

It's official!



4.30pm, Saturday 12th September, and Hooe Primary Academy school hall is filled with the sounds of loud music, party

poppers, and balloons being batted to and fro. Yet another birthday party in full swing? No, it was us celebrating the beginning of the ministry of Rev. Vanessa Appleton at Hooe Baptist Church.

Members of the church, representatives from other local churches in Plymstock and Plymouth, other representatives of the community, including the local MP Gary Streeter, as well as friends of the Appleton's



Brief welcomes on behalf of the local community, local ministers and the SWBA

had all been welcomed into the hall by the older girls from 1st Hooe Girls' Brigade. Songs of celebratory praise were followed by the telling of the story of how Vanessa had heard the call of God to Hooe and the confirmation from the church of this call. Promises were made by Vanessa to serve the church and community and



The story of Vanessa's call to Hooe Baptist Church

- Robert Ashurst
- Anna Rogers
- Rev. Vanessa Appleton

responding promises were made by all present to support her. Vanessa was also appointed as Chaplain to the 1st Hooe Company The Girls' Brigade. The joyful service was followed by the usual tea, cakes and plenty of chatter.

We are very grateful to Hooe Primary Academy for allowing us to use their premises.

It is a time of new beginnings for Hooe Baptist Church as we seek to serve God and the community around us. Vanessa has already been out and about meeting folk and will continue to do so. We thank God for His faithfulness to the church over many years and are excited to see what the future will bring.



Vanessa and John Appleton

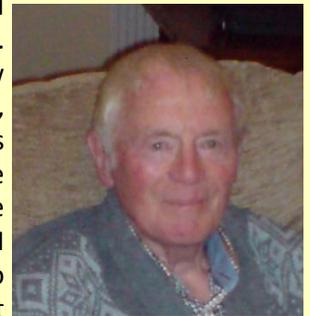
New logo for a new season

This summer has seen the start of a new season in ministerial leadership for the Church. The Rev. Vanessa Appleton accepted the call to come to Hooe and work with us to provide the care, support and sense of community that God's love can bring.

To mark this new season of God's work in Hooe we felt that a new logo for the church would be appropriate and over the next month or so the logo at top right above will start to replace the old logo.

Chris's Story

My name is Chris Kirby and I attend Hooe Baptist Church. One of five children I grew up in Kings Langley, Hertfordshire. All five of us were encouraged into the local Sunday School. At the age of 13 I told my parents I no longer wished to go to church because I and most of my friends found it boring!



The final date for me to leave would be after the Sunday School prize giving Service, when I would be receiving a good book for excellent attendance!

However, God graciously had other plans for me. The service that day was to be led by a former City of London retired policeman. Have you ever been arrested? I certainly was that particular day by what he proclaimed in preaching - that everyone needed to be saved and to know Jesus as their personal Saviour.

Later I was Baptized and found great comfort and support from my former Sunday School teachers and Bible school staff. Prayer and Bible study became a lifeline as I entered my teens and subsequent later years.

The daily knowledge of having God's ever present love and care has been such a blessing and support. Perhaps I should tell you, that for many years members of my family have served in various Police Forces. I also spent a long service in this line of duty during which many difficult circumstances arose.

I do declare that it is only by God's help that many very difficult conflicts were overcome and I have so much to praise God for and a continual joy in having come to know Jesus as my Saviour. What he has done for me He can do for you. God bless you and cause you to know the difference that He can make to your life.

Just another Saturday night?

Its 2.30am and time to leave behind the tea and toast and return to the streets for the final Street Pastor's shift. A lady from Sweden, is with us. She has come to see what goes on, and to learn all about the work, as preparation for the setting up of the service there.

2 minutes out, there's a man on the floor bleeding from his head. Out comes the first aid and our 'nurse' gets to work cleaning up and staunching the flow. He had tripped and gashed his head on some exposed metalwork. With the man patched up and cleaned up, we receive a call that there is a vulnerable lady in the poorly lit car park behind a club. When the lady is found she is slightly worse for wear but not alone - a bunch of friends have found her. Some water and a pair of flip flops are enough to get the group moving off towards the taxis. We follow and find another lady on the floor by the rank - but she is only 'tired' after a night on the dance floor and just wants to sleep! Not here we say and give her a helping hand into a taxi.

Where has the time gone? It's already 3.50am and time to begin the walk to base and home. Nearly back and we find a lady on the floor in Union St. Dressed for clubbing, not the chilly night, we assume 'another too much to drink'. Can't leave her though, despite the time. But never make assumptions! Yes she has been drinking but we discover she also has mental problems and suffers from blackouts. It took some time to get a sensible response from her and the OK to use her phone to call for family help. Did I say 'some time'? We got back to base at 5.35am! Not just any old Saturday night, but another night when God's love was present, serving and working!

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday 10.30am Worship and Sunday youth.

Wednesday

1.45pm **HooeRays! Toddler and Parent group**

Thursday

10.30am '**Friends**' gathering for a cuppa & friendship

6.30pm **Girls' Brigade** for 5-18 year olds

Friday

9.15am **Early Play** for pre-schoolers and parents

4.15-6pm **Messy Church** (1st Friday of every month)

House Groups run on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday evenings in local homes. These groups provide pastoral care, alongside Bible study, group discussion, prayer and support.

Information on Blessings for new children, Believers' Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Pastoral Care, joining the Church, and hiring the Hall is available from the Church Secretary.

Contact: email secretary@hooebaptist.org.uk or Tel: 480247 or see our website: www.hooebaptist.org.uk

All staff and helpers involved in any work with children and young people are enhanced DBS checked and receive regular and thorough child and vulnerable adult protection and safeguarding training.

HooeRays! Baby and Toddler Group

Do you have children aged 0-4 years? Do you want to meet with other mums? Are you free on a Wednesday afternoon between 1.45pm and 3.15pm? If so, come along to HooeRays!



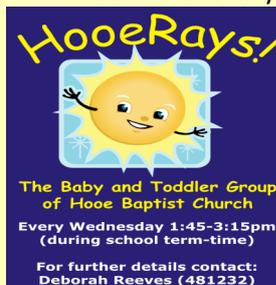
HooeRays! is the toddler group at Hooe Baptist Church. We are a friendly group run by volunteers from the church and our aim is to offer an

age-appropriate, safe and happy place for the children, while the adults can meet with friends, discuss concerns, swap ideas, or just have some grown-up conversation!

At each session we have toys for all ages and a selection of activities such as home corner, shop, dressing up, books, play dough or other craft activity. We provide squash and biscuits for the children and a hot or cold drink for the adults. Towards the end of each session we put away the toys and have a song time followed by ride-on toys.

We welcome families and childminders. There is no membership list - anyone is welcome to attend when they can. The only exception is the Christmas Party, which must be pre-booked for catering purposes. To ensure Father Christmas brings everyone a present we ask for a donation of £1 per family per week.

Do come along and join us - the kettle will be on!



Messy Church

What is it?

It's a time when parents and their children can share in activities that, well, you might think twice about doing at home! Glue, glitter, paint, hand painting, feet painting, face painting - with some more delicate artistic or creative work thrown in for good measure.

There is story telling of well known bible stories, often lead by puppets, and the whole event is rounded off in the sharing of a meal.

Jon and Gemma Clarke started Messy Church back in December 2012. They have now moved to pastures new in Nottinghamshire, so a team from the church continues the work with fun and enthusiasm.

When is it?

First Friday of every month, starting at 4.15pm. Look out for the banner outside the Church!

