talk to someone first.

ICKENHAM GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME exists to serve the whole of Ickenham. We're here to assist in an emergency. If you need help, the daytime contact numbers are: 01895 673095 or 01895 235061.

FROM THE U.R.C. MINISTER

All of us will have been distressed, and appalled, by the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington D.C. on 11th September. There are many ways in which we might have responded, but here are some which Christians might share.

Our hearts go out to those who lost family and friends. We will continue to pray that they might find God's peace and strength. Many of us know American people with whom we can share our concern directly.

We deplore the evil intent of those who carried out the attacks, and we may support retaliation, and other efforts, to combat terrorism, although we hope it will be measured, and just, and not involve innocent people. But we recognise that a measure of evil is present in every human heart, and only the salvation offered by God through Jesus Christ, and his death for us on the cross, can deal with the fundamental human problem.

And we are bound to wonder what is God's purpose in all this. Does He have one? In His Word God reveals that He does have a purpose for the world and everyone in it. That purpose is worked out, usually, through the free decisions of people (influenced by sin as they often are) and their consequences. God can and does bring good out of evil - *The Times* headline on 13th September was "Good will prevail over evil". He did so supremely through the death of His Son. In this case there may be a fresh desire for the nations of the world to work together despite religious, and other, differences for the freedom and security of all.

But we cannot understand God's ways, and often misunderstand them. If we are tempted to abandon Him, what help or hope are we left with? God is just and God is loving, and the Good News of His Son Jesus Christ remains the only hope for the world.

RICHARD LANDON

FROM THE HONORARY CURATE

I wonder who it was that gave permission for pornographic images to be beamed through the airwaves, through the television set and into my living room? Hardly a night goes by without nude scenes or simulated sex being shown at some time or other. I wonder also, who it was that thought I would be quite happy to hear foul language, expletives and innuendo coming out of my television and radio? True, warnings are given before some (but not all) programmes. True, also, I can turn off the television or radio, but I do not pay my licence in order to turn the T.V. off. I pay in order that I might be entertained, and certainly there are too many programmes which leave a lot to be desired. So who is it that decides what is beamed into my living room?

It is not the politicians. If you were to ask them they would deny having anything to do with allowing the decline of the country's moral standards. After all, they want your vote at the next election.

It is not the playwrights and authors. They would say that they include sex, violence and foul language to create an effect (although, to me, it displays a lack of command of the English language if they cannot find ways of expressing scenes of high emotion without resorting to swearing). It shows, also, a lack of respect for the imagination of the viewer if they have to be explicit in everything they write, and broadcast.

It could not be the producers and directors of the programmes since they will tell you that they are only producing what people want to see.

So who then is responsible? Well, the answer is simple – it's you and me. Every time there is a programme that includes gratuitous sex and violence, every time there is bad language, every time there is innuendo, and we do nothing about it, then we are saying "More please. Pipe what you like into my home. I don't care".

People made fun of, and ridiculed, Mary Whitehouse in the 1960's when she campaigned for higher moral standards to be maintained in our television and radio programmes. However, had the majority of people actively supported her then, we would not have the sort of television programmes that we have now.

Therefore if, like me, you feel that standards have reached such a low level of moral integrity, don't just turn off the television – write a letter of complaint. It does not have to be a long letter, one or two sentences will do, giving the name of the programme and stating your objection. Send it to 'The Broadcasting Standards Commission, The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3JS', and why not send a copy to the Prime Minister.
For too long, the silent majority has allowed the minority to dictate what and what is not acceptable.

If, as Christians, we want to restore Christian values to our society then we cannot sit by and do nothing. It is time we made our voice heard.

Yours in Christ,
Revd. Ken Tombs

FROM ST. GILES' REGISTERS

Baptisms

Aug 26th Hollie Georgia Rose Maidment
Sept 9th Oliver James Matthew Gill
Emma Zoe Johnston

Weddings

Aug 25th Timothy John Remington and Claire Elizabeth Hatchett
Sept 1st Jonathan David Kessell and Sarah Jane Genower
15th Christopher Paul Price and Hayley Culverwell

Cremations at Breakspear Crematorium

Aug 20th Frank Leahy, aged 88
22nd Ronald Henry Mawby, aged 54
29th George Sharpe, aged 84 (after service in St Giles' Church)
Sept 14th Jennifer Hayplumb, aged 46

Correction The service at Breakspear Crematorium for Diana Leigh, mentioned in last month's 'From the Registers', followed a service in St. Giles' Church".

CHRISTIAN AID

To all those who continue to bring waste newspapers and magazines to the bins in the St Martin's Approach car park: be assured that your efforts still benefit Christian Aid through the Ickenham Churches Christian Aid Group. The amount generated by these bins in January to June 2001 is £338. Thanks to all who help in this way.
Pauline Woodham

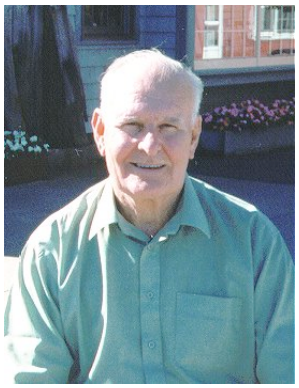
GEORGE SHARPE 1916-2001

Dear friends
My daughter Anne, and I, would like to express our sincere thanks for all your kindnesses, and generous tributes, shown in memory of George Sharpe. It has been overwhelming, and your support wonderful. Thank you again.
Audrey Sharpe

NORMAN DUPEE 1922-2001

Local folk will be sad to learn of the sudden, and unexpected, death of this former resident of Hoylake Crescent and Warren Road (1945 - 1974). Norman and Daphne were members of Ickenham U.R.C. before moving to Axminster 27 years ago. Norman, who suffered from Parkinson's disease, died on 5th September. His funeral service was in Axminster U.R.C. on 12th September followed by a cremation in Exeter. More information is available from Daphne (01297 552481).

KEN ROBERTS - 65 YEARS A CHORISTER



On Sunday 9th September at the 9.45 a.m. service in St. Giles, Ken Roberts was called out from the choir to be presented with a very special certificate commemorating his 65 years of singing with various Anglican Church choirs, within the See of Canterbury.

Ken first joined St. Luke's, Shepherds Bush, on 3rd September 1936, where his father was Organist and Choirmaster. He sang in St. Paul's Cathedral (Valetta Malta) whilst on National Service with the Royal Navy.

Ken left St. Luke's in 1973 when the church was demolished and joined the choir at St. Andrew's, Sudbury Hill with his three grandsons. In 1997 he moved to St. Giles', Ickenham where he remains alongside two of his chorister grandsons.

Ken has sung in various churches at Festivals sponsored by the Royal School of Church Music as well as at the Royal Albert and Royal Festival Halls.

Many congratulations, Ken, on a lifetime of church choir singing. We wish you many more yet to come.
Editor

PARISH PUMP

Receipt is acknowledged of the following donations towards the cost of *I.C.N.*: Mr. A. Robins from St. Marychurch near Torquay, Mrs Kelly Ma of Wallasey Cresent, Anonymous from Edinburgh Drive, Mrs. Athey of Swakeleys Drive via Daphne Kissane, Anonymous of Campden Road via Mary Cooke, Ickenham District Guides, The JGA Group - Panstar House.

Copy for the November edition should be with me by **13th October.**

I hope everyone saw the episode of 'Chambers', featuring St. Giles' Church, which was broadcast on Sunday 26th August.

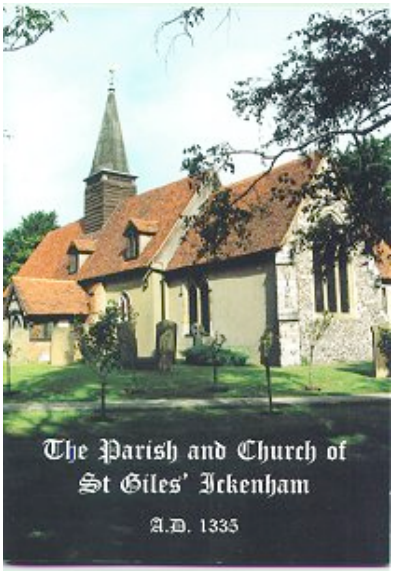
Additional photographs, and articles, plus last month's magazine, can be found at **ICN Online**: www.ickenhamchurchnews.co.uk

Volunteers are needed, urgently, to deliver I.C.N., or act as reserves, during times of illness and holiday. **We need people now!** If you think you can help please contact me as soon as possible using the details on the front page.

Editor

THE PARISH & CHURCH OF ST. GILES' ICKENHAM (MILLENNIUM EDITION BOOKLET)

This best selling, lavishly illustrated history and guide is available, price £3.50, from Hayes Bookshop, Glebe Avenue, Ickenham; by telephoning Eric Goodall on 01895 237283, or from St. Giles' Church. Have you bought your copy yet?



WILLESDEN MINISTRY COURSES/EVENTS

Spirituality Workshop - Monday 1st October - St. Lawrence Centre, Eastcote.

Recovering from Divorce or Separation - 4 Tuesday evenings from 2nd October - St. Anne's, Brondesbury.

Church Accounts Made Easy - 4 Wednesday evenings from Wednesday 10th October - St. John's, Wembley.

Facing the Little Deaths - Day Conference - Saturday 13th October - Whitmore School, Harrow.

Going For Growth - Lay Congress - Saturday morning 3rd November - Bishop Ramsey School, Ruislip.

I Need Some Ideas - Children's Leaders - Saturday morning 13th October - St. Dunstan's, East Acton.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT WILLESDEN AREA OFFICE Tel. 020-8907-5993 or e-mail: wao@willesden.demon.co.uk

DEAR GOD …..?

Dear GOD,
Who draws the lines around the countries?
-Jan

Dear GOD,
I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that okay?
-Neil

Dear GOD,
Did You really mean "do unto others as they do unto you"? Because if You did, then I'm going to fix my brother.
-Darla

Dear GOD,
Thank you for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy.
-Joyce

JUST CAUSE OR IMPEDIMENT?

The Church of England is likely to scrap the reading of banns as part of its commitment to making marriage more welcoming.
A review group set up by the Archbishops' Council is also likely to relax the residential qualifications that restrict couples to only marrying in their parish church.
The aim is to cut the red tape that can put couples off marrying in an Anglican Church, as only 25% of the 250,000 marriages each year take place in an Anglican Church.
Banns have been read in the parish church since 1215 but are less effective as a legal requirement since the connection with our birthplace has weakened.
If banns were to be scrapped, couples could announce their intention to marry through the registry office, and have the option of reading this out in church for sentimental reasons.
The Government is reviewing its procedure for all weddings, and the church review group will feed its suggestions to the Government after General Synod in November.
Synod is expected to put up a fight, with traditionalists fearing that changing the law would further diminish the role of the Church in society.
"It's just whittling away another part of English history and the natural connection that local people once had with the Church" said Edwin Barnes, Bishop of Richborough.
"Calling the banns does remind the parish of those outside the church walls."
The Church is also expected to relax the residential restrictions that force couples to marry only in their parish church, or where they are on the electoral roll. Rather than offer a free-for all approach that might tie vicars of pretty churches to a summer of weddings the Church is expected to ask for a "demonstrable connection" by the couple.

IT'S A PARABLE

The Rich Fool : Luke 12 : 16-21

The context of this parable is a dispute over an inheritance. At the time it was not uncommon for people to take their disputes to the rabbis. However, Jesus refused to get involved; instead he used it as an opportunity to teach about the dangers of greed, 'a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.' The man in this story made three fundamental mistakes:

Full of Himself
There is no parable which is so full of words like I, me, my and mine. This man was caught up with his own ambitions for material success, as he built bigger barns. As our

own culture is characterised by materialism, individualism and self-reliance, this story still remains relevant for us.
* How do you see this illustrated in society today?

Empty of God
However, his plans had no room for God, since his aim was to 'take life easy; eat, drink and be merry'. According to the Bible, sin is essentially leaving God out of our lives. We don't want God interfering with our own ideas, plans, or standards of behaviour. It's only when we get into trouble that we may ask God for help.
* To what extent is this true in our own lives?

Blind to the Future
This man was a fool in God's eyes, because his plans were concerned only with this world, and he had made no provision for eternity. Here is Jesus' challenge to us: are we 'rich towards God'? In what ways are we prepared to give time and effort to the things that have eternal significance?
* In what ways do we invest time in our own devotional life and in other people?

Paul Hardingham

ICKENHAM CHIROPODIST

General foot care, including Corns, Callous and Verrucae etc. Diabetic and Arthritic footcare. Treatment for children intoeing, flat feet, foot fatigue, ankle instability, related lower back pain.
EMERGENCY CONSULTATIONS
Mrs. Kelly Ma - BSc(Hons) State Registered Chiropodist/Podiatrist
The Ickenham Foot Clinic, Wallasey Crescent. Tel. 077-888-62367
Insured member - The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists.

FREE CAREER ADVICE

The JGA Group, Panstar House 13-15 Swakeleys Road is offering ***FREE*** career information, and advice, to all adults over 19 years (no upper limit). If you are changing career, job seeking or planning your next move contact Chris on 01895 623135 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Weekends and evenings by arrangement).
The JGA Group is your local member of the Information, Advice and Guidance Partnership. It is nationally recognised by the Guidance Accreditation Board and has a substantial range of resources including computer packages.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
for which your support would be appreciated

ICKENHAM MINIATURE RAILWAY
is open on the first Saturday of each month April to December.
ENJOY A RIDE OR COME AND WATCH.
Saturday 6th October 12.00 noon to 5.30 p.m.
Also Saturday 3rd November.
Entrance behind The Pump, Ickenham.
ADMISSION FREE. RIDE 25p

ICKENHAM CHURCHES' WOMEN'S GROUP
Next meeting is on Thursday 4th. October in the U.R.C. Hardwick Room. 8 p.m.
Chris Wren will give an illustrated talk about 'The Battle of Britain'.
Thursday 1st November Thea McIntyre talks about
"Life as one of the 'Roly Poly Ladies'". Same time and venue.

GUIDED WALK ROUND ICKENHAM with Eileen Bowlt

Saturday 13th October at 2.30 p.m.. Meet at the U.R.C. No charge to those who paid in July. £1 to newcomers.

ICKENHAM (EVENING) WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Next meeting is Thursday 18th October in Ickenham Village Hall 7.30 to 10 p.m.
The talk by Helen Freeman is called *"From Craft, to Crime, to Craft".*
Members, guests and new members welcome.

SWAKELEYS HOUSE

The next Open Day is Sunday 7th. October 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. 50p entrance charge
Check first (01895628000) to ensure that the Open Day is not cancelled suddenly.

COMPASS THEATRE

Argosy Players present:
'A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum'.
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim -**Wednesday 10th - Sat. 13th October at 8 p.m.**
Compass Theatre and Arts Centre - Glebe Avenue, Ickenham.
Tickets £8.50 (£7.50 Concessions Senior Citizens, Students and UB40s)
Box Office: 01895 673200 (credit/debit cards) 01895 639954 (non card)

ICKENHAM DISTRICT GUIDES

Will be holding a Jumble Sale
at Ickenham Guide H.Q., Community Close, Ickenham
Saturday 6th October 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Admission 25p

THE APOLLO MALE VOICE CHOIR
Celebrating 60 years of Singing Presents

"*Reach For The Stars" - a memorable evening of song, marches and melodies.*
Featuring the massed male voice choirs of Apollo, GNK Sankey, Metropolitan Police, Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City.
Also **The Central Band of The R.A..F.**
Colosseum, Rickmansworth Road, Watford. Sunday 18th November 7.30 p.m.
Doors open 6.45 p.m. Tickets £15 - £10 and £7.50.
To book telephone Cled Yoreth (020 8866 9995)
Donations from proceeds will go to The Peace Hospital, Watford and The R.A.F. Benevolent Fund

HILLINGDON CHORAL SOCIETY

Is recruiting new members. If you have a passion for singing, come along to our rehearsals at Ickenham U.R.C. every Monday at 7.45 p.m.
For more details contact Membership Secretary Val Crookes 01494 680329

UXBRIDGE FOLK CLUB

Presents ***"Cockersdale"in Concert*** *(Scottish Folk Group).*
All Saints Hall, Long Lane, Hillingdon
Friday 30th November 8.30 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Tickets £5 in advance (Tel. Glenis Johnston 01895 636851) or £6 on the door.
All proceeds in aid of the R.N.L.I.

MACMILLAN COFFEE 'MORNING'

National Annual Coffee Morning campaign in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief
Chez Sheena Rosser, 1 Witney Close, Ickenham (off Woodstock Drive, U10 bus can stop at door) ***Friday 12th October 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.*** Entrance £1 including refreshments.
Lots of Ickenham gifts & cards. Yves Rocher cosmetics at knock-down prices.
Home-made cakes, bring & buy, raffle.
We need donations, cakes, bring & buy, raffle prizes and £1 in lieu of attendance.

Anybody willing to help for an hour or two please Tel.: 01895 635714.
The 'Biggest Coffee Morning in the World' is a national event held every year, where groups or individuals all over the country hold a simultaneous coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Care. Last year a similar event at my house raised £900.

INNER WHEEL CLUB

of Elthorne-Hillingdon invite you to a ***CRAFT FAIR.***

Thursday 1st. November 12 noon - 2.30 p.m. in Ickenham Village Hall.

Many Stalls. Refreshments available.

Proceeds to Sight Savers, Alzheimers Society and Shooting Star Appeal.