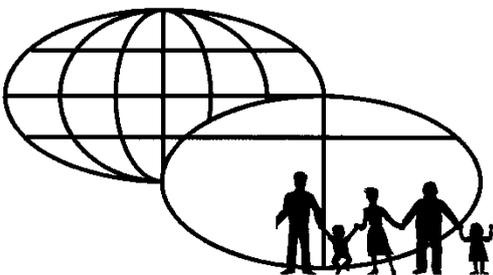


September & October 2018



New Eltham Methodist Church

www.newelthammethodist.org.uk





Worship Calendar for September/October 2018

2 nd September	10:30am	Jacqueline Quarmby
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
9 th September	Holy Communion	
	10:30am	Duncan MacBean
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
16 th September	10:30am	Maggie Ayres
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
23 rd September	All Age Worship	
	10:30am	Duncan MacBean
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
30 th September	10:30am	Terry Wright
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
7 th October	10:30am	John Sennett
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
14 th October	Harvest Festival + Holy Communion	
	10:30am	Duncan MacBean + Worship Leaders
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
21 st October	10:30am	Maureen Spinks
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
28 th October	All Souls Services	
	10:30am	Worship Leaders
	12:30pm	Zimbabwean Methodist Church
	16:00pm	Worship Leaders



The business of buildings

I started to write an article about summer and the joy of the hot weather, deeply missed as soon as the rain sets in and the temperature drops. I dropped that idea and decided to write about the refurbishment project and how this is a necessary work if we are to give the church a fighting chance in the future. This is still my basic theme, but I've ended up at a different point. I find myself suddenly wondering 'Why are we not, as a church or a circuit, supporting a missionary?' Missionary work was a hallmark of early Methodism.

There seems to be a distinct lack of enthusiasm for supporting individuals. Organisations, yes, and this church is very generous in doing so, but we seem to have lost sight of the individuals within those organisations. Laura and I spent the first two years of our ministry (working as full-time lay people within the Methodist Church in South Africa) dependent on financial support from our 'sending' church. Imagine my sense of loss when I received a letter telling us that they could no longer afford to support us (at about £50 per month). They needed this money to buy a building across the road from the church as part of their vision for growth. Please believe me when I tell you I don't begrudge those folks their choice, but it made me realise that my priorities lie with people, rather than buildings.

Allow me to illustrate this with another story, from an American minister - Oswald J. Smith, founder of The Peoples' Church in Toronto, Canada. The story goes that he invited an influential preacher to take a service. The man arrived ahead of the service to be shown around the premises by Smith. He commented that the church looked a bit 'shabby'. Smith didn't reply. They continued to talk and, when the preacher asked what the congregation did to support the gospel, Smith said that they supported over 300 missionaries in the field. The preacher's response was to look around at the building and say "Hmmm. I like shabby".

Another example comes from closer to home (for me). I was a Methodist Lay Pastor in De Aar, a small community in the very centre of South Africa. It was just post-Apartheid, so the reality was that there were still separate areas for different races for economic reasons. I became friends with a Dutch-Belgian Reformed Minister, Douwe Gaanzevoort. He ministered to a mixed-race community in what would have

been called a township, on the outskirts of De Aar. The astonishing thing to me was that, although this was an historically economically-impooverished community, they supported a missionary and his family in Ukraine. They gave enough each month that the missionary did not have to work, was able to feed, clothe and educate his family, and was set free to do the work of building congregations. Not only that, but the congregation was able to send a delegation every couple of years to both meet with the missionary in Ukraine and to minister to the people of that area.

What stops us supporting missionaries? It might be because we're out of the habit of doing so. I'm not going to lay a guilt-trip on anyone, because I truly don't know why we have allowed this deeply personal form of support to lapse. What I do want to do is to ask if we can start a conversation about whether this could become a priority for us as a church. I am happy to rejuvenate the shabby building, but, as I once read in a book, missionaries like chocolate too. I would be delighted if, once we have an attractive building, we could use some of the income from it to support an individual or two, for our sakes as much as anything.

Shalom,
Duncan



Young Church recommences on 16th September 2018



The Bible study group will recommence on Sunday 23rd September. The group meets in the crèche at 9:30am and finishes by 10:10am. There will be a light breakfast on offer after the meeting.

This group is intended for people (especially those with young children) who are too busy to attend a traditional Bible study during the week.



Circuit Training

Creating a Safer Space

Saturday 6th October, 1.30 – 4.30 pm

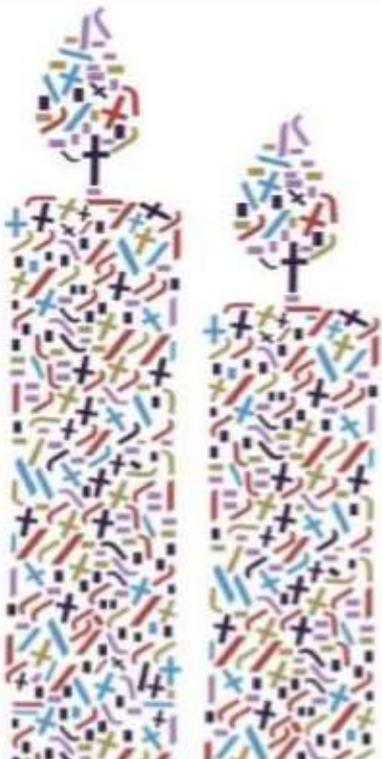
A training session for the Circuit will be held at Chislehurst Methodist Church on Saturday 6th October, 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm. There will be a break for coffee/biscuits mid-way through the afternoon.

The session covers the foundations course which is aimed at those who have not had safeguarding training through the Methodist Church before and will be led by Deacon Laura MacBean with the Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Jane Cowie, also attending.

The focus of the training is to promote awareness of possible safeguarding concerns and look at our responsibilities as a Church. We will also be looking at some scenarios through group discussion.

If you work with children or vulnerable adults in the Church you must attend this training. If you have attended this course in the last five years, there will be a refresher session early in 2019, date to be confirmed.

For catering purposes, please inform Jane Cowie if you will be attending on 020 8859 4932 or church@newelthammethodist.co.uk. Thank you.



New Eltham Methodist Church
435 Footscray Road
New Eltham, SE9 3UL

All Souls Service

Sunday 28th October at 4:00 pm

A service of reflection and tranquillity
to remember, with thanksgiving,
those who have died and whom you
hold in your heart with love

All are welcome

Events/Charities News



GOOD CAUSES

The Events/Charities Committee would like to thank you for supporting this year's good cause. The Whitechapel Mission has been supporting London's homeless for 150 years and, over the last 12 months, you have helped us raise a total of just over £2,200. Well done and thank you!



HARVEST LUNCH

We start collecting for our next good cause at our Harvest Lunch which, this year, will be immediately after the morning service on Sunday 14th October (more details will be provided in the weekly notices)



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

And also, because it's never too early to think about Christmas, our Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday 17th November, from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

We'll be calling for volunteers in due course but, in the meantime, it would be good if you could start thinking about how you might contribute on the day. In particular we would be very grateful for any donations of the following:

- **Gifts** for the Church Stall and the Hamper/Raffle
- **Books** for the Book Stall
- **Chocolate** for the Chocolate Tombola
- **Cakes** for Room 4 Tea/Coffee refreshments
- **Ideas/suggestions** for new stalls

Please let Jane, in the church office, or any committee member have anything you are able to donate, any ideas for how we can attract a wider audience and anything else we might do to make our annual church and charity fundraising event bigger and better. And we look forward to seeing you bright and early on the day!

Thank you so much for your generous support of all our events.

Events and Charities Committee
(Clare, Paul, Geraldine)



Summer Fiesta!

All the fun of the Fiesta!

Our Summer Fiesta, held on 21st July, had something for everyone; children's and adults games, a Beetle Drive, a Bake Off competition, a BBQ and much more, all raising funds on behalf of our Annual Good Cause, The Whitechapel Mission. Our thanks to everyone who came and made the day such a happy one.





Saturday 29th September, 4-6 pm

Join us to hear the Bible story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 and make some fun crafts. We will finish the session with a family tea.

For further information please email: church@newelthammethodist.co.uk or telephone 020 8859 4932

FREE ENTRY

Messy Church is supported by New Eltham Methodist Church although any donations on the door are gratefully received to support our craft activities.



Saturday Family Films



@

New Eltham Methodist Church

Saturday 6th October at 3.00 pm

Our family film afternoons recommence in October. Look out for posters detailing film showings at the Centre or on our website www.newelthammethodist.org.uk

The film afternoons will be held once a month throughout the Autumn/Winter in the Church from 3.00 pm.

Films are for children and families, so all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Attendance is free, with refreshments available for a small charge.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2018

If you haven't done your own box before, please consider doing one this year. Those who have done so know that it is a joy filling a box for a specific child and it is a lovely way of spreading God's love and the gospel. The number of boxes sent from individuals in our church has dropped in recent years so, if you are able to make up your own box, I can thoroughly recommend it.

Please give me your completed boxes by Sunday 11th November and any individual items for the Church boxes before this date.

Please remember not to include any of these banned items:

- X No Liquids - not even bubbles.
- X No mirrors or breakable items.
- X No food other than sweets, no chocolate and I would say no nuts.
- X No books with mainly words.
- X No religious items at all (for these boxes go to needy children across the world, regardless of religion).
- X No war toys and no toys without the 'CE' label.
- X No clothing other than gloves, scarves and hats.
- X No PLAYING CARDS

Please note: For each individual box we will need £5.00 postage.

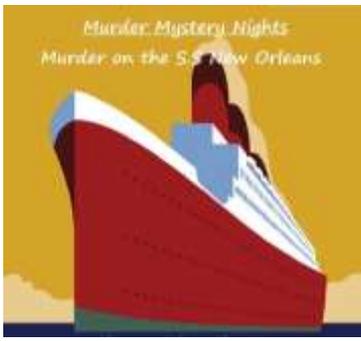
If you are contributing to the boxes that we as a church make up, please put your items in the box in the vestibule as soon as possible.

We need:

- ✓ Empty shoeboxes (if the lid and base are wrapped separately in Christmas wrapping paper first, even better!)
- ✓ Sweets with a long date, to at least March 2019. (Remember no chocolate or nuts)
- ✓ Soft toys with the 'CE' label, that can fit in a shoe box.
- ✓ Stationery.
- ✓ Costume jewellery and hair bunches.
- ✓ "Doing" toys, i.e. tennis ball, skipping rope.
- ✓ Toiletries - ("dry") i.e. wrapped soaps, toothbrushes and pastes, flannel, bath puff.
- ✓ MONEY -Due to the increase to £5 a box, there was a shortfall of money last year. So we need money to fill, but especially to send these boxes to needy children in Eastern Europe, Africa and beyond, many of whom will have never received a Christmas present before. These children suffer because of war, poverty, natural disaster or illness, but being sent a shoebox filled with love and gifts is a wonderful way to share God's love at Christmas, and is a practical reminder that someone cares about them.

I urge everyone who can to get involved in this year's Operation Christmas Child campaign. Start collecting and look out for leaflets that will be available from the vestibule in September. For more information or to offer help please phone 020 8859 6249.

Thank you, Louise Field



MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS

Being half Swedish and enthusiastic readers of Scandinavian Noir, we thought we knew what made a perfect murder mystery. Bleak landscapes, dark moods and a morally complex plot that explodes the tension between an apparently still and bland social surface and the evil, guilt and malevolence that lies beneath. How wrong we were and how glad we were that on a Saturday night in August we allowed NECP to transport us back to the 1920s, where we and our fellow travellers found ourselves on the maiden voyage of the SS New Orleans. And what a voyage it proved to be, or would have been if someone had not selfishly killed the captain. What luck that Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were available to help us find the culprit.

And so we were introduced to our first murder mystery at the New Eltham Community Centre; an interactive play in which characters interacted between themselves and were subject to third degree interrogations from the audience. Who was the killer and were they driven by money, jealousy, love or some other motive we had completely missed? Random clues (it seemed) were provided by the detectives and after several rounds of both clues and fruitless interrogations, we were asked to name both a killer and a motive. The choice was almost limitless.



Was it Emily Airhead, the debonair socialite played by Rachel King, or was it the impossible to pronounce Miles Cholmondeley-Warner played by Kevin Doig, they looked innocent enough, but were they? Then there was Izzy Gonyett, played with a nod to Mae West by Bree Palmer, who didn't seem to mind if the men in her life were living or dead, or Dr Heinrich Manoeuvre, in whom Simon Cracknell revealed more than a hint of Dr Strangelove. Perhaps it was Farley Hatpin, played with a vacant expression and intriguing walk by Julian Bartlett or could it be author and mistress of mystery Hagatha Twisty, played by Barbara Scott as the epitome of the grand dame herself. But, if not them, we were left with Willet Fly, an inveterate inventor, played by David Helps or everyone's sweetheart Truly Divine, played by Lee Moore. Frankly it could have been any of them and our team did consider a Murder on the Orient Express solution and blamed them all. But we were told this was not acceptable. So it was just as well that Sherlock Holmes (Stephen Wells-Gaston) and Dr John Watson (Martin Wells-Gaston) were on hand to solve the crime.

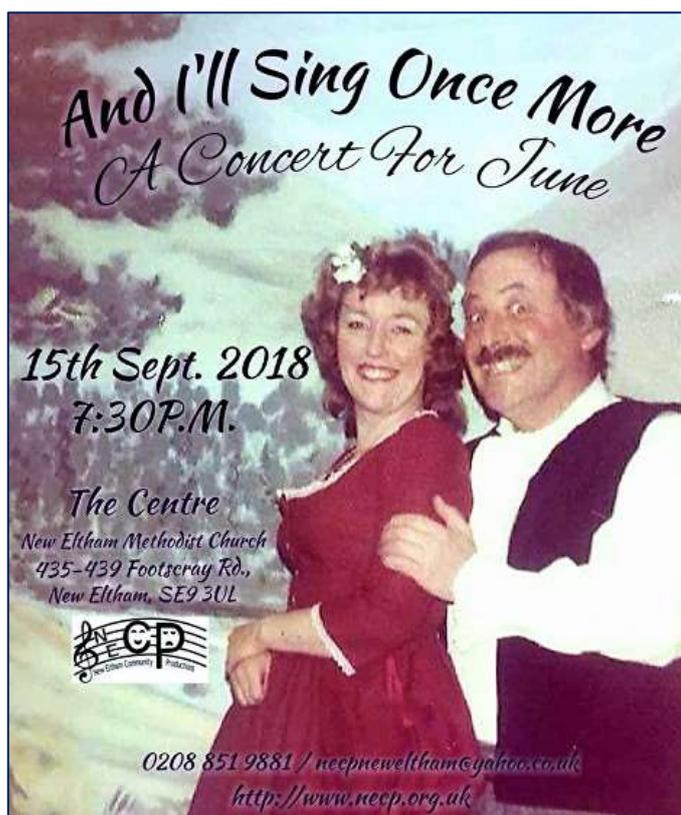


We had no idea that Holmes and Watson looked so alike, surely a cunning plot twist that Conan Doyle inexplicably overlooked. This was a fun and interactive murder game, accompanied by fish and chips that were delivered hot and at the same time to every table (a mystery in itself). This wasn't something we had been to before, but we will definitely come again.

The cast did a really good job keeping in their characters and, though there was some slight tripping up because of the open questions from the audience, this just added to the fun. Our detective skills (which just couldn't match those of Mr Holmes) meant we didn't manage to find the culprit or the reason for the murder, although it must be said that our table did have the real villain as our second choice, it all came down to one single vote.

Our thanks go to everyone involved and to Wally Byson who helped with writing and directing, but was unable to be present on the night. We are already looking forward to next year.

Daniel and Louise Ericsson



**On Saturday 15th of September
at 7:30pm**

**Tickets are £9 each, which includes
Tea/Coffee and Cake**

**You can buy your tickets now by
calling: 0208 851 9881**

or by emailing:

necpneweltham@yahoo.co.uk

New Eltham has been fortunate to attract many people who could act, sing, write, dance, choreograph or direct. They have been blessed with some who could do them all (or at least thought they could). But, one member not only had all of these, she also had the ability to inspire others to believe that they had them too. For five decades June Penney was the undisputed lynchpin of NECP, an accomplished actress with a beautiful voice, who appeared in musicals, who directed shows, wrote pantomimes, made costumes, designed sets, painted scenery, and took leading roles or simply sang in the chorus of more than 150 productions. Sadly, June passed away this year and this concert will be a joyful collection of all things musical and dramatical that she loved. It will be performed by her friends and by current and former members in tribute to her dedication, enthusiasm, love and outstanding contribution to the business of show business here in New Eltham.

Chislehurst Methodist Church

Bake off!



Do you fancy being the next Paul Hollywood or Pru Leith?

Then come along on Sunday 16th September at 12 noon **prompt** and let the judging commence!

£2.50 per adult, children free! Your ticket gets you a cup of tea or coffee and tasting of all the entries. Tickets on the door or in advance. All welcome, bring your friends!

You will get to taste the entries and then judge on 3 categories:

- originality
- appearance
- taste

Your votes will decide which contestant is crowned



Baker!!!

If you would like to enter a bake please telephone Jane on 020 8249 3153 or email janecowie74@ntlworld.com with the name of your entry **no later than Tuesday 11th September**. Good luck!

All proceeds go to



There will be a welcome service for the Reverends Terry Wright and Alison Davis at Bromley Common Methodist Church on Wednesday 5th September at 7:30pm

The District Chair, the Reverend Jongi Zihle, will be attending

This service will also recognise Duncan's appointment as Circuit Superintendent and the appointment of the new Circuit Team



Film Nights

@ New Eltham Methodist Church

The Greatest Showman

Wednesday 12th September 2018 at 7pm

Orphaned, penniless but ambitious and with a mind crammed with imagination and fresh ideas, the American Phineas Taylor Barnum will always be remembered as the man with the gift to effortlessly blur the line between reality and fiction. Thirsty for innovation and hungry for success, the son of a tailor will first open a wax museum but will soon shift focus to the unique and peculiar, introducing extraordinary, never-seen-before live acts on the circus stage. Some will call Barnum's wide collection of oddities, a freak show; however, when the obsessed showman gambles everything on the opera singer Jenny Lind to appeal to a high-brow audience, he will somehow lose sight of the most important aspect of his life: his family. Will Barnum risk it all to be accepted?

Running time 1hr 45m.

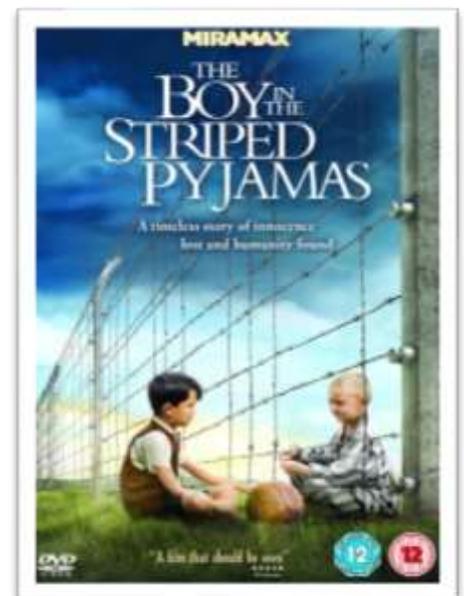


The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

Wednesday 10th October 2018 at 7pm

A fictional story that offers a unique perspective on how prejudice, hatred and violence affect innocent people, particularly children, during wartime. Through the lens of an eight-year-old boy largely shielded from the reality of World War II, we witness a forbidden friendship that forms between Bruno, the son of Nazi commandant, and Shmuel, a Jewish boy held captive in a concentration camp. Though the two are separated physically by a barbed wire fence, their lives become inescapably intertwined. The imagined story of Bruno and Shmuel sheds light on the brutality, senselessness and devastating consequences of war from an unusual point of view. Together, their tragic journey helps recall the millions of innocent victims of the Holocaust.

Running time 1hr 34m.



All welcome. The films are followed by a short discussion and light refreshments. The films are free, but there is a small charge of £1 for refreshments. Bring a friend!

NEXT FILM NIGHT: WEDNESDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2018



The best of They Also Knew Jesus

Sunday 4th November at 6 pm

Back by popular demand is another evening of Monologues and Duologues, which have been set to music chosen to suit the mood of the piece and the whole church beautifully lit by Michael Chuter and, to round the whole piece into a beautiful evening, the church will be filled with perfect sound, created by ex-BBC Sound Technician, our very own Graham Bunce! The evening will include the thoughts of folk who 'Also Knew Jesus' such as 'The Inn Keepers Wife', 'Herod', 'Thomas', 'Simon Iscariot' - (the father of Judas), and Mary Magdalene. We look forward to seeing you there.



'The Railway Children'
by Edith Nesbitt

19th and 20th October 2018

NECP invite you to join us for our October production, a stage adaptation of Edith Nesbit's famous children's novel *The Railway Children*. Living at Well Hall in Eltham for 23 years, where she wrote many of her famous books including *The Railway Children*, Edith Nesbitt is one of our most famous local residents and one of the most interesting. Her books inspired many renowned children's authors including J K Rowling.

The story tells us about a well off Edwardian family who are forced to move from their comfortable home in London to "Three Chimneys" a small house in the country near a railway line after their father, who works at the Foreign Office, is imprisoned having been falsely accused of spying. The friendships they make, the adventures they have and the way in which they come to terms with their situation are lovingly told in the book and we hope recreated for you on stage by us.

There will be three performances on Friday 19th October at 7.30pm and at 3pm and 7.30pm on Saturday 20th October and we hope young and old alike will want to join us for our interpretation of one of the most loved of children's stories.

Book by telephone on 020 8850 2960 or book online via www.necp.org.uk (booking fee applies). Further details are on the poster on the adjacent page.

Any volunteers willing to help out on Coffee Bar for any of the performances would be very welcome - just sign up on the coffee bar notice and Thank You!

**NEW ELTHAM COMMUNITY
PRODUCTIONS**



proudly present an amateur production of:-

**THE
RAILWAY CHILDREN**

by Edith Nesbit adapted by Mike Kenny
by arrangement with Nick Hern Books

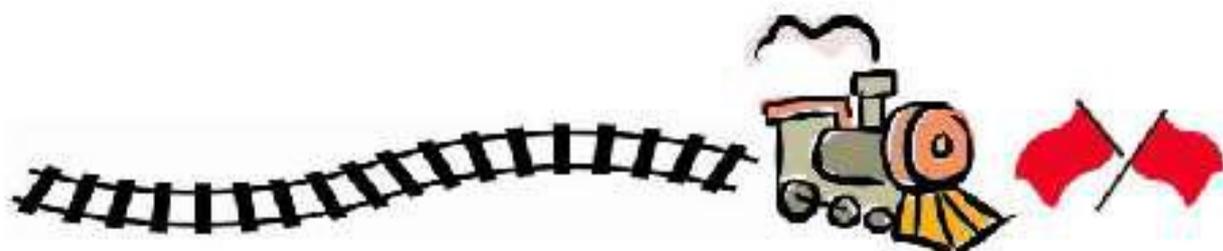
19th, 20th October 2018

7.30pm / 3.00pm - **020 8850 2960**

£10 adults, £5 children (12 and under)

Online booking via ticketsource (bkg. fee applies)

The Centre, New Eltham Methodist Church
435 Footscray Road, London SE9 3UL
www.necp.org.uk necpneweltham@yahoo.co.uk



Regular Events

CONTACT NUMBERS

Sundays	10:30	Morning Service Young Church (5-18 years)	020 8857 3786 020 8859 9750
	12:30	British Zimbabwean Methodist Church	07867 525 715
Mondays	10:00	Diddie Dance (2-4 years)	07944 623 338
	11:15	Ready, Steady, Toddle! (18 months - 4 years)	07771 747 219
	14:00	Jigsaw Group (2 nd and 4 th Mondays of the month)	07810 201 818
	17:30	Okinawa Shotokan Karate Academy	07723 535 353
	19:30	Senior Youth Club (11-19 years)	020 8859 4932
Tuesdays	9:00	Monkey Music	020 3865 8524
	14:00	Adult Social and Activity Group	020 8302 6829
	16:00	Tanya Dirrane School of Irish Dancing (over 4s)	07775 943 723
	16:45	Loopy Lou's Cheerleading, Hip Hop and Street Dance (4-7 years)	07967 346 797
	18:00	Loopy Lou's Cheerleading, Hip Hop and Street Dance (8+ years)	07967 346 797
	18:30	Fujian White Crane Kung Fu	07823 921 987
	20:00	Yoga Lily	07776 205 301
	20:00	New Eltham Community Productions	020 8300 9027
Wednesdays	14:00	Badminton - non league	020 8850 7621
	17:30	3rd New Eltham Rainbows	0800 169 5901
	18:00	2nd New Eltham Brownies	0800 169 5901
	19:30	2nd New Eltham Guides	0800 169 5901
	20:00	2nd New Eltham Rangers (Fortnightly)	0800 169 5901
	20:00	Zumba	07811 823 467
Thursdays	11:00	Barre Concept	07769 942 869
	12:30	Floristry Classes with Elaine	07957 422 763
	14:00	Sidcup Active Retirement Association (3 rd Thursday of the month)	07738 947 860
	18:00	Key to Success 11+ Tutoring	07896 114 044
	20:00	Badminton - non league	020 8859 5856
	20:00	New Eltham Community Productions	020 8300 9027
Fridays	14:00	Sidcup Active Retirement Association	020 8302 7182
	16:15	All the Arts Theatre School (3-17 years)	020 8850 2384
Saturdays	07:30	Weight Watchers	07880 617 066
	10:00	All the Arts Performers Academy	020 8850 2384

For further details, see our website: newelthammethodist.org.uk



The November magazine's editor is Andrew Seed
Items for insertion to Andrew by Sunday 21st October
at the latest please. andrew_seed60@hotmail.com