

the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

July/August 2011



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Linking:

**Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham Methodist Church
Cobham United Reformed Church
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church**

The Methodist Church



CONTENTS:

Ministers' letters	3 - 5
Extract from REFORM	6
Cobham Methodist	7 - 9
Cobham URC	10 - 13
Effingham Methodist	14 - 18
Leatherhead News	19 - 23
Leatherhead Methodist	24 - 26
Christ Church	27 - 31
Pastorate Details	32

Editor's Note:

My thanks to those who have expressed opinions about the new "Link" magazine, which are helpful. It is gratifying to know that the Link has generally been welcomed throughout the Pastorate.

One or two observations were passed to me which I have tried to address in this issue. Do please continue to let me know if you have any comments about the magazine.

Items of a general nature for the Leatherhead churches can be found under the Leatherhead News pages, while specific items for particular churches can be found in the pages for that church.

The next issue will be the September one, closing date for copy - 15th August. If you're going away, have a great holiday!

Editor: Les Prescott
26 Poplar Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8SQ
Tel: Church Office - (Tues & Thurs a.m.)
01372 362145

E-mail address for The Link:
pastorate.link@gmail.com

All copy for the September issue to the editor by 15th August



The Ministers Write...



From Rev. Ian Howarth

Dear Friends

This year, at the beginning of July, I am attending the Methodist Conference in Southport. At the time of writing I just have the first volume of the agenda, all 380 pages of it. I am (eagerly?) awaiting the arrival of Volume 2, with another 350 pages.

It includes reports on everything imaginable from the Board of Management of Methodist Independent Schools, to the Methodist Heritage Committee. The fact that the Conference technically has oversight of so many things, speaks to a real difference between the governance of the Methodist and United Reformed Churches. Every Methodist church is under the oversight and authority of Conference, and each church has a constitution which follows the standing orders agreed by Conference and which are contained in another huge volume, the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, on which I had to be interviewed before I was allowed to be ordained! In the URC, oversight rests with the Church Meeting and the role of the General Assembly as I understand it is less central, although I am still learning.

However, alongside the more business oriented reports are two that come from the Joint Public Issues team of the Methodist, United Reformed and Baptist Churches, that are challenging and thought provoking. They are on 'The Big Society' and 'Poverty and Inequality.' They address some of the issues raised by the Archbishop of Canterbury in his rather controversial piece for the New Statesman, but they do so in a less party political way and at greater depth. They are, however, challenging reports. They encourage the church to 'continue to speak prophetically about what it means to live in community, and to highlight the impact of public spending cuts.' and reaffirms the Church's commitment to 'ending the scourge of poverty and to promoting the welfare of the poorest and most vulnerable', while calling on church members 'to consider how best they may play their part in bringing this about, be it by prayer, charity, social action or political action.'

Some have argued that the churches should not get involved in such areas, but in doing so the church simply seeks to take its place within

the tradition of prophets like Amos and Isaiah, and New Testament writers like James, as well as seeking to live out the teaching of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.

Christians do not agree on all the details, and I look forward to lively debate on the reports at the Conference. However, whatever our views, the reports, like the Archbishop's article, challenge us to work out how the message of God's love for all people, and God's affirmation of the value of each human person in Christ, is worked out in practice in our society.

Yours in Christ,

Ian

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

In the living room of the manse we have a beautiful framed photograph of Fountains Abbey in North Yorkshire. An historical site housing the largest abbey ruins in the country. Not too far from where we used to live, it holds many memories for us as a family and so we were delighted to be given this as a gift. It's interesting that when we were given it as a leaving present, I took one look at it and I struggled to recognise where on earth it was at all. Some might say I am the least observant person they know but actually when it comes to doing anything myself, detail is important to me. The photograph was taken at such an angle, with the sun beginning to set; somehow, the image that I had become so familiar with, just didn't register at all. I puzzled over it for ages much to the bemusement of our dear friend. Sometimes you need to step away from something and look at it from a different perspective just to be able to appreciate it in its entirety; somehow you notice things you had never picked up before. In a way you only receive a partial picture of something when you first look at it.

After spending nearly a year in ministry, a baby amongst so many seasoned ministers, I have learnt one thing (of many I hope), that what you see is not what you get. The Bible has so many layers to it, it will surely take more than my lifetime to understand its message. The people I meet and the problems I encounter will only ever present a partial picture of what is really going on beneath. There is so much that is unseen.

What is wonderful and reassuring to me in all of this is that we need each other and we need God to reveal to us those things which are important for us to see. No matter how tiny they may seem, we are enriched by adding a speck of colour to a picture that is unfinished. Our creator God fills in the gaps a bit at a time and the scales are lifted from our eyes when the timing is right.

I hope that during this time in the summer, traditionally a time for rest and recuperation, we might return refreshed and renewed ready to catch a glimpse of another part of the jigsaw puzzle.

With every blessing,

Kim

“Local Arrangement”



"Looks like no one was available to fill in for the vicar's annual holiday again."

This cartoon reminded me that when the Methodist Circuit Superintendent organises the quarterly preaching plan, the summer months can sometimes be a challenge in finding clergy or local preachers to fill appointments. As a last resort, the Superintendent will simply put “LA” on the plan, meaning “Local Arrangement”, or, the church itself will need to organise something for that particular service.

This happened to LMC on the recently published plan for the quarter beginning in July. Sunday 10th July was down as “LA”.

With only a few weeks’ notice, what could we do? This is where we have become so fortunate that our Minister is also the Minister for Christ Church and he is preaching there on that Sunday. Our friends at Christ Church had already invited us to the family picnic after morning service on that Sunday, so why not join together for the morning service? So that is what we shall do. The morning service at Christ Church on Sunday 10th July will now include the LMC congregation and our thanks to Christ Church for agreeing to this “Local Arrangement”.

Editor

*This is an extract from the June issue of "REFORM" magazine.
See www.reform-magazine.co.uk for details of how to obtain your copy.*

All we are is what he is

John Pridmore takes issue with the glorifying of stories of the ascension

I have no difficulty in believing that 12 men climbed a mountain, and that, having reached the summit, one of them carried on climbing. It is no problem to me that the last sight his companions had of him – as depicted subsequently in many a stained-glass window – was of two feet disappearing into a cloud. I am untroubled by the claim that at that point two other men, in long white coats, appeared from nowhere to reassure the bewildered 11 that their friend would return in due course in the same surprising way that he left them.

What bothers me, what I find far harder to believe than this strange tale of self-levitation, is what the story has been taken to mean. St Paul steered subsequent interpretation of the ascension with what we hear in our reading from his letter to the Ephesians. "God has seated Christ at his right hand," Paul writes. Jesus the suffering servant has become Christ the triumphant warrior. He is *Christus Victor*, back from his battlefield, all his enemies slaughtered. He does not hang from a cross, but sits on a throne. There he sits and there he stays. There will be no further need for him to get to his feet, for the conquest of his foes is complete. That is what I find hard to believe.





Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary - July/August



JULY

- Sat 2nd 10.30am - 3.30pm Time for Reflection
- Sun 3rd 11.00am Angie Choat**
- Fri 8th 4.30pm - 7.30pm CYC (Bowling trip)
- Sat 9th 10.00am - 12noon Time 4 You (see next page)
- Sat 9th 2.30pm Platinum Service
- Sun 10th 11.00am John Oborn**
- Sun 17th 11.00am Alex Cloke**
- Wed 20th 7.30pm House Fellowship at the Manse
- Sun 24th 11.00am Rev. Val Ogden - Holy Communion**
- Sun 31st 10.30am United Service at Cobham URC**

AUGUST

- Sun 7th 11.00am Rev. Robert Davey**
- Sat 13th 10.00am - 12noon Time 4 You (see next page)
- Sat 13th 2.30pm Platinum Service
- Sun 14th 11.00am The Home Team**
- Sun 21st 11.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Family Service with Holy Communion**
- Sun 28th 11.00am Rev. Frank Smith**

August House Fellowship - to be arranged

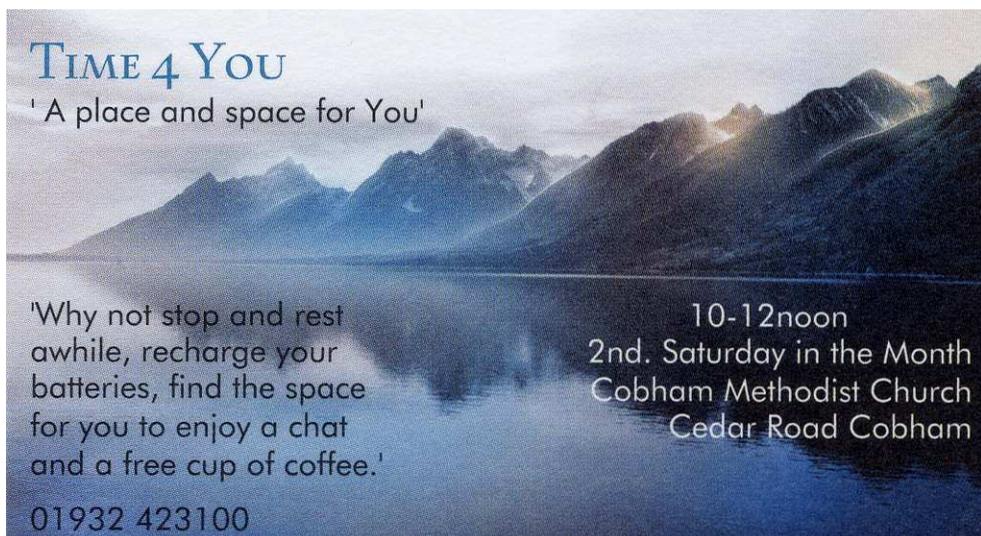
More Dates for your Diaries

Bible Study:

Tuesdays 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th July, 2.30pm - 4.00pm
at Cobham URC

Craft and Drama Day:

Wednesday 27th July, 10.00am - 3.00pm
at Cobham URC, led by Cobham Methodist Church, St Mary's
Stoke d'Abernon and Cobham URC.



TIME 4 YOU
'A place and space for You'

'Why not stop and rest
awhile, recharge your
batteries, find the space
for you to enjoy a chat
and a free cup of coffee.'

10-12noon
2nd. Saturday in the Month
Cobham Methodist Church
Cedar Road Cobham

01932 423100

Next "Time 4 You" -

Saturday 9th July, and then Saturday 13th August



Gifts

People will always remember my last service at Cobham on the plan. It was on Pentecost Sunday, and after sharing thoughts with the congregation about the coming of the Spirit, we went on to thinking about the gifts of the Spirit. In the congregation were two ladies who could have been mother and daughter. We were delighted to see them, especially as one looked really interested, although the other was stifling a few yawns. When I announced the offering first one and then the other went out, I thought probably to catch a bus. When, after the benediction I went to talk to people, Margaret Roberts went to pick up her handbag but it was missing! The two ladies had not been two worshippers but two thieves! I felt bitterly ashamed that my fervent preaching had not moved them to compassion. Perhaps it's just as well that I am giving up preaching. Of course we all felt great sadness for Margaret 's sad loss, and anger that these women had performed such a despicable act. But this morning two days later, I read in my thought for the day this quotation from George Macleod of Iona: "Jesus was not crucified on an altar between two candles but on a cross between two thieves"!

Freddie Jenkins

Editor's Note: Kim tells me that, in addition to the theft at Cobham Methodist Church on Pentecost Sunday morning, the same happened at the Anglican Church in the evening. Last year, at Leatherhead Methodist Church, a laptop was stolen during a service (thankfully since recovered by the police) and a brass cross went missing. Perhaps we should all be more aware of the possibility of thefts during services and pray for both those affected by having their possessions stolen and for the perpetrators that they may find their way to life in Jesus.





Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary - July/August



JULY

- Sun 3rd** 9.00am Early Bird Service led by Jane and Terry Lazenby
10:30am Alison Sage
- Sun 10th** 10:30am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion
- Sun 17th** 10:30am Thelma Roberts
- Sun 24th** 10:30am Rev. Kim Plumpton (with Seekers)
- Sun 31st** 10:30am Sydney Shore

AUGUST

- Sun 7th** 10:30am Rev. Norman Edsell
- Sun 14th** 10:30am Martin Ellis
- Sun 21st** 10:30am Andrew Gibb
- Sun 28th** 10:30am Rev. Kim Plumpton (with Seekers)

(Fourth Sunday with Seekers for Children. Creche is available on every other Sunday)

Bible Study and Morning Prayers

Bible Study - Faith in the Fire - at Church:
Tuesdays 5th, 12th, 19th July - 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Prayers at The Manse at 9.30am:
Wednesdays 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th July, and
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th August

Cobham URC Events - July/August

JULY

Sun	3rd	3.00pm -6.00pm	Special Needs Group
Tues	5th	8.00pm	Elders' meeting
Thurs	7th	12.30pm	Men's fellowship at the Old Windsor Castle, Bookham.
Fri	8th	4:30pm -6:30pm	Youth Group going bowling
Tues	12th	9:45am	Church walk
Tues	12th	8.00pm	Evening housegroup
Wed	13th	10:30am -3:30pm	Elders' away day at East Molesey house of prayer
Fri	22nd	3.00pm	Tea @ 3 at church
Sun	24th		Barbecue after the service (to be confirmed)
Wed	27th	10.00am -3.00pm	Spectacular children's Drama/Craft day with biblical theme. Offers of help on the day would be wonderful
Thurs	28th	10:30am	Morning housegroup at Church

AUGUST

Thurs	4th	12:30pm	Men's fellowship at the Old Windsor Castle, Bookham
Mon	8th	3.00pm -6.00pm	Special Needs Group
Tues	9th	9:45am	Church walk
Tues	9th	8.00pm	Evening housegroup
Fri	26th	10:30am	Morning housegroup at Church
Sat	27th	3.00pm	Tea @ 3 at church

Cobham URC -

A short history of some of our events

9am Early Bird Service

...The early bird breakfast service originated after a navigation exercise organised by the then Minister – David Mather – to improve attendance and fellowship. It was thought to be particularly useful during the Summer, for families who wished to attend a service, but were pushed for time when their children needed to be taken to sports events. When David's commitments became too heavy, the Elders took over running the short service, with Cathy Ayton playing the piano. It became a great time for getting to know each other, and sharing a light breakfast together, as in Jesus' time. At present there are 15 regular attenders.

Tea @ 3

...Originally took place in members' homes 37 years ago, to involve elderly members unable to get out and about easily. Eventually evolving into a regular monthly event held at the Church, with the more able picking up those needing transport. It is an ecumenical event welcoming other people for friendship and fellowship. Mary Williams and Isobel Foster organise the cakes and sandwiches, with others contributing when possible. The refreshments are gobbled up appreciatively, after members have taken turns to say The Grace.

Church Walk

...Started in 1972 by Molly Eaton, who arranged the first walk for teenagers. Some of the mums came too. When Molly asked the youngsters if they would like to do it again, they said no! But the mums did! It consists of a leisurely circular walk never more than five miles, led by Anthea Willis and Pam Roberts, ending with lunch together, either packed to eat outside or in a local hostelry.

All of these three events are great fun as we all get to know each other better.

With a great big thank you!!

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the coffee morning on Saturday 11th June. On the day we were thrilled to see the church hall full of eager people waiting to enjoy a cup of coffee and cake.

I am delighted to say that C.Y.C (Christian Youth Club) raised **£300.61** for the Teenage Cancer Trust. We have so many people to thank. None of this could have been achieved if it wasn't for all the hard work by the mums and church members who baked cakes to sell, those who came to give freely of their money and of course the eagerness of the children (they were so excited that by the end of the morning I'm convinced the children may well have tried to sell the table cloths!), not forgetting all those who mucked in where needed, including helping out in the kitchen to wash those all important pots.

The children were amazing and I am sure the parents were as proud as I was to see them serving others and providing the entertainment. We even managed to provide our own boy band called the 'Rebels' - a group of budding singers, a pianist, a violinist and some amazing singers. It was a very enjoyable morning. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all your support, the children were over the moon to have done so well on the day.

With gracious thanks,

Kim.





Effingham

Methodist Church

Effingham Methodist Diary - July/August



JULY

Sun 3rd	10.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun 10th	10.00am	David Cappitt
Tues 12th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed 13th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thurs 14th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
Sun 17th	10.00am	The Home Team
Sun 24th	10.00am	Rev. Robert Davey
Tues 26th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed 27th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thurs 28th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
Sun 31st	10.30am	United Service at St. Lawrence with Kim

AUGUST

Sun 7th	10.00am	Rev. Frank Smith with Holy Communion
Tues 9th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed 10th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun 14th	10.00am	Clive Haines
Sun 21st	10.00am	Robert Pitt
Tues 23rd	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed 24th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun 28th	10.00am	John Oborn



Dates to celebrate this month

We wish love and best wishes to Norma and Chris on the occasion of their wedding on 9th July.

Happy Birthday to Gill Walker on 3rd August.

(Remember we need your help to update our records of birthdays

Dates for your diaries

Join our **Bible Study group with Kim** second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the Hall at 2.00pm when we continue to explore the Gospel of Matthew.

Prayer meetings are held in the Chapel every Friday at 9.15am

Heritage Weekend - 8th to 11th September



Effingham Chapel will be taking part in **Heritage Open Days** again this year, and will be open on **Friday 9th and Saturday 10th from 10.00am to 5.00pm** with refreshments all day, an exhibition about our village, some Chapel history, and, as 2011 is the **400th anniversary** of the King James version, the story of how the bible was translated into English.

So can you help ? We'd greatly appreciate more volunteers to talk to visitors or help to serve teas or make scones this year. We had 70 visitors during last year's event! Also, as usual on Saturday 10th, cyclists taking part in the sponsored annual "*Bike & Stride for Surrey Churches Preservation Trusts*" will be dropping in for signatures on sponsor forms, refreshments and a "comfort break". **Please talk to Pat, Janet or Ange.**

AJP

PS: Remember last date to register an event is 1st August ...see www.heritageopendays.org.uk for details

How we got our English Bible - 2nd to 8th October

We're planning an exhibition and several events, tracing the rather bloody history of the English Bible.

Kim starts the week with a bible-themed Harvest Festival. The Chapel will be open for the bible exhibition, and we hope to screen "KJB - the book that changed the world".

On Saturday 8th we have invited Ann Long from Wycliffe Bible translators to give a talk about their work. There will be a collection to raise funds for a bible for Burkino Faso, one of the poorest countries in West Africa, which borders Mali.

But we need your help! Do you have a family bible? An interesting translation? An old illustrated bible? A bible in another language? A really modern bible? We'd also like your favourite bible quotations and any other ideas to make this a really memorable occasion.

AJP



Preparations for the future

I often feel that July & August are given to us to be a breathing space in the year when we are given time to consider what we are going to do in the future. Although we all need a break from our regular jobs not everyone is so lucky. The Circuit Stationing Committee will be meeting throughout the Summer to get things prepared for next year and property stewards will be getting work done or planned before the bad weather is upon us.

As I look back over the last twelve months I have to say how belonging to the five Church Pastorate has really stimulated me. I can remember how a year ago we were all worried about the idea but since then, how much we have been blessed by it. I am so pleased that Kim has come amongst us. She has really challenged and encouraged us and I'm looking forward to the future and all that the Holy Spirit may lead us to do. In Effingham we have already started up ecumenical prayer walks, prayer lunches and recently celebrated Pentecost together. There is an increase of interest from all the local churches to work more closely together where possible. Great News! It has also been an opportunity for us to share more closely than before with what is going on in the Leatherhead part of the Pastorate.

More Great News! In our Circuit, I recently attended the Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Communion Service and was really impressed by the number of people offering themselves to serve us as Circuit Preachers and Worship leaders. Please pray for them and for Rev Kath Jones, who has the responsibility of seeing local preachers through their stimulating but arduous training.

Pentecost challenges us, and, like the Covenant Service, reminds us that we must be prepared to go where the Spirit leads, no matter what the risks are and whether we are comfortable or not. This may sound familiar but I once had a dream, and saw a banner over the door of the Chapel which said "Power House"! (I don't normally have dreams like this)! Let us pray that our churches may indeed be power-houses enabling us to carry God's love into our communities.

DP

Dave's Family Bible



It's an illustrated copy of "**The Self-interpreting Family Bible**" with explanatory notes by the late **Rev. John Brown of Haddington**, and was a gift to Dave's great-grandfather, Thomas, from his great-grand father, W. Cripps in 1878. He's also written an inscription on the flyleaf, from *Romans 1 v 16* -

"I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God, unto salvation to everyone that believeth".

Very large and in need of repair to the leather cover and one of the metal clasps, this is a family treasure which will be on show at our bible exhibition in October.

But who was **Rev. John Brown**? According to Wikipedia, the free online encyclopaedia, he was an amazing character. Born in 1722, at Carpow near Abernethy in Perthshire, the son of a self-educated weaver and river-fisherman, his own formal education was scant. His parents died when he was 12 and he had to support himself by working as a shepherd, but he had a thirst for learning and taught himself Greek, Latin, and Hebrew by comparing texts and scripts. In 1738, after hearing that the Greek New Testament was available in a bookshop, he left his sheep with a friend and walked the 24 miles to St. Andrews to buy a copy. There were several professors of Greek in the bookshop, and as they watched this ragged shepherd boy gingerly handle the book, one of them challenged him to read it, saying he would buy it for him if he could. So he returned to his shepherd duties with this free gift. He fought against the Jacobites in the '45 rebellion. He was ordained in 1751, at Haddington, East Lothian, and that was his home for the rest of his life. He gained a just reputation for learning and piety, and became Moderator of the Synod in 1753, which is a remarkable tribute to the talents of someone ordained so recently. He wrote a dictionary of the bible, a general history of Christianity but his most famous work is *The Self-Interpreting Bible* first published in 1778 but still in print well into the 20th Century, so it had been in print for a hundred years when it was first given in 1878! What a remarkable man!

AJP

Leatherhead News

From 1st June, the Leatherhead Night Hostel became:

LeatherHEAD START

The move back to 3 Church Road from Dorking has been delayed, but up-to-the-minute news on the move can be found on the new website:

leatherheadstart.org

LeatherHead Start aims to provide a 24-hour service to its clients. They "aim to create a daytime programme of support, meaningful activities and training opportunities, working with each client to promote independence and self-esteem to help them gain the skills and confidence necessary to face their future with optimism, find a stake in society and move forward on the journey to independence, by adding value to lives where so much has been lost."

You can help in several ways by:

- Making a donation
- Becoming a collector
- Making meals
- Offering your teaching skills

See the website for further details.



Next Messy Church:

Thursday 21st July,
3.30pm to 5.30pm at



Leatherhead Uniting Churches Away Day: "Forward Together"

35 members of the three Covenanted churches, (Leatherhead Parish, Christ Church, and LMC) joined together at St. John's School with Rev. Stuart Thomas of Ruxley United Church on 11th June, to look at how we go forward together and develop our Covenant relationship.

Stuart used the hymn: 'Moses, I know you're the man' as the framework for our discussion, highlighting lines like: 'Don't get too set in your ways' and 'You will move easier if you are travelling light'.

At the end of the day we were asked to find some priorities to address as we look to go forward together; the following were suggested and will be discussed by stewards, elders and wardens at the next meeting of the Uniting Churches Council in September.

- More shared worship;
- Greater involvement of more people in Leatherhead Trinity School;
- Need to seek God's vision for us together;
- Better communication between and within churches about what is going on;
- An audit of the resources, financial, property and personnel that the churches have, and discussion about how we invest them more effectively for worship, mission and service;
- Greater co-operation between church councils, with a view to possibly sharing more in our governance.

We were encourage to use our imagination as we wait on God for his guidance for the future.

Ian Howarth

"Away Day" was a bit of a non-description. We only went as far as St John's School! I took the opportunity to get some reactions at the Uniting Churches Pentecost Service the following day from some who attended. Most comments seemed to begin with a rather hesitant "Well....." and then "Do you want my honest opinion?" Of course I did! Opinions differed. Most enjoyed Stuart's approach using lines from the song "Moses, I know you're the man" (H & P 450) to introduce each session, especially as each

sentence included "the Lord said". Some were not keen on the emphasis of what has happened at Ruxley, but did admit that that was where Stuart's experience lay. One lady just could not connect any relevance with what Ruxley has achieved and our vision in Leatherhead. She left at coffee time. Many were disappointed with the venue, especially those who went to Ockley two years ago, describing the hall as dark and depressing, with poor lighting, "like being locked in a cupboard" was one definition. The reception area was attractive, once, of course, you had worked out how to get through the school's tight security to enter the grounds. A plus for the school but not for visitors!

Generally the day had no great "wow" factor, more a case of, been there, done that. A first timer to Away Days found much of it new but not startling. Without fail all enjoyed the discussion and talking together. It was queried whether there was a need for an annual Away Day. My answer would be "yes" but for more thought given to the venue and the theme. There must be many subjects to create discussion and learn from each other. Perhaps the thinking needs to start now! It will be on the Uniting Churches Council's next agenda.

Jean Plant

Leatherhead Uniting Churches Pentecost Sunday Morning Service at LMC

What a lovely service on Pentecost Sunday morning! Three rows of extra chairs were brought in and they were all used. The music and singing were uplifting, and what a joy to see so many children going out for their own special teaching and coming back again for a blessing at the communion table. I noticed how they fidgeted at the front, with a lot of sh-shing from parents, and the calmness after being blessed. Ian spoke so well, using words that were relevant to all three congregations, yet bringing us together as one. Even LMC folk don't always know the process of 'up the middle and back to your seat from the side', so the little bit of confusion was not unusual and who cared anyway? It was a very intimate service with so much to take away from it - those lovely words that will be in the new hymn book but sung to a familiar tune, the special Pentecost words from the Bible and such meaningful prayers. And as important - and necessary as any other part of the service - was chatting together over coffee and biscuits at the end.

"Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me."

Jean Plant

Churches Together in Leatherhead - Men's Breakfast



The Churches Together organise a monthly Men's Breakfast where apart from a delicious cooked breakfast, a speaker is engaged on a topical subject. The suggested donation is £4.00 and surplus cash is given to a charity nominated by the speaker.

The next Men's Breakfasts will be:-

Sat 23rd July in St Mary & St Nicholas Church Hall, Church Rd, Leatherhead at 8.00am.

(No meeting in August)

Sat 24th September in the Catholic Church Hall, Garlands Road, Leatherhead at 8.00am.

Contacts:-

Methodist - Ron Shaw - 01372 274533;

URC - Robert Blows - 01372 386040

and Keith Poulton - 01372 817666

Holiday Club 2011

This year's Uniting Churches Holiday Club will be from 22nd to 26th August, based at Christ Church with additional groups meeting at BFree.

Anyone interested in joining the team, or for any further information, please contact Jane Smith on 01372 372919

Leatherhead Youth Project



BFree is open every day after school

Weekly Triumph cell group for Year 7+

Contact jay@leatherheadyouthproject.com for more details

Sunday 10 July Triumph AM

10-12pm @ BFree (school years 5+)

Sunday 10 July

KNOW Jesus?

6:30-8pm @ BFree for young people in Year 8+

Continuing the series of 12 sessions exploring faith and lifestyle issues relevant to teenagers

Sunday 24 July Triumph AM

10-12pm @ BFree (school years 5+)

Also look out for:

Duke of Edinburgh scheme

MTB trip 16-17 July

Miss Bliss for year 7, 8 & 9 girls

contact Lucie@leatherheadyouthproject.com for more details

www.leatherheadyouthproject.com



Leatherhead

Methodist Church



Diary - July/August



JULY		
Sun 3rd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Frank Smith with Holy Communion John Oborn
Sun 10th	10.30am 12.00noon 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion at Christ Church (No service at LMC) Picnic jointly at Christ Church No service at LMC
Sun 17th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion at Christ Church
Wed 20th	8.00pm	Leadership Team
Thurs 21st	3.30pm	Messy Church
Sun 24th	10.30am 6.30pm	Lavinia Hicks New Fire - Rev. Ian Howarth
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Bible Study evening
Sun 31st	10.30am 6.30pm	Clair Fisher Uniting Churches Service at Christ Church
AUGUST		
Sun 7th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rhys Frost Freddie Jenkins
Sun 14th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Val Ogden with Holy Communion No service at LMC
Sun 21st	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Mon 22nd to Fri 26th		Uniting Churches Holiday Club
Sun 28th	10.30am 6.30pm	David Cappitt No service at LMC

LMC Family News



Welcome to...

...James and Joanne Cameron, and baby Seth, who have been worshipping with us recently

Our thoughts and prayers are with...

...the family of Alan Wheeler who died on 6th June.

Best wishes to...

...Marion McAulay who is recuperating back at The Pantiles following her recent hip operation, and Irene and Jean Parker now recovering at home following injuries suffered in a road accident

Methodist Prayer Handbook 2011-12

The Prayer Handbook for 2011-12 entitled "Run the Race" and published by the Methodist Church, will be available in August, price £3.50. A large print version is also available. Please can you let me know by 15th July if you would like me to order one for you, and I can place a collective order (the price reduces slightly if I get 10 or more orders).

The 2011-12 handbook is inspired by sporting metaphors in scripture and hymns in Olympic and Paralympic year 2012. The daily prayer readings are arranged as a monthly cycle

The 31-day prayer cycle includes prayers for UK Methodist districts and partner countries around the world. The handbook also suggests a daily hymn taken from *Hymns and Psalms* and is therefore suitable for small groups as well as individuals.

Les Prescott
(contact details on page 2)

A Wesleyan Pilgrimage

On a sunny afternoon in May, pilgrims on a Wesleyan Pilgrimage tour from the far east visited Leatherhead Methodist Church. This had been arranged by the Rev. Hazel Yu from the Epsom Methodist Church who many of us will remember when the Chinese Church worshipped at LMC during the 1990s. The 'pilgrims' were, in fact, Methodist ministers from the Singapore and the Indonesian Perguruan Methodist churches, who had expressed a wish to see where John Wesley had preached his last sermon. In the group was The Rev. Dr Chin Chung Chong, President of the Singapore Methodist Church and the Rev. Foyar Liu, President of the Indonesian Methodist Church. Also in the group was Rev. Daniel Lee, an accomplished bass-baritone who, together with his wife, a mezzo-soprano, have made a CD of well known hymns entitled 'How Great Thou Art' which was presented to us.

The visitors arrived in a fleet of cars, everyone jumping out and taking many photos of the Wesleyan plaques on the side of the church. Inside the church many photos were again taken together with group poses, all done with great enthusiasm, humour and smiling faces. They listened to a brief résumé of John Wesley's life and his visit to the family living at Kingston House in 1791 where, it is said, he preached his last sermon before journeying on to London where he died a week later. They were told about the history of LMC built in 1893 and were shown details of our current church activities including Churches Together, the new Pastorate arrangements, B Free and Messy Church. On display were archives relating to John and Charles Wesley including examples of his journal and letters.

The group were then taken on a mini tour of our historic town of Leatherhead to Wesley House where again many group photos were taken on the steps of the house, followed by a quiet prayer giving thanks for the ministry of John Wesley and the hope that his message would continue to spread. We continued down Gravel Hill, past the 16th century Sweech House and on to Church Walk where, by chance, we met Tom Mosoke who was known to Hazel from her previous visits to Leatherhead, a fitting end to an enjoyable visit.

Will this pave the way for future visits and tours to see our connection with John Wesley? We hope so!

Fred Meynen

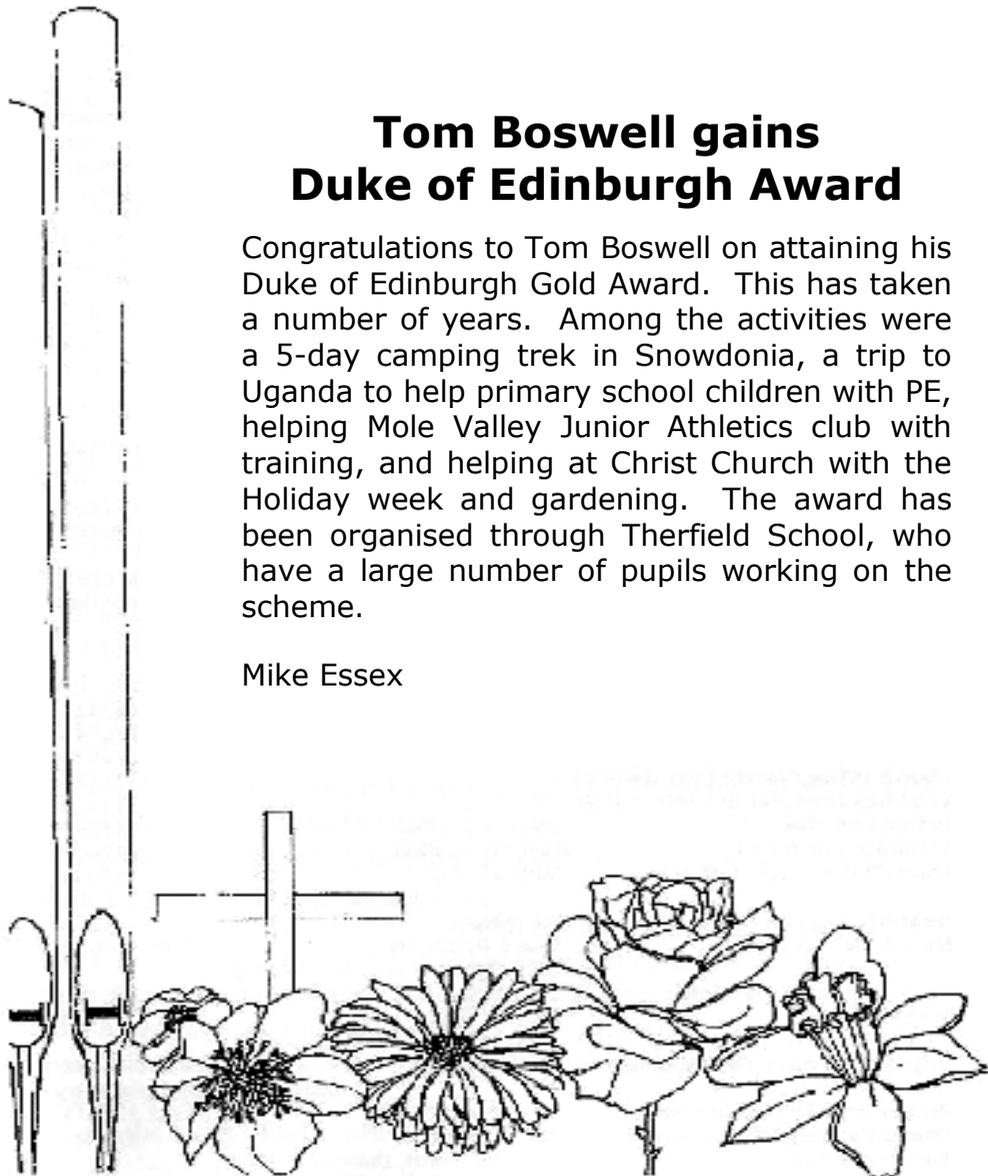
Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

Tom Boswell gains Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to Tom Boswell on attaining his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. This has taken a number of years. Among the activities were a 5-day camping trek in Snowdonia, a trip to Uganda to help primary school children with PE, helping Mole Valley Junior Athletics club with training, and helping at Christ Church with the Holiday week and gardening. The award has been organised through Therfield School, who have a large number of pupils working on the scheme.

Mike Essex



Christ Church Diary - July/August

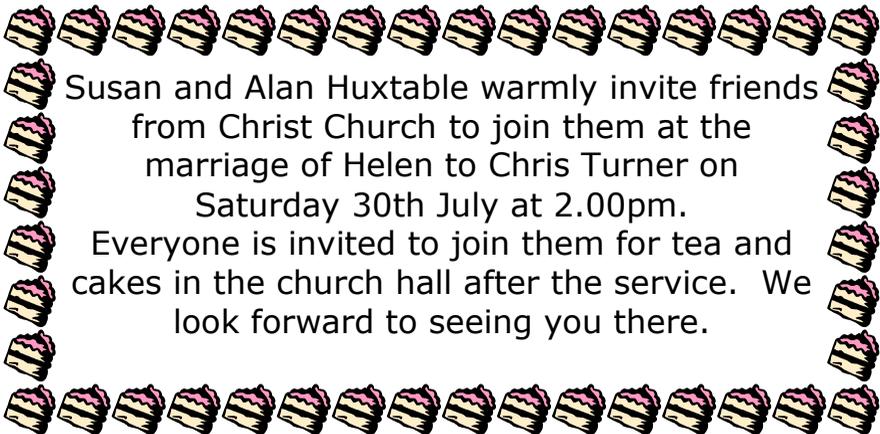


JULY

Sun	3rd	10.30am	Mrs Eileen Lawlor (Lay Preacher, New Malden) Organist: Gina Eason
		6.30pm	Evening Service at LMC
Sun	10th	10.30am	Holy Communion (with LMC at Christ Church: The Minister
		12.00noon	Picnic Lunch at Christ Church, jointly with LMC
Wed	13th	10.30am	Coffee & Chat in the Church
		11.15am	A-Z of organ music (Hammond, Handel, Hindemith, Hollins, Howells, Ireland, Jackson, Jacob, Jongen and Joubert).
Sun	17th	10.30am	Rev. Barbara Pearson Hospital Service
		6.30pm	Joint Holy Communion with LMC at Christ Church: The Minister & the Worship Group
Tues	19th	7.45pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat	23rd	8.00am	Men's Breakfast Fellowship at the Parish Church
Sun	24th	10.30am	Morning Service: The Minster Organist: Robert Soper
		6.30pm	New Fire at LMC
Sun	31st	10.30am	Morning Service: The Minister
		6.30pm	United Service of the Covenanting Churches at Christ Church

AUGUST

Wed	3rd	10.30am	Coffee & Chat: 34 Leatherhead Road
Sun	7th	10.30am	Morning Service: Rev. Brian Treharne Organist: Gina Eason
		6.30pm	Evening Service at LMC
Wed	10th	10.30am 11.15am	Coffee & Chat in the Church A-Z of organ music (Karg-Elert, Kelly, Lang, Langlais, Lefebure-Wely, Leighton, Liszt, Locklair, McCabe and Mathias)
Sun	14th	10.30am	Holy Communion: Rev. Robert Blows
Sun	21st	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Service: Rev. Mike Stewart Joint Holy Communion (ChCh/LMC) at LMC Rev. Kim Plumpton
Mon	22nd - Fri 26th		Holiday Club
Sun	28th	10.30am	Morning Service: Mr Clive Haines (Methodist Circuit Preacher)



A Huge Vote of Thanks to Frank, Stan and Averil...

...from everyone at Christ Church - but especially from me! These three stalwart members of the Sidesperson's Team have reluctantly decided that the time has come to hang up their offertory plates.

As I have reported before now, my records only go back to 1981 and Frank Farnell was on the evening rota then. For all I know he was probably on the rota when I took over in the 1960s and I owe Frank a great debt of thanks for always being willing to remain on it, year after year: one of a small band of members regularly attending the evening service. Maybe Frank would say he always enjoyed the walk from their house in Kingston Avenue to the church with his wife Monica; not so bad on a pleasant summer evening when you are in your prime - but on all those dark, cold, wet winter evenings... when you are not quite so young as you used to be? Enjoy your retirement Frank, you have surely earned it!

Stan Dodson kindly agreed to join the morning team in January 2008 and Averil Parkinson came on board a year later. They had each followed the lead of their other halves and, as it were, kept the job in the family. Along with Frank, both Eileen Dodson and Geoff Parkinson were on my 1981 list and ever present until they sadly passed away.

We are very grateful to all three of you for your years of service in a role which is often taken for granted and largely unsung.

Richard Osmond
Team Leader



Very many thanks to all who helped in any way in the door-to-door collection for this year's Christian Aid. It was a great success and we know the money will be much appreciated.

Thank you again, Anne Ray.

Christ Church Family News



We send warm congratulations and very best wishes to **Bert Gower** on reaching his 90th birthday on 19th June, celebrating with **Florence** and the family.

We are sorry to announce the death of the **Rev Richard Hooker** on 24th May after suffering a heart attack. He was a member of Christ Church from 1975 to the late eighties. He was ordained in 1999 but also continued in dental practice until 2002.

Many congratulations and good wishes to **Harry and Marguerite Kerr** who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 5th June. They enjoyed a small party and later **Brian Treharne** gave them Communion.

It was good to see **Betty Moss** in church in 5th June. **Philip** has been in hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We are glad to hear from **Esme Rubra** that her husband **Michael** is home from hospital and is progressing well, though slowly.

We are very sorry to report that **Lindsay Trim** suffered a stroke on Friday 3rd June, en route to Lincoln. She is being treated in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge and Richard is staying with family nearby. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

We keep all these friends in our thoughts and remember those who are unable to attend worship.



Pastorate Details

Details of the Services and Activities at each of the Pastorate Churches can be found on the appropriate website, or by telephoning the contact listed here:

Leatherhead Methodist Church:

www.leatherheadmethodist.org
Contact: Senior Steward -
Carol Stoves 01372 377125

**Christ Church (United Reformed)
Leatherhead:**

www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Local Church Leader -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:

www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Dave Putland 01372 454850

Cobham United Reformed Church:

www.cobhamurc.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

Cobham Methodist Church:

www.cobhammethodistchurch.org.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Ian Howarth

10 Church Road
Leatherhead KT22 8AY
Tel: 01372 372743 (home)
01372 362145 (office)
07590 564544 (mobile)

E-mail:

ian@thehowarths.org.uk

Website:

<http://www.thehowarths.org.uk>

Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road
Cobham
KT11 3BD
Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail:

kimp_822@hotmail.com