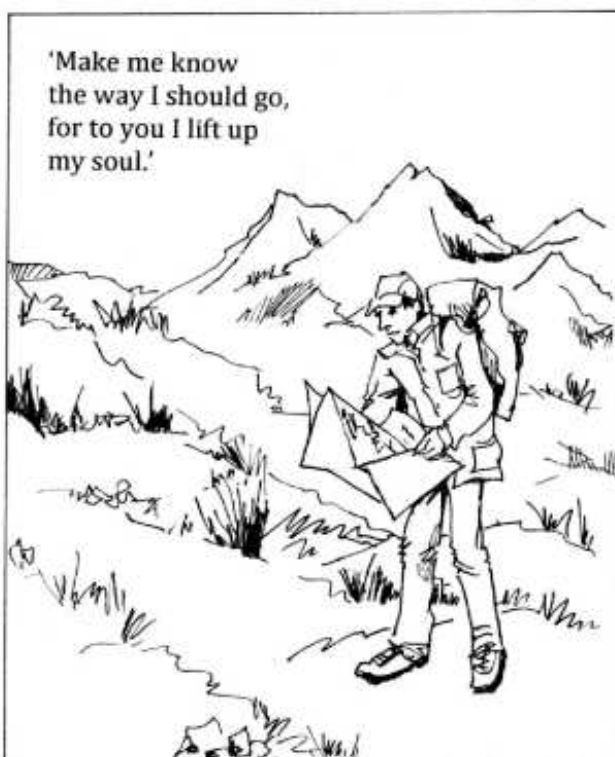


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

July/August 2014



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



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



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Dear friends,

One of the biggest topics of conversation at the moment is of course the World Cup. (For some of you I might have to specify that I mean football!) Most of you will know that I have absolutely no interest in football, but the previous World Cup does have one abiding memory for me.

I was ordained on 27th June 2010 - the ceremony began at 3.00pm on the Sunday, just as the England football team began what was to become their last match. (There were some who had a hard choice to make!!) There were 11 of us being ordained in the Cathedral, and the preacher began by making the comparison between the eternal significance of what was happening in the Cathedral that day, and the fleeting or shallowness of the 'other event' taking place at the same time with 11 people!

However, each year, before the ordinations, the Methodist Church takes all those due to be ordained off on retreat for several days. This is a real gift: time to pause and reflect, time to pray, time to pay attention to what God is saying, time to recognise God's voice, time to meet up with friends. It is altogether an occasion for refreshment, rest and blessing. Those being ordained this year on 29th June will have had the same gift of time.

All of us need these times in our lives. Times put aside when we deliberately step out of the normal cycle of events and press the pause button. July and August are quite often times when we can do this, since the usual routines often change. Sometimes holidays can be those times, although of course depending on our circumstances they can be just as frantic and perhaps even more stressful! However this shouldn't stop us trying to carve out even small chunks of time for ourselves in order to maintain our inner lives so that we can connect with God.

Jesus often took time out to spend time in reflection, to step outside the hectic pace, for he knew what it was like to be constantly sought out, and in demand, but he also knew how important it was to keep

continued on the next page

that deep inner oasis of calm based in his relationship with his Father that sustained him through everything going on around him.

So I challenge you to try to press the pause button over the summer. Step consciously out of your normal routine even if only for a few minutes here and there. Use the time to rest, reflect and listen to what God is saying to you. I believe that God will bless us in many different and even unexpected ways if we do this. Let me know how you get on!

Every blessing,

Lynda

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear friends,

I was asked if I would share this excerpt from a sermon I gave recently so here it is:

"Musharraf was one of many children giving us a glimpse into life at a secondary school in Bradford as part of the documentary called Educating Yorkshire. Musharraf suffers from a chronic stutter and on many occasions he would communicate via the computer. The programme follows him as he comes towards his GCSE English. Within it, 20% of the marks are given following an oral examination. Conventional therapies had come to no avail for Musharraf, until one teacher remembered *The King's Speech*, how the therapist for the reluctant King George VI began to distract him with music whilst reciting poetry. The teacher places a set of headphones over Musharraf's ears and asks him to recite a piece of poetry. The results are astonishing and Musharraf who falters a little manages to recite the poetry in its entirety.

At the end of the school year in the leavers assembly, with headphones attached, Musharraf reads a letter of thanks to all those gathered. Musharraf talks about finding his voice at last, his life-long disability overcome. He was grateful to all his peers and especially the teachers for helping him to become the person he could be, with a future that looked promising. The children were crying, the teachers were crying and to be honest so was I by the time I finished watching it. Musharraf went on to receive 5 A*-C grades and one of them was in English.

In the advert for Channel Four he recites a piece of poetry by William Arthur Ward. It is made all the more powerful by this young man's determination to say the words.

*"To laugh is to risk appearing a fool.
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.
To reach out for another is to risk involvement.
To expose feelings is to risk revealing your true self.
To place your ideas, your dreams, before a crowd
is to risk rejection.
To love is to risk not being loved in return.
To live is to risk dying.
To hope is to risk disappointment.
To try is to risk failure.
But risks must be taken, because the greatest hazard
in life is to risk nothing.
Those who risk nothing, do nothing, have nothing,
and become nothing.
They may avoid present suffering and sorrow, but they
will not learn, feel, change, grow, love, or live.
Chained by their fear, they are slaves who have forfeited
their freedom."*

Freedom is a precious commodity, the ability to act, think, speak and move in freedom is one which we often take for granted but rarely recognise as one of the greatest gifts we have in this country. To have the opportunity to be risk takers, to be a people that experience life in all its fullness, to be a people that have the capacity to push the boundaries are indeed God's blessed gifts. How we use them is another thing entirely.

Every blessing,

Kim

MHA on Radio 4

Listen out for the **Methodist Homes (MHA's) Appeal on BBC Radio 4** on Sunday 6th July at 7:55am and 9:26pm, and on Thursday 10th July at 3.27pm. BBC Songs of Praise presenter and MHA Patron Pam Rhodes will be talking about how MHA's music therapy helps people with dementia find their voices and themselves.



Circuit 170



You will soon receive
an invitation to a
Coffee Morning
on
1st November
at
London Road
Methodist Church,
Horsham
to celebrate our
Circuit's 170th
Anniversary.
So, with a small
band of history

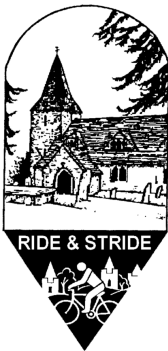
buffs at Horsham who are researching the "Sussex" end of the Circuit, we're currently planning an exhibition, with a display board for each of our 8 churches, explaining their History and present day activities.

So can YOU help with any pictures, photos or stories which you think should be included for our "Surrey" churches?



Please contact the Circuit Archivist
Angela Putland, on 01372 454850
or email: theputlands@aol.com

Let's be Proud of our Heritage
and use it for our future Mission



Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

The Ride & Stride 13th September 2014

Most counties in England hold an annual Ride & Stride, on the second Saturday in September, to raise money for the restoration and repair of buildings for Christian worship.

The idea is that cyclists and walkers are given a list of churches and chapels in the area of their choice. They map out their own route to pedal or walk having asked their friends to reward their efforts.

The money collected is divided into two. Half the monies go to the church or chapel of the cyclist's or walker's choice - probably your own - the other half is retained by the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust for distribution to churches in need. In the dozen years that the Bike Ride (now Ride & Stride) has been running in Surrey over £250,000 has been raised.

The umbrella organisation for our county is the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust whose trustees are from most Christian denominations. Grants are given out twice a year for deserving applications.

Encouragement to take part in Ride & Stride is provided by the SCPT County Organiser and distributed by Area Organisers to individual churches and chapels across Surrey. The Area Organisers support the Church Organisers by providing them with all the necessary paperwork and any guidance they need.

Ride & Stride is a fun way to spend time on a pleasant September Saturday while at the same time supporting a worthy cause. Why not make up a group and join in this year!

Supporters who prefer not to 'ride or stride', please consider sponsoring volunteers involved in this important event.

For more information visit:

www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org

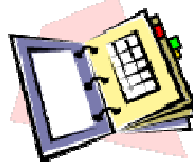
Editor's note: The Ride & Stride will be visiting all five churches in the Pastorate, according to their website.



Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary - July/August



July

Sun	6th	10.30am	John Oborn
Sat	12th	10.00am	Time 4 You (to 12 noon)
		2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	13th	10.30am	tba (local arrangement)
Sun	20th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion
Wed	23rd	7.30pm	House Fellowship at the Manse
Thurs	24th	3.45pm	Messy Church at the URC (to 5.45pm)
Sun	27th	10.30am	Rhys Frost

August

Sun	3rd	10.30am	Tina Andrews
Sun	10th	10.30am	David Cappitt
Sun	17th	10.30am	Jon Fisher
Sun	24th	10.30am	Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion
Sun	31st	10.30am	United Service at the URC

September

Sun	7th	10.30am	Rob Pitt
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Cobham Page

Information, news, events and happenings in and around Cobham
including joint URC/Methodist events



Next "Time 4 You"

Saturday 12th July

10.00am - 12 noon

Cobham Methodist Church

Next Messy Church for Cobham, Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon



Date: Thurs 24th July

Time: 3:45pm - 5:45pm

**Venue: Cobham URC,
38 Stoke Road,
KT11 3BD**

All are welcome

FOODBANK RUNNING ON EMPTY

Demand on the Foodbank is rising, and we're currently giving out food at twice the rate it is coming in. Could you please consider taking our list:

(<http://cobhamarea.foodbank.org.uk/resources/documents/foodbank/Cobham-Area-Website-Shopping-List.pdf>)

with you next time you go shopping? We especially need meat in tins, juices and squash. Drop off the food in the green bin at the back of any church in Cobham, Oxshott or Stoke D'Abernon.

Many thanks!

Follow us on Twitter - @CobhamFoodbank

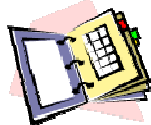


Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC

Worship Diary: July/August



July

Sun	6th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Vivien Gerhold
Sun	13th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun	20th	10.30am	Sydney Shore
Sun	27th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
			Church Meeting after Morning Service

August

Sun	3rd	10.30am	Thelma Roberts
Sun	10th	10.30am	Alison Sage
Sun	17th	10.30am	Rev. Roy Bones
Sun	24th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
Sun	31st	10.30am	Andrew Gibb

September

Sun	7th	10.30am	Rev. Iain Stewart
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Cobham URC Events - July/August

July

Tues	1st	9.45am 7.30pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting
Thurs	3rd	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Sun	6th	3.00pm	Play and chat (to 6.00pm)
Tues	8th	7.30pm	House Group at Anthea's
Tues	22nd	11.00am	Coffee for Carers (now once a month)
Thurs	24th	3.45pm	Messy Church (to 5.45pm)
Fri	25th	3.00pm	T@3 at Church

August

Sun	3rd	3.00pm	Play and chat (to 6.00pm)
Tues	5th	9.45am	Church Walk
Thurs	7th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Tues	12th	7.30pm	House Group Fellowship
Fri	22nd	3.00pm	T@3 at Church

Prayers at the Cobham URC Manse

at 9.30am on

Wednesdays:

2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th July,
and 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th August



Effingham

Methodist Church



Dates to celebrate this month

Happy Birthday to Gracie Wickham on 21st July
and Gill Walker on 3rd August

*Remember, we need your help to update our records
of birthdays and important anniversaries.*



Saturday Morning Live

Effingham's Ecumenical Café Church, ***Saturday Morning Live***, will be held at St Lawrence Church Hall on **Saturday 5th July from 10.00am to 11.00am** with a speaker from *Mercy Ships*, an International charity which brings hope to some of the world's poorest countries in ships crewed by volunteer water engineers, agriculturalists, doctors and nurses.

The next meeting is on 6th September.

Prayer Meetings...

...are held at the home of Freddie Jenkins
every Friday at 9.15am.

No room for coloured and Irish!

This was the sign that was put on the doors of many houses in Stockwell, London in the 1960's when my husband and I lived there for five years. So we decided to offer a big room at the top of the manse to "coloured" families. The first family we had as lodgers were Michael and Betty Falade from Nigeria, who were in London studying, and their little boy who was fostered out of London but brought back for weekends and holidays. He was called Shegun. They were a lovely Christian couple.

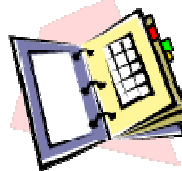
Many years later when we were in Sheffield, we were surprised and delighted when Shegun arrived to study for his 'A' Levels at the FE college there, and made contact with us.

After the Falade's left we took on some friends of theirs as our next lodgers. They were also students and were called Florence and Solomon Adetunge. While staying with us their baby was born and brought up for two years living in their room with them. What a joy that was! I will never forget Solomon's reaction to having passed his exams. He quite literally jumped for joy, all round the garden, dancing and singing at the top of his voice.

So when a young Nigerian came to our chapel in Effingham recently one Sunday and sat alongside me I was interested to talk to him. I discovered that he was doing a course in Bookham which finished with exams that he had to take on the Friday, at the end of that week. He had to leave his B&B that night and had nowhere to stay. So as I no longer have Fireman John staying with me when he is on call, I decided to offer the room to this student, Jerry Bukola. So the week was spent encouraging and cheering him on and finding that he was equally ecstatic when his exams were over. He went down on his knees and presented me with a beautiful bunch of flowers and a card and has left three bottles of Body Shop shower gel as a thank-you. Amazingly, through a friend of his who is a policeman in Lagos, Nigeria who Jerry persuaded to go round to the last address that I had there for Betty and Michael, he was able to make contact with Betty Falade's family in Lagos, and although Betty didn't believe I could be still alive I have recently had a phone call from her!

Freddie Jenkins

Effingham Methodist Diary - July/August



July

Sat 5th 10.00am Café Church at St Lawrence Church Hall
(to 11.00am) (*see page 12*)

Sun 6th 10.00am Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion

Tues 8th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Wed 9th 8.00pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Thurs 10th 12.30pm Bible Study lunch in the Hall

Sun 13th 10.00am Juliet Fuller

Sun 20th 10.00am Alex Cloke

Tues 22nd 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Wed 23rd 8.00pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Sun 27th 10.00am Tina Andrews with Waseem Haq

August

Sun 3rd 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Tues 5th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Sun 10th 10.00am Rhys Frost

Sun 17th 10.00am Ray Salmons

Tues 19th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Sun 24th 10.00am John Oborn

Sun 31st 10.00am Ecumenical Service at St Lawrence

September

Sat 6th 10.00am Café Church (to 11.00am)

Sun 7th 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion



Heritage Weekend - Effingham Chapel

The Chapel will be open for ***Heritage Open Days weekend*** again this year, on **Friday 12th and Saturday 13th from 10.00am to 5.00pm** and on **Sunday 14th from 12noon till 4.00pm** with an Exhibition and refreshments including ploughman's lunch and cream teas with home-made cakes and scones.

The exhibition will have a bit of Village history, with local heroes **Lord Howard of Effingham** of Armada fame, and WWII hero **Sir Barnes Wallis**. We're also commemorating the **centenary of WWI with information about Conscientious Objectors**, and delving into our archives to reveal more about our Chapel's roots and life in and around Effingham 170 years ago when Effingham Methodist society was first formed in 1844.



There's a Quiz and a village history trail too and a talk about meteorites and fossils and the Surrey dinosaur, Baryonyx, discovered in Ockley.

As usual cyclists taking part in the sponsored annual *Ride & Stride for Surrey Churches Preservation Trust* will be dropping in for signatures on sponsor forms, refreshments and a "comfort break" on **Saturday 14th September**.

So please can you help? We'd greatly appreciate more volunteers to talk to visitors or help to serve teas or make scones this year.

Please talk to Pat, Janet or Ange.





War casts a very long shadow

On 4th August 1914 the world changed for ever in a conflict that still has repercussions today. History tells us that the WWI peace treaty, signed at Versailles on 28th June 1919, sowed the seeds of Hitler's rise to power and was one of the main causes of WWII, and possibly the almost constant unrest in the Middle East! Millions have died on both sides, fighting for an ideal. A "Just" war!!

My grandmother lost her husband, a brother and a brother-in-law in the trenches in France. I remember her always dressed in black or navy. When she died in 1974 she had been a widow for 56 years, forced to bring her baby up alone and to find work at a local laundry in East London just to keep food on the table. After her death I found my Grandfather's medals and a few photographs. One smudged with tears, pictured her brother Bill and his friend and brother-in-law Walter who were both killed on 20th May 1917. On the reverse is a quote "He gave his life for others. What can a man do more for his God, his fellow creatures and the honour of his Corps."

She never spoke about WWI and WWII was about rationing and servicemen billeted in her spare room. My Mum married one of the servicemen, who was in the RAF but part of an air command unit on an HQ ship on D-Day. He didn't talk about the war much either!

Now our TV screens show Iraq erupting into civil war and atrocities done just for the cameras. Dave and I were among a million people who tried to say "Not in my Name" in London in 2003 but were ignored.

Sadly WAR seems an inevitable part of life throughout our world, with catastrophic consequences for our future. Millions of refugees, living in camps full of death and disease.

So all we can do is pray: **...O God make it stop!**

Please help the United Nations, which held its first meeting in Methodist Central Hall, Westminster in 1946, to broker a more lasting peace in the war hotspots throughout the world. Help inter-faith groups to work for peace, tolerance and human rights. Especially for women who suffer rape as a weapon of War. Help governments to control the illegal arms trade, and learn to talk more and fight less!

O God make it stop!

Ange Putland

Rev. Kim Plumpton's visit to The Nomads

Our Rev. Kim Plumpton was invited to give a talk to the members of the Prompt Corner luncheon at the Nomad Theatre in Bishopsmead, East Horsley on Wednesday 21st May. We were delighted to welcome Kim and before the meal, our Chairman showed her around backstage. As is our custom, our speaker pulls out the cork from the drum for the monthly draw. She began her talk by telling us about her first Christmas raffle in Effingham, and this amusing anecdote was the start of an enlightening talk entitled "Using The Unexpected".

She said that as a youngster and into her thirties she was very shy but was encouraged to join her local amateur theatre company where she gained confidence. She and her husband Colin had five children so she decided to be a stay-at-home mum. However after a debilitating illness and with the support of Colin and their children, she eventually pulled through. When her vicar suggested she should enter the ministry she was amazed but with the enthusiastic support of her family she trained at Westminster College, Cambridge which enabled her to do her degree at Cambridge University. Part of this training was to spend time in Belmarsh Maximum Security Prison and also a three and a half week visit to Zimbabwe when the country was suffering from economic downfall with little food, water and electricity. Kim was impressed at how the local people managed to keep going, smiling under such dreadful circumstances.

Kim told us how in 2010, she and Colin moved from Birmingham to Cobham and about her involvement with the two churches there and our Methodist Church in Effingham. Apart from her numerous duties within the Church, she also finds time to be Pastoral Convenor for the Surrey Area and Assessor for General Assembly for candidates wanting to enter into ministry. Outside the Church Kim is associated with Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) under the umbrella of the UN. In 2013, travelling to Paris to represent the UK at a conference entitled "Building Lasting Peace in the Middle East", she met representatives from 21 countries and was delighted to meet Mrs. Vera Baboun, the new mayor of Bethlehem. We could have listened to Kim for ages, but after her allotted time, Kim was warmly applauded and our Chairman and members extended an invitation for a return visit.

Mary Brooks

Leatherhead Pages

Information, news, events and happenings in and around
Leatherhead including news of joint Christ Church/LMC events

Sisters Get Together

Many thanks to those who organised the first meeting of Sisters Get Together. It was so nice to see so many "Sisters" meeting together from the different churches in Leatherhead.

The breakfast and coffee were superb as was the welcome. Judging by the laughter and chatter from different groups it was clear everyone was enjoying themselves.

The next meeting is on Saturday morning 12th July when Jenny Moore from B@titude will talk about the worthwhile work they do. Looking forward to it! See you at BFree (All Saints) on 12th July!" (*See opposite*).

from an article written in the Parish Magazine by Linda Shepherd



Sisters get Together in
Leatherhead



Come along

Join us at

BFree Café

for

Coffee, Croissants &

Conversation

on

Saturday, 12th July,

8.30 am with guest

speaker Jenny Moore

Come along and bring a friend
Bfree Café, All Saints, Kingston Road,
Leatherhead. All Welcome

[illegible]

Saturday 19th July 7.30pm
St Mary & St Nicholas Church
Church Road, Leatherhead KT228AY

Leatherhead Pages continue on page 25

SOUTHERN SYNOD CHURCH AND SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

News broke during Minister's Spring School that the media had latched onto a story about a United Reformed Church in our Synod.



What would you have done?

The Synod Clerk said, "Maidstone URC in conjunction with the URC Press office and the Southern Synod had to issue an apology following an objection to a mannequin which was put in its shop window for Christian Aid Week. News reports were posted on line and in a number of papers. The whole Synod hold Maidstone in their prayers as they reflect on this incident.

The Challenge to the whole church is how might we respond if we in 'Innocence' put something on display, in notices, or on a Church Notice Boards that causes offence to others?"

Synod Church and Society would be interested to learn of other 'pitfalls' that churches have experienced. More importantly we would like to receive stories of things that have worked, which have started conversations in the community and beyond.

In Wimbledon week for instance, "In tennis love means nothing at all!"

Responses to Peter please.

In other news

Child Poverty

The Children's Society report is out. The Debt Trap: Exposing the impact of problem debt on children

JPIT Update

A summary of Newsletter 58
May 2014

An offer

Who would like to share their gifting to benefit other churches in the Synod?



THE DEBT TRAP: Exposing the impact of problem debt on children



The Children's Society has launched a campaign aimed at reducing the harm to children caused by problem debt; reducing the impact of problem debt on families; and introducing early interventions to prevent problem debt.

The report reveals the scale of the problem and "lifts the lid on how around two and a half million children are living in families with problem debt, behind on £4.8bn of payments on household bills and loan repayments."

The research undertaken by Step Change analyzed an original survey of 2000 UK families, added information from an online YouGov survey of 4442 adults and interviewed 15 families to gain a qualitative dimension. Problem debt was defined as having current arrears with at least one household bill or credit commitment.

Many readers may use credit cards to pay for the big ticket items like holidays, Christmas and unexpected expenditure, but many in problem debt borrow to pay for essentials such as food, clothing and heating. The spiral of debt can push people into accessing more expensive forms of credit and this fuels even greater need for expensive short-term loans.

The particular concern in this report is on the impact of problem debt on children. "One mother described the 'short week' each month when the cost of sanitary products for her daughter affects what she has available for food. Other families weigh up similar choices about spending money on food or buying things for the children."

The report is commended to you and churches may wish to consider practical support by becoming a money advice centre. Further information is available from Community Money Advice or Christians Against Poverty. Individuals could train through Citizens Advice and the government website moneyadviceservice.org.uk might be a useful tool.



communitymoneyadvice.com



capuk.com

Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Churches working together...

joint public issues team

...to live out the gospel of Christ in church and society

Praxis is the newsletter produced by the Joint Public Issues Team of the three churches

It is easy to sign up to their newsletter by following the links on the website

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

Newsletter 58 was circulated on 22 May 2014 and included:

- A resource for churches involved with food banks.
- An opportunity for young people to explore faith, politics and participation in social justice with a tour of the Houses of Parliament on 8th July
- An article on the continuing use of 'Drones'
- The chance to listen to Phillip Graf deliver the Beckly Lecture – Gambling: Sin, Vice or Legitimate Leisure Activity?
- The Debt Trap – highlighted on the front page
- Trident
- The Scottish Referendum Debate
- TLS course: Developing Community Experience advertised for those outside the URC
- A request for a knitted section of a seven mile long pink peace scarf to be stretched from Burghfield to Aldermaston to mark the 50th anniversary of the dropping of an atomic bomb on Nagasaki in Japan.
- Various other events and news of interest

The team has in the past produced some very good reports and is a great way of keeping in touch with Church and Society matters from an international and national perspective.





Peter Stevenson
peteisfulofun@btinternet.com
0207 708 0294

From the desk

I have held the post of Synod Church and Society convener for nearly two years and this is the fourth newsletter. I am grateful to those who comment and use the publication to start conversations in church. I have visited a number of Synod Areas to promote the work and have learnt that many congregations are involved with a number of initiatives. I have a growing appreciation of individuals who concentrate efforts on particular aspects of Church and Society concerns like Fairtrade, Commitment for Life, Foodbanks, and Peace Fellowship.

Unlike other groups in the Synod and wider Church, I have not thought it necessary to meet as a committee to take the work forward. However I am keen to widen and deepen the profile of this aspect of the church's calling and would appreciate comment, feedback and suggestion in order to make this happen.

One way would be to ensure we could respond to requests from congregations and individuals to specific requests for help, advice and resource by linking those involved in particular action already with those looking to start an enterprise. This requires a network of knowledge, expertise and capacity throughout the Synod.

Another might be to arrange a Church and Society expo event inviting organisations to promote their interests and have a keynote speaker. (This would need a planning group and meetings!)

Please let me have your thoughts together with contact details for the 'champions' that you are aware of with the area of interest they hold.



Leatherhead Food Bank

The Leatherhead Food Bank has now been operating since the last weekend of September 2013 on every Saturday Morning from 10.00am to 11.30am at the North Leatherhead Community Centre in Kingston Road. It is run purely by teams of about six to eight volunteers, many from local churches but also from the community.

Those who call on us have to have a "Red" Voucher and are from a wide spectrum of our community. All those who come are in need of help and support and each voucher is issued by a partner agency such as the CAB. For each Voucher presented, depending on whether it's for a single person, couple or family, a package of food for three days and also toiletries and possibly pet food is offered.

Those who seek help vary from people in a sudden, usually multiple crisis situation to those who have long term problems, often facing multiple challenges. The highest proportion seem to be single people and couples, with little groups of families who arrive on certain Saturdays.

We offer a tea and coffee service, and volunteers to talk to and often pray with those who arrive. This is I suspect the only time many of these people have a safe place to discuss the quantum of their challenges, as the various agencies are often only interested in a particular aspect.

It would be difficult to generalise the difficulties but they include unemployment and lack of skills, ill health often with long term conditions, a significant number of often shorter term mental health conditions, family break up and homelessness.

The national media coverage strikes me as both a little histrionic and also not totally accurate in regards to those we see. I suspect that these individuals and families have existed for many years; the Food Bank though is now working as a safety net and a welcoming place for those at the bottom of society, somewhere they are not judged but helped.

The last available statistics we have for the end of March show that the four food banks in our federation:

continued on the next page

(Epsom, Ewell, Merland Rise and Leatherhead) fed 1220 people in the previous six months from October. North Leatherhead residents used 135 vouchers, behind the highest area which was Court Ward/Longmead Estate in Epsom.

The main causes according to our statistics are Benefit delays 28.4%, Low income 25.9%, Benefit changes 11.2% and Debt 10%.

So what should we do? As individuals and families, please donate food etc. at Tesco's and other collection points, consider being a volunteer, or give a financial donation. Please pray for the project and volunteers.

Finally talk to people you meet about the facts. More are available if you want more information.

For further information contact Jonathan (Co-ordinator) and the Team:

phone: 0208 786 8221 or

e-mail: foodbank@generation.co.uk

Tim Hall



Men's Breakfasts

The following Leatherhead Men's Breakfasts will be at 8.00am on the following Saturdays:-

26th July - Catholic Church Meeting Room

August - No meeting

27th Sept - URC Church Hall

25th Oct - Anglican Church Hall

29th Nov - Catholic Church Meeting Room

All men of any denomination or none are welcome. A suggested donation of £4 would be appreciated to cover costs; any surplus is donated to the speaker's preferred charity.

NEW FIRE

Our “contemporary” service New Fire has seen a few changes since it began almost six years ago. There has been a complete change of clergy at our three churches and the musical leadership has passed from the Parish Church music group to Jay who has built so well on their firm foundations.

When asked, regulars say they value a number of things about New Fire. First among these is usually the informality. You will be reminded at the start of the service that you can stand, sit, dance or jump up and down during the songs. There is no pressure for uniformity and therefore no need to feel awkward, especially if you feel like a bit of a rest by the time we get to the fourth or fifth song!

On the subject of songs, please don’t be put off by the word contemporary. Of course we have learnt new songs but there’s a fair number of older worship songs that you will recognise from morning services and even (sorry to destroy any preconceptions) an occasional traditional hymn. Again, informality is key. If there’s a song that’s new to you, just listen and enjoy – there’s no expectation that everyone will sing every song and before long you will know it and be able to join in. The band is led skilfully and sensitively by Jay and regularly includes some familiar faces from his old band (the oldest youth band in the world) for those who remember Triumph at BFree, as well as James on guitar and Ricardo on percussion.

New Fire continues to evolve and grow and in recent months we have been delighted to welcome two new young members of the band – Danielle on vocals and Caleb on guitar, together with the return of some familiar faces from the past – Martin on guitar and Caroline on vocals. We have also replaced the formal talk with personal testimonies, perhaps a return to traditional Methodism?

If you haven’t been to New Fire for a while, or if you’ve never been before, why not come along and give it a try. It’s on the fourth Sunday of each month at 6.30pm at LMC. We’ll be there on 27th July, away in August, but back in force on 28th September...

...and if you have a testimony that you would be able to share with us at a future New Fire just let us know, we’d love to hear it.

Dave Tearall

Leatherhead's Third Year of 12.30 lunchtime concerts

MUSIC
ON
THURSDAYS
at LMC



WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH

each week this summer

featuring
students of the Royal Academy of Music ®
former students of London's music colleges and
talented local musicians

Concert Admission Free, with a retiring collection to cover costs

Thursday 3rd July - LMC
Andrews Massey Duo
Emily Andrews, flute,
David Massey, guitar

Thursday 10th July - LMC
Yuka Nagai, violin®
Tadashi Imai, piano®

Weds 16th July - Christ Church
Gary Sieling, organ

Thursday 24th July - LMC
Olivia Ru Long Jarvis, violin®
with piano accompanist

Thursday 31st July - LMC
Georgia Knower, mezzo-soprano
Fabrício Mattos, guitar

Thursday 7th August - LMC
Anna Tam, viola da gamba
Graham Davies, harpsichord

Thursday 14th August - LMC
Yair Avidor, lute

Thursday 21st August - LMC
Baroque flutes & recorders,
with harpsichord

Thursday 28th August - LMC
Anna Tam, viola da gamba
with lute-player

*Sandwiches prepared by
Rialto Lounge Wine Restaurant
are on sale in the churches
after each concert*

Leatherhead Methodist Church
Church Road
Leatherhead KT22 8AY



Christ Church United Reformed
Epsom Road
Leatherhead KT22 8ST

Supported by Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society ♦ HMRC Charities Ref EW02213

Leatherhead Messy Church

2013/14

Leatherhead's Messy Church continues to welcome about 40-50 children each month, along with their mums, grandmas, childminders and other friendly adults. There is always a buzz in the room and every month, new families join us. It's great to be part of a church that people willingly bring their friends along to!



Over the last year, some of our original participants have grown into very able helpers and it's good to see young people of 11-13 using their fledgling leadership skills in the church.

We have also said goodbye to some helpers who have "done their bit", as well as sadly losing Dorothy Poulton, who was a powerhouse of the original kitchen team.

We are always open to offers of help. If you are unconvinced how "church" can possibly be "messy" and still meaningful, why not come along one Thursday, enjoy a cup of tea with us and see what goes on. The atmosphere is infectious and it's a privilege to explore faith with families who relish the lively, creative environment.

Jane Smith

Next Messy Church:

Thursday 17th July
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



New social enterprise launched by director of Centre for Social Justice

100 people attended an event hosted by Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP) to announce the launch of Allsaints, a new social enterprise being launched by LYP to benefit local young people. The new venture, a coffee shop and sandwich company which will provide work and qualifications for unemployed local young people who have no other opportunities, has been described by Leatherhead Youth Project as the 'missing link' in the work that they do with local young people.

Christian Guy, Director of the prominent think-tank the **Centre of Social Justice**, delivered the keynote speech on the night, describing the poverty-relief work his organisation supports and the impact communities can have when we work together to help those in need. The event also featured talks from key guests including Sian Sangarde-Brown, author of the Surrey Uncovered report which reveals hidden deprivation statistics across the county, who particularly highlighted the needs in Leatherhead North. Also speaking was Laura Thurlow of the Community Foundation for Surrey, who support grassroots community organisations across with funding grants and whom have been a huge supporter of the work Leatherhead Youth Project over the previous six years.

Allsaints was formally launched with the showcase of a new promotional video made by Leatherhead Business of the year Liquid Productions, with LYP Community Projects Manager, Andy Gill announcing that the coffee shop will open its doors to the public in September. In the mean time, LYP are seeking to raise £30,000 from within the local community in the next 60 days (finishing on 14th July), and have created an online fundraising page on website indiegogo to allow donations from individuals. The event was sponsored by ExxonMobil and supported by Leatherhead & District Chamber of Commerce.

Quotes

Andy Gill, Community Projects Manager:

"Allsaints is our opportunity to support young people within a professional work environment that gives them a launch pad into a healthy work life".

Christian Guy, Director of Centre of Social Justice:

"I passionately believe in building a society of second chances. Pioneering social enterprises like Allsaints are precisely the kind of ventures that give young people those crucial opportunities. We need more of this inspiring work in our country."

David Gillott (Allsaints Food Consultant & Founder of Four Gables Food Group):

"We are delighted to have this opportunity to work alongside LYP in launching Allsaints, our expertise in the food industry will ensure that Allsaints sandwiches are of the highest quality"

Sophie Foale, ExxonMobil - Community Affairs Adviser":

"We are delighted to be supporting LYP in a pioneering venture that will really help create change in the lives of local young people with limited opportunities."

Laura Thurlow, Deputy Director of Community Foundation for Surrey:

"Surrey Uncovered reveals the stark inequalities and social disadvantage throughout our county. Community organisations like LYP play a pivotal role in addressing local needs, with Allsaints being a great example of this."

Notes:

- Leatherhead Youth Project has been running youth projects, including BFree Youth Café, for local young people aged 11-19 since 2005.
- Allsaints, a new community interest company (CIC) run by LYP, will be an independent coffee shop and sandwich company based in Leatherhead North run from our centre in All Saints Church/BFree Youth Café. It will be open to members of the public from 8am-3pm six days a week and then continue to be open to young people as BFree Youth Café after school and in the evenings. Allsaints will launch in September and will be a multi-purpose café space including WIFI, hot desking with six iMac computers, meeting room hire and a selection of lunch sandwiches and snacks.
- Allsaints will employ four local young people to begin with who will gain an apprenticeship in Customer Service and also gain food hygiene and first-aid qualifications. Allsaints will also help local young people to start their own businesses.
- The online fundraising page can be found by using this link: <http://igg.me/at/allsaints>
- The Allsaints website is www.allsaints.so



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

Big Bible Challenge Service, 1st June

On Sunday 1st June, our morning service was led by Alex Friend, Amy and Samuel Wild and Rachel Smith, who shared some of the ways they have been exploring the New Testament during the Big Bible Challenge. Over £60 was donated at the service to our collection for JMA, for which we are very grateful.

As requested, these are the words of the Lord's Prayer, as interpreted by the young people:

Hi Dad, You are so outstanding.

You should be in charge everywhere.

I think that everyone, everywhere, all the time should live the way you want them to.

Give us what we need, but not always what we want.

Make right my mistakes, but make me understanding of others' mistakes.

Keep us in the right and protect us from wrong.

You are so: awesome, powerful and in control forever and ever and ever.

I agree and bye for now.

Jane Smith

PARTICIPATE!

After half term the older group of young people, consisting of Alex Friend, Samuel and Amy Wild and Rachel Smith started a new programme in Discoverers called Participate! The programme is about finding out where you fit in and what you do in the church community. Participate! has seven sessions, the final one being a placement in the church. The young people have thoroughly enjoyed their first session and are looking forward to their next one. We hope to do our placements in the autumn.

Rachel Smith



Diary - July/August



July

Thurs 3rd	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 28</i>)
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea (<i>ends 4.30pm</i>)
Sun 6th	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell with Holy Communion and Baptism of Olivia, daughter of Sherelle
Tues 8th	2.30pm	Pastoral Visitors meet for prayers in the Lower Hall
Thurs 10th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sat 12th	8.30am	Sisters Get Together at BFree (<i>see page 19</i>)
Sun 13th	10.30am 6.30pm	Waseem Haq Rev. Kath Jones with Holy Communion
Wed 16th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 28</i>)
Thurs 17th	3.30pm	Messy Church (to 5.30pm)
Sun 20th	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell. Baptism of Eva Smith
Wed 23rd	7.30pm	Leaders/Elders Meeting at Christ Church
Thurs 24th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sat 26th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall
Sun 27th	10.30am 6.30pm	Joint Service at Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell New Fire
Thurs 31st	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 28</i>)

The AUGUST diary is on the next page

LMC Family News

Our thoughts and prayers are with...

... Arnold Ashbrook, in Epsom Hospital as we go to print, following a fall.



August

Sun 3rd 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell

Thurs 7th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 28*)

Sun 10th No Service owing to Cycle Race
(*services available at Cobham & Effingham*)

Tues 12th 2.30pm Pastoral Visitors meet for prayers in the Lower Hall

Thurs 14th 3.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 28*)

Sun 17th 10.30am Joint Service at LMC -
Rev Lynda Russell - Holy Communion

Thurs 21st 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 28*)

Sun 24th 10.30am Clive Haines

Thurs 28th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 28*)

Sun 31st 10.30am David Cappitt

September

Thurs 4th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 28*)

Fri 5th 2.30pm Time for Tea (*ends 4.30pm*)

Sun 7th 10.30am Rev. Frank Smith with Holy Communion

LMC Leadership Team and Church Council

Principal points raised at the Leadership Team meeting on 27th May and additional points made at the subsequent Church Council on 3rd June.

Children and Families worker: The Parish Church will be employing a full-time Children and Families worker just for the Parish which will have implications for us. It was suggested that the combined 'Mission Planning' group should look at what we need and Jane should be included in putting a job description together.

Digital equipment: Tim has sent David and Jane a grant application form to fill in to ask for help with funding the equipment for the Lower Hall.

Messy Church: Jane is going to continue to be involved in Messy Church planning. There are now a significant number of children under five attending

Messy Church. Perhaps it is time to consider a Messy Church for little ones on a Friday morning to enable the after school one to be aimed at school age children.

Finance: Our Surplus stands at £257. At the moment we are breaking even each month. However this is in part due to the fact that we have had almost no charges for repairs and maintenance. There are no known large bills in the pipeline.

Pastoral: Prayers especially for the families of Jeanne Warren, Alan Thorp, Enid Wright and Winifred Ashbrook. We should also remember Tony and Georgina, Jean and James and Vassana and Bob. We also pray for the whole Church family at LMC following this difficult time. The pastoral visitors have agreed to hold a monthly prayer meeting, on the second Tuesday, at 2.00pm at LMC.

Property: Unfortunately the Karate man has had to end his classes at LMC as he wasn't getting the support.

Hughes, the roofing company, have been contacted to look at an area above the door into the church from the hall, which is showing signs of damp.

We are still waiting for Buchanan and Curwen to arrange a date to do the electrical inspection.

Now that the weather is improving we will arrange for Mr Taylor to come in and repair the damage to the decoration in the front area of the church.

The organ was serviced on Monday 2nd June after a fault with it on 27th May. It is now in working order again. The cost of the service was £245.

Joy is to pass on a list of key holders to Carol so that she can get them all to sign a key holders safeguarding form.

Ecumenical: The joint groups have now been formed and will begin to meet shortly. The members of each group are:

Mission Plan: - Lynda, David Tearall, David Stoves, Sue Friend, Heather Ward, Michael and Jeanette Chamberlain.

Uniting Congregations: - Lynda, Tim Hall, James Wild, Carol Stoves, Mike Essex, Anne Cairns & Margaret Dodds-Ely.

Review of Finance and CPL Report: - John Russell, Ian Smith, Margaret Meynen, Anthony Cairns, John Henderson and Nigel Gillott

Family and Children's Work: The Safeguarding paperwork continues to be updated. Tiddlywinks has stopped for this term. The Junior Church leaders and the children were thanked for their contribution to the service on 1st June.

continued on the next page

Many positive comments were received following the service. The children have been making contributions to a cloth banner which is being put together in memory of the garment factory disaster last year and also for justice for garment workers. Next the children will be starting the Participate Programme which begins on 15th June.

Covenant Review: The Covenant Review group are beginning to meet after Pentecost. Sue Loveday from the Surrey Churches together will lead the group. Jean Plant and Les Prescott will be our representatives from LMC.

Hearts for Romania: are our new joint URC/LMC charity for the next two years. We will liaise to find a date we can offer when Tim Poole can come along and talk to everyone.

Cycle Race: There will be no services at LMC or Christ Church on 10th August as it is the cycle race.

LYP: are launching 'Allsaints Café' in September as a scheme to give young people opportunities for work experience, qualifications, training and employment.

Pitstop: are appealing for utensils for meals.

Churches together in Leatherhead: are considering the future of their Christmas card as it uses up the whole of their present budget. This year Churches together will be putting in one Saturday of entertainment in the town centre only.

Trinity School: John Swanson has become Chairman of the Governors for a second time. Mike Essex is resigning as URC Foundation Governor and Christ Church Elders have asked Rev. Lynda Russell to become the URC rep., instead of the Methodist Foundation Governor rep., which she currently serves as. It was suggested we would ask John Russell to take on this role. We must remember to pray for Trinity school. Pray for the children, staff, Governors, volunteers and families.

Evening Services: New Fire is doing well and has taken on new life. We are currently including songs, prayers and testimonies.

JMA: Mary Pittam has resigned as JMA secretary and will be finishing in September. Many thanks to Mary for the hard work she has done for JMA over the years. If you are interested in becoming our next JMA secretary and have a heart for mission, please contact Lynda.

LMC and Christ Church: Lynda will be meeting with Martin Hayward, who is the mission officer for the United Reformed Church. He will come and work with the Mission planning group. It was noted that we still required one person to be in the Finance & CPL report Review group. Margaret Meynen agreed to join the group. Each group should share what they plan to do by July.

Some people mentioned that they felt things were moving forward too slowly. Lynda explained that we mustn't be in too much of a hurry about this as we have to do it right. We must improve our communication to all the people in our two churches. Pastoral Leaders can help make sure their pastoral group are aware of what is happening. We will make sure more information is placed on the board at the rear of the church. Stewards will also point our new information in notices etc. from the front of the church at the beginning of services.

Communion Stewards: Bob Greenfield has kindly agreed to serve as a Communion Steward. We are still looking for another person to join him.

Transport to Church: It was suggested that a list be put up at the back of the church for people to offer occasional lifts to church for people when their normal transport is not available.

Prayer Breakfast: The first prayer breakfast on 18th May went very well. Lynda commented on how wonderful it was to have the children feeling able to join in with sharing their prayers when surrounded by adults. This is a real testament to the parents, the junior church teachers and our church family; that the children feel comfortable and able to do this. The next Prayer Breakfast will be on 15th June at 9.00am.

Special Services at LMC

June began with the Circuit Easter Offering Service. It was a well balanced service following the title: 'Risk the path he trod', inviting us all to take risks in our own situations as part of the World Church family. An easy task compared with the desperate situations described in stories we heard.

The Easter Offering is one of the oldest services in the Methodist Church, beginning in 1884 when a group of women in Manchester dedicated their 'Christmas Pennies' to support women's work overseas. In 1987 Women's Network (now Methodist Women in Britain - MWiB) began the more organised service as we know it today. The E.O. today helps to support the work of the 65 Partner Churches overseas.

As a Circuit Service it was not well attended, just 35, although the majority of the churches were represented. I think it is still regarded as a 'woman thing', and not as the one event in the year for all to be together to celebrate our commitment to Overseas Mission.

continued on the next page

It was an added pleasure, therefore, to see the building packed for the ecumenical Pentecost Service the following Sunday morning. It was also a pleasure to have with us Rev. Susan Loveday, a visiting preacher, a rare thing at LMC.

The three churches shared the responsibility for prayers and readings, with the clergy from St Mary's helping to distribute the elements at Communion. In her sermon, Susan emphasised the need to share together all our resources and talents as congregations covenanted together. Unfortunately the service was exceptionally long and many were not able to stay and socialise over refreshments at the end.

Jean Plant

MWiB Area Day

Wokingham Methodist Church opened its doors to the ladies from the ten Circuits in the Western Area, so they could chew over the title 'Am I Bothered!' The title was adapted from the Connexional Conference in April at Swanwick, and the day was an opportunity to discuss with women closer to home some of the main concerns from that gathering. Communication was a bit lax, so the news about the day did not reach all Circuits, and that was reflected in the numbers attending. It was, nevertheless, an excellent day of fellowship, learning and socialising. One lady from Bracknell, who had never attended a MWiB event before, remarked that it was worth it just for the great laugh we had in the little church garden at lunchtime, with a mad scramble to escape a sudden heavy downpour as we finished.

Rev. Nick Thompson led the worship at the beginning, which included some inspiring words from Charity, a minister in training. Carol Jewell, our recently retired District President, led the first plenary session, bringing us up to date with the history of MWiB. She reminded us that women's activities in the Methodist Church go back to 1858 and how appropriate the butterfly is for the new movement. The life cycle of the insect has four distinct stages, each symbolising the development of MWiB. The 'egg stage' is the offer of new life to all who believe in Jesus; the caterpillar is the stage in which we grow as disciples. The chrysalis is our powerhouse of prayer and we then emerge as 'butterflies' a symbol of the resurrection and new life in Christ, freedom and perfection.

In the afternoon, Rev. Elizabeth Dunn-Wilson led the second plenary session focussing on the Dalit Partnership with the Church in North India. From September this will be the new District Project. (The present 4Aurora support totals £13,000+). Dalits are the lowest of the low, the untouchables. It is a caste that people are born into. In places they are known as the 'mongrel scavengers' where the women search the scrap heaps for anything that might make life more bearable.

MWiB aim to find ways to allow Dalit girls to get a decent education, and to build secure hostels. Linda Crossley (National President) established, during her visit to the area in 2013, links to ensure any monies will reach the necessary places of development. Much more information will become available as time goes on. A Dalit Solidarity pack is already out. (I have one).

Creative writing and craft group work produces some very thoughtful additions to the final worship. All in all, a good day. Pat and Freddie at Effingham could tell you more about their thoughts.

Jean Plant

80 years ago

According to the Advertiser, "Sunday saw the final services in the Leatherhead Congregational Church in North Street where services had been held for the past 90 years. The church and site have been sold and the authorities are to erect a new building in the Epsom Road (*now the present Christ Church*). In the meantime, through the kind invitation of the Leatherhead Methodist Church, members of the Congregational Church will worship in the Methodist building."

So here we are again talking about the coming together of the two congregations although perhaps this time it won't take 80 years!

Continuing with history, the theme for this year's **Heritage Weekend** on **13th and 14th September** is "Life 100 years Ago" which will encompass the start of World War I in 1914.

Leatherhead Methodist Church will be opening its doors again to the general public, welcoming people with refreshments and having on display archives relating to the history of the church (built in 1893). Also we shall have the story of John Wesley's journeys and his last visit to Leatherhead in 1793 when he preached his last sermon.

18 members of the congregation enlisted in the armed forces during WWI and a memorial plaque in the tower porch of our church lists five members of the congregation who lost their lives including A E Weller (Miss) who is not recorded in the Town memorial. Apparently she was employed as a cook and is buried in the Parish churchyard.

Heritage Weekend gives us the opportunity of opening our church doors which normally remain closed for most of the week. Walkers and cyclists raising money for church restoration will visit on the Saturday and if you would like to help with the event please let me know.

Fred Meynen

Christ Church

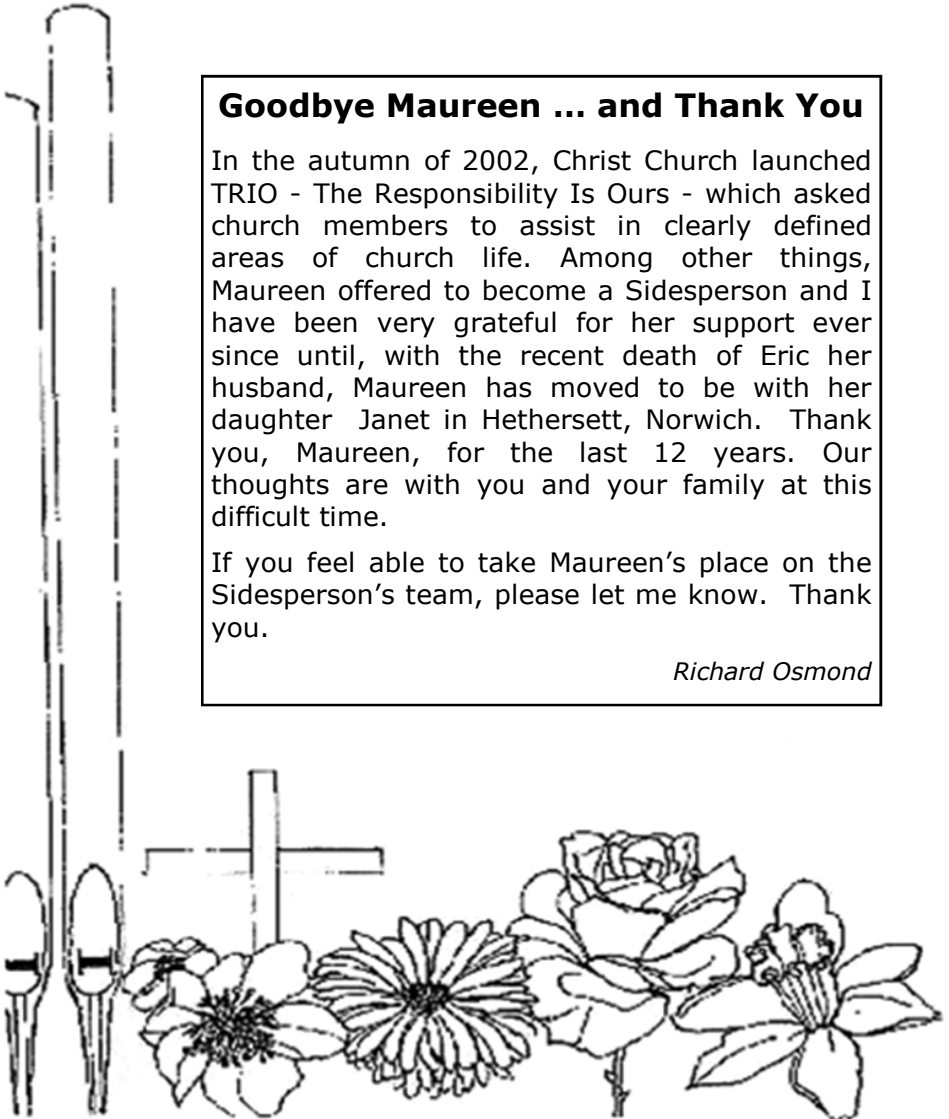
(United Reformed) Leatherhead

Goodbye Maureen ... and Thank You

In the autumn of 2002, Christ Church launched TRIO - The Responsibility Is Ours - which asked church members to assist in clearly defined areas of church life. Among other things, Maureen offered to become a Sidesperson and I have been very grateful for her support ever since until, with the recent death of Eric her husband, Maureen has moved to be with her daughter Janet in Hethersett, Norwich. Thank you, Maureen, for the last 12 years. Our thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time.

If you feel able to take Maureen's place on the Sidesperson's team, please let me know. Thank you.

Richard Osmond



Notes of Meeting on Working Together

Three groups have been set up between LMC and CC to look at mission, finance and working together. The latter group met on Thursday and agreed the following terms of reference: *to explore ways of working together better, bearing in mind our commonly agreed mission*. As we were the first group to meet, we realised that to some extent we were putting the cart before the horse. However, we found plenty to discuss and made some recommendations.

We agreed that communication was vital. Messages did not always get through, and some people in both churches felt "out of the loop". Carol Stoves and Jeanette Chamberlain were now sharing information and the situation was improving. The Link was very helpful. We also agreed that each church should have access to the other's membership list.

We discussed matters of church organisation, and decided that while we occupied two buildings, it was better kept separate. However, we would continue with joint elders and stewards meetings, approx. every three months.

It was decided to continue the monthly united services, encouraging more people to attend, and CC asked for help in running children's worship when they were hosts. It was felt that cell groups were a good way of deepening fellowship. Currently there were two, both led by LMC, and Lynda hoped there would be a third.

We talked about the combined church project - Heart for Romania - and events to support it. We agreed that some of the momentum seemed to have been lost, and we need a few well organised, well attended social events.

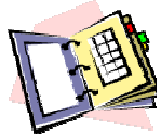
The group felt there could be more liaison over pastoral care and that CC elders could attend the LMC pastoral prayer meetings. Lynda mentioned that she had been approached about taking services at the Beeches, and that this could be something for the churches to do together.

We also discussed the appointment of a children's and families worker, noting that the Parish Church had decided to appoint their own.

Another meeting was arranged for Tuesday 29th July at 7.30pm at Mike Essex's.

Mike Essex

Christ Church Diary - July/August



July

Thurs 3rd	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC
Sun 6th	10.30am	Mr John Bell
Tues 8th	2.30pm	Pastoral Prayer Group at LMC
Thurs 10th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sat 12th	8.30am	Sisters Get-Together at BFree: Speaker: Jenny Moore from B@titude (<i>see page 19</i>)
Sun 13th	10.30am	Mrs Beth Little, Methodist LP
Wed 16th	12.30pm 3.00pm	Organ Recital (<i>see page 28</i>) Elders Meeting
Thurs 17th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm)
Sun 20th	10.30am	Rev. Donald Finnan - Holy Communion
Wed 23rd	7.30pm	Leaders/Elders Meeting at Christ Church
Thurs 24th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sat 26th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall
Sun 27th	10.30am 12noon 6.30pm	Joint Service at CC - Rev. Lynda Russell Church Meeting New Fire at LMC
Thurs 31st	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)

August

Sun 3rd	10.30am	Dr Graham Campling
Thurs 7th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sun 10th		Cycle Race - No Morning Service
Tues 12th	2.30pm	Pastoral Prayer Meeting at LMC
Thurs 14th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 28</i>)
Sun 17th	10.30am	Joint Service at LMC - Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion

Thurs 21st 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 28*)

Sun 24th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell

Thurs 28th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 28*)

Sun 31st 10.30am Elders' Service

September

Thurs 4th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 28*)

Fri 5th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC

Sun 7th 10.30am Rev. Geoffrey Dunstan

Christ Church Family News



Warmest Birthday Greetings to Nan Kemp, who was 94 on 17th June and to Bert Gower, who was 93 on 19th June. Congratulations and all good wishes to Steve Neal who becomes 80 on 20th August.

We welcome Gweneth Lidgey's daughter, Margaret Fricker and her daughter and grandchildren, as they visit this country to celebrate her sister Alison Lobb's 70th birthday. They will be staying in this area at the beginning of July.

Monica Farnell's operation has been postponed until July, so we send her our sympathy and very best wishes for the future.

We are sorry that Elma McMillan is in Epsom Hospital and hope that she will soon be recovered. We think of her and Gilbert at this time.

We extend our sincere condolences to Janet Mercer and her children Alastair and Harriet, on the recent death of her husband Bill. Janet was a regular worshipper at Christ Church until a few years ago.

We are sad to report the death of Maureen Skilton's husband Eric, whose funeral took place on 17th June. Eric enjoyed practising on the Christ Church organ in earlier days. We send Maureen our heartfelt sympathy in her loss. She has now gone to live with her daughter Janet in Norfolk. The address is: c/o 26 Firs Road, Hethersett, Norwich. NR9 3EH. We shall miss her very much.

We remember in our prayers all these friends, the unwell and their carers, those waiting for operations, the bereaved and the lonely.

We wish all our members and friends happy and refreshing holidays.

Anne Cairns

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:

Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY
www.leatherheadmethodist.org
Contact: Senior Steward -
Carol Stoves 01372 377125

Christ Church (United Reformed):

Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Local Church Leader -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:

Chapel Hill, Effingham, KT24 5NB
www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Dave Putland 01372 454850

Cobham United Reformed Church:

38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD
www.cobhamurc.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

Cobham Methodist Church:

Cedar Road, Cobham, KT11 2AA
www.cobhammethodistchurch.com
Contact: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



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