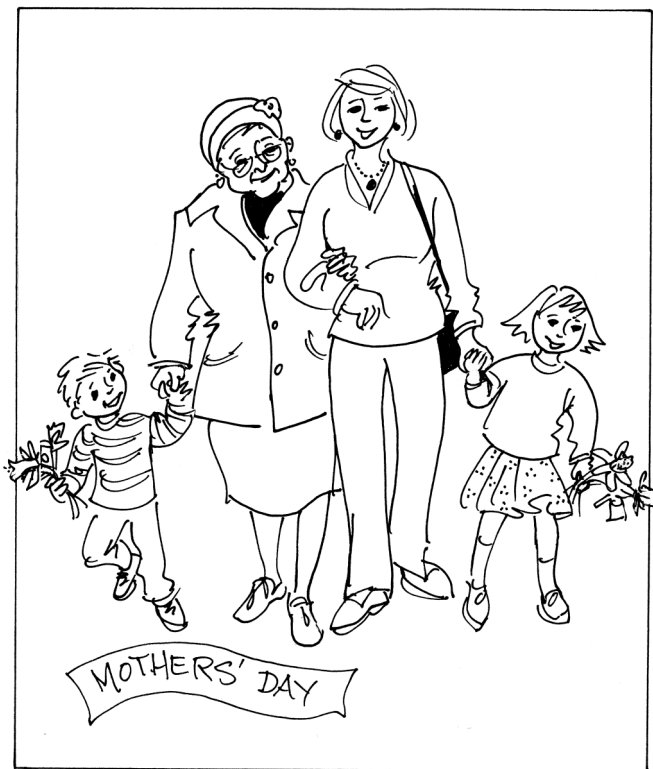


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

March 2015



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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Women's World Day of Prayer - Friday 6th March



Local Services:

- Fetcham - 7.30pm at the Church of the Holy Spirit
- Cobham - 11.00am at St. Andrews
- Effingham - 10.30am at Our Lady of Sorrows
- Leatherhead - 2.30pm at Christ Church

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All copy for the April issue to the editor by 15th March



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Yesterday in the paper I read of the death of the American hostage Kayla Mueller, who at 26, was held in Syria by ISIS, after visiting a hospital run by Médecins Sans Frontières in Aleppo. Her family released a final letter she wrote to them from captivity, smuggled out by hostages released last year.

Her faith, maturity and deep spirituality in such a dark place brought tears to my eyes. She wrote: "I have surrendered myself to our creator, literally there is no one else... and by God and by your prayers I have felt tenderly cradled in freefall. I have been shown darkness, light and have learnt that even in prison one can be free. I am grateful. I have come to see that there is good in every situation, sometime we just have to look for it... Inside of me I am not breaking down and I will not give in, no matter how long it takes."

We will never be in such a place as Kayla Mueller, but we may well be in our own dark places. Her faith is an example to us all. So during the season of Lent we are also encouraged to put aside even a few minutes from our busy lifestyles to reflect on our spiritual journey, which we might never otherwise get the opportunity to do. This is also why we come together in Lent groups; and to prepare ourselves spiritually for Holy Week and Easter.

Last year we challenged ourselves to Count Our Blessings every day, and to Make Lent Count. This is available again through Christian Aid, with an App to download from their website. Or as an alternative, like me you could sign up for an email per day to 'Live A Difference': www.livethechallenge.co.uk. This comes with a Bible verse, a short reflection, a challenge to action, and also has ideas for children and families.

Whatever we do, let us all endeavour to make this Lent a time of reflection, even if we have never done so previously. It is perhaps a small thing to do, to make the memory of Kayla Mueller count.

Wishing you all a blessed Lent and Easter,

Lynda

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear friends,

I was really blessed the other evening to attend a concert at the Yehudi Menuhin School for the very first time. It was a showcase concert by the students and I was accompanied by my sons Samuel (17), Joel (15), and his friend Ed (15).

This was not Joel's first trip to Yehudi Menuhin; he had been offered a ticket to the Christmas concert early in December. By sheer chance someone had been unable to attend leaving a free ticket, and a dear friend at the church (knowing how much Joel loves classical music), asked if he would like to go, which he accepted. This one encounter led to a chain of events. On returning home from the concert in December, Joel was so excited he couldn't stop talking about the talented students he had seen, and the wonderful music that he had listened to. "Please, please Mum, can we go again?" he kept saying. His pleas for a return visit couldn't be ignored. As we hadn't organised his Christmas present I asked Joel if he would like to attend several concerts over the year as our gift to him. He jumped with delight so we proceeded to purchase some tickets for the February concert, with a promise of purchasing more tickets throughout the year.

But it didn't stop there. Joel's excitement was infectious and he was so excited by the whole experience that he invited his brother Samuel and then his close friend Ed. When the day finally arrived he couldn't wait and we were not disappointed. It was a wonderful night, listening to pieces from Ravel, Scarlatti, Haydn and Bach but Joel who loved every minute was particularly taken by the Leoš Janáček Piano Sonata 1.X.1905 'From the Street'.

I am drawn by the fact that this deep and passionate love that Joel has for music was enough for him to reach out to others and invite them to taste this joy for themselves. His enthusiasm was so infectious that you wanted to go and see what it was that had had such an impact upon him.

Pope Francis was recently quoted as saying *"The apostle must be polite, serene, enthusiastic and happy and transmit joy wherever they go."* This was in answer to those he accused of walking around with 'funeral faces' with no sense of joy at all. I wonder what our churches would be like if we reflected the deep love and passion that Joel expressed but in our love for God.

Might we too draw others to taste the joy that is found in living a life of faith? Or might we be reflecting something else as Pope Francis suggests.

This is not about a superficial joy that lies just below the surface of our lives but a joy that goes into the depths of our souls, that guides our every moment.

Lent is an ideal time to explore the very things that hinder us from spiritual renewal, so join a Lent group and accept the challenge that all of us need to spend time with God to truly deepen our faith. In doing so we may get just a little bit closer to sharing a joy that others are interested in exploring too.

With every blessing, Kim

A million sold and voted the UK's favourite Fairtrade Egg!



Introduced in 2010, The Real Easter Egg was initially turned down by supermarkets as they were unsure that a 'faith egg' would sell. How wrong they were. Last year, in a national poll, the Real Easter Egg was voted the UK's favourite Fairtrade egg and now more than a million Real Easter Eggs have been sold!

The Real Easter Egg is still the only Fairtrade egg with a copy of the Easter story in each box. There is also a charitable donation for every 150g egg sold. More than £140,000 has been donated from sales. It also supports farmers and producers in the developing world by using Fairtrade chocolate.

David Marshall, who heads up the Meaningful Chocolate Company, said; "The Real Easter Egg campaign aims to establish giving a Real Easter Egg as a tradition. We can be found in Tesco, Waitrose and Morrison's. However, we make very little from supermarket sales, so we do rely on direct sales from churches and schools. Last year we sent more than 400,000 eggs through the post. This is a very positive example of putting our faith into practice so I hope churches will support this year's Real Easter Egg campaign by visiting www.realeasteregg.co.uk and ordering.

Each year the content of the Real Easter Egg changes. This year blue egg has a unique 3ft storybook/banner, the Premium Peace Edition contains an olive wood key ring made in Bethlehem and there is a dairy free dark chocolate egg.

Parish Pump



Cobham

Methodist

Cobham Methodist Diary



March

Sun 1st 10.30am Rob Pitt

Tues 3rd 12.30pm Lent Lunch & Bible Study at Cobham URC

Fri 6th 11.00am Women's World Day of Prayer at St. Andrews

Sun 8th 10.30am Rhys Frost

Tues 10th 12.30pm Lent Lunch & Bible Study at Cobham URC

Thurs 12th 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Effingham

Sat 14th 10.00am Time 4 You (*until 12 noon*)
2.30pm Platinum Service

Sun 15th 10.30am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion
6.00pm Circuit Service at St Andrew's, Horsham

Tues 17th 12.30pm Lent Lunch & Bible Study at Cobham URC

Wed 18th 7.30pm House Fellowship at the Manse

Sun 22nd 10.30am John Lamont

Tues 24th 12.30pm Lent Lunch & Bible Study at Cobham URC

Thurs 26th 3.45pm Messy Church at Cobham URC (*to 5.45pm*)

Sun 29th 10.30am Beth Little (United Service with
Cobham URC at CMC)
5.00pm Pastorate Service at Effingham
followed by tea

April:

Thurs 2nd 7.00pm Maundy Thursday service

Fri 3rd 10.00am Good Friday service at Cobham URC
10.00am to 12 noon -

Vigil round the Cross in the centre of Cobham

Easter Sunday:

Sun 5th 10.30am United Easter Communion at
Cobham URC - Rev. Kim Plumpton

Cobham Page

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

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



**Thursday 26th March
3:45pm - 5:45pm**

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

All are welcome



**Women's World Day of Prayer
Friday 6th March at 11.00am
at St. Andrew's Church, Cobham,
followed by a light lunch.**

"Do You know what I have done for You?"
is the theme of the service this year,
which has been prepared by the Christian
women of the Bahamas.



Next "Time 4 You"

**Saturday 14th March,
10.00am - 12 noon**

Cobham Methodist Church

(No "Time 4 You" in April)



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary



March

Sun	1st	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Vivien Gerhold
Sun	8th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun	15th	10.30am	Alison Sage
Sun	22nd	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
Sun	29th	10.30am	Joint Service at Cobham Methodist Church
		5.00pm	Pastorate Service at Effingham Methodist Church followed by tea

April

Fri	3rd	10.00am	Good Friday service
		10.00am -	Vigil round the Cross in the centre of Cobham (<i>to 12 noon</i>)

Easter Sunday:

Sun	5th	10.30am	United Easter Communion at Cobham URC - Rev. Kim Plumpton
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Please see pages 33 and 34 for the Southern Synod - Surrey and Sussex Synod Area Pastoral Committees' Report



**Tea at Three:
Friday 27th March**

Cobham URC Events

March

Sun	1st	3.00pm	Play and Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i>
Tues	3rd	9.45am	Church Walk
		12.30pm	Lent Course with Lunch
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Thurs	5th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Fri	6th	11.00am	Women's World Day of Prayer at St. Andrews Church followed by a light lunch
		7.00pm	Marriage Course
Tues	10th	12.30pm	Lent Course with Lunch
Fri	13th	7.00pm	Marriage Course
Tues	17th	12.30pm	Lent Course with Lunch
Fri	20th	7.00pm	Marriage Course
Tues	24th	12.30pm	Lent Course with Lunch
Thurs	26th	3.45pm	Messy Church <i>(to 5.45pm)</i>
Fri	27th	3.00pm	T @ 3
		7.00pm	Marriage Course
Tues	31st	11.00am	Coffee for Carers

Prayers at the Cobham URC Manse

at 9.30am on Wednesdays:

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March

Marriage Course

continues at 7.00pm on Fridays:

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March

at Cobham URC





Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates to celebrate this month:



We wish a very Happy Birthday to four of our ladies:
Pat Steer on 17th, Janet Garnham on 19th,
Elaine Moran on 24th and Angela Putland on 29th.

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

World Mission Coffee Morning

If you're **Spring cleaning** we'd love to have any bric-a-brac for the Bring & Buy stall at our **World Mission Coffee Morning** from 10.00am to 12 noon on **28th March** in aid of *Mission Aviation Fellowship*.

Prayer Meetings...

...are held at Janet's
every Friday at 9.30am.

Saturday Morning Live

Coffee, croissants and food for thought at **St. Lawrence Church Hall** from 10.00am to 11.00am on **Saturday 7th March** with a speaker from **Amnesty International**.



The next meeting is on **Saturday 2nd May**.



Medical breakthrough or Ethical Error?

The UK has become the first country to legalise the creation of a baby from three different adult humans. This method uses a modified version of IVF to combine the DNA of the two parents with the healthy mitochondria of a donor woman.

Developed first in the UK, it could help women with mitochondrial disease, which can cause brain damage, muscle wasting, heart failure and blindness. Surely everyone should welcome this medical breakthrough which may also give older women a better chance of a healthy baby?

Yet the Anglican and Catholic churches have both warned that it would irresponsible for MPs to pass new laws allowing the DNA of a 'second mother' to be used to repair genetic faults in an unborn child, possibly creating "designer babies". Scientists have accused the church leaders of refusing to examine overwhelming evidence which shows that the creation of three parent babies is ethical and safe.

My mother had MS, so I decided not to have any children. Sadly, there have been few medical breakthroughs in the last 50 years for those living with devastating diseases like MS and motor-neuron. With an ageing population dementia is a huge problem. Cancer and heart disease are gradually being beaten thanks to research, but the NHS has finite resources, so how do we decide? Alleviate suffering or eradicate disease before birth?

Yet overpopulation is one of the biggest problems facing our World. **Boris Johnson**, Mayor of London and a patron of **Population Matters** which promotes family planning and campaigns for a sustainable future, has said: "The primary challenge facing our species is the reproduction of our species itself... It is time we had a grown-up discussion about the optimum quantity of human beings in this country and on this planet... All the evidence shows that we can help reduce population growth, and world poverty, by promoting literacy and female emancipation and access to birth control."

Ange Putland



British love churches, new opinion poll shows

According to a recent poll for the **National Churches Trust**, designed to measure attitudes to church buildings, 79% of British people think that churches and chapels are an important part of the UK's heritage and history. However 74% also say that church buildings play an important role for Society now, by providing space for community activities, such as play-groups, cultural and social events and meetings. The poll also shows that more than 45% of British adults, of all religions and none, have visited a church or chapel during the past year: some as worshippers of course, some as tourists, and some for community or social events.

The poll is highlighted in the **Methodist Recorder** (6th February). NCT's website explains that it is the only UK-wide independent charity dedicated to promoting and supporting church buildings of historic, architectural and community value. A major part of their work is providing grants to pay for the repair and restoration of churches and the provision of modern facilities such as toilets and kitchens. However they can only ever help a small proportion of those who need help, and hope that this poll will ensure that other funders, such as the *Heritage Lottery Fund*, continue to make the repair of churches and chapels a priority in their allocation of grants.

Claire Walker, Chief Executive said: "This poll shows that the British public see churches and chapels as major national assets of benefit to all, both as a vital part of the UK's heritage and history, and as playing an important role for society by providing a place for community activities. It also shows that the British public agree that repairing and restoring church buildings and making sure that they have modern facilities benefits the whole of society and not just churchgoers."

Numbers of active churchgoers are falling, raising questions about the future the UK's church buildings, with closures in some areas. However churches continue to be used by many people. So in good repair and with the right facilities to allow greater community use, churches and chapels can continue to play a vital role in the life and well-being of the nation for many, many years to come.

Effingham Methodist Diary



March

Sun 1st 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Tues 3rd 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Wed 4th 12.30pm Lent Lunch in the Catholic Church Hall

Thurs 5th 2.30pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Fri 6th 10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer (*see p.16*)

Sat 7th 10.00am Café Church at St Lawrence Church Hall

Sun 8th 10.00am John Oborn

Wed 11th 3.30pm Messy Church at St. Lawrence Hall (*to 5.30pm*)

Sun 15th 10.00am Waseem Haq
6.00pm Circuit Service at St. Andrews, Horsham

Tues 17th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Wed 18th 12.30pm Lent Lunch in the Catholic Church Hall

Thurs 19th 12.30pm Oasis Study Group lunch with Kim in the hall
2.30pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Sun 22nd 10.00am David Cappitt

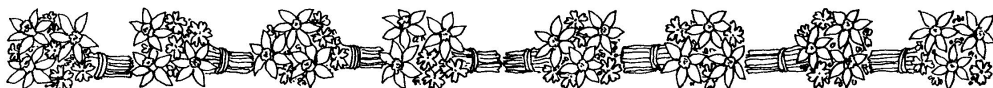
Sat 28th 10.00am World Missions Coffee Morning (*to 12 noon*)

Sun 29th 10.30am Palm Sunday at St. Lawrence with
Rev. Kim Plumpton
5.00pm Pastorate Service at EMC followed by tea

April

Fri 3rd 6.00pm Good Friday Service at EMC (*Walk 5.00pm*)

Sun 5th 9.00am Easter Sunday with
Rev. Kim Plumpton



The Bookhams, Fetcham and Effingham Nursing Association Trust

With money subscribed by local people, **The Bookhams. Fetcham and Effingham Nursing Association** for many years provided District Nurses in Great and Little Bookham. Fetcham and Effingham. This responsibility was taken over by the National Health Service in 1948, but the Nursing Association continued to own the house occupied by the District Nurse.

In 1974 the Association was converted into a Trust, the purpose of which is to use its funds to help residents in this area who are sick or handicapped (physically or mentally) and for whom help is not available from other sources.

In 1984 the house was no longer required by the Health Authority, and was sold and the proceeds invested.

The Trust may, at its discretion, make a grant towards the cost of providing help, such as nursing or medical aids, transport, necessary holidays or special needs in the home.

Referral is usually made through Social or Medical Services to the Honorary Secretary.

Chairman:

Mrs F Reece
Wolverley
Burnhams Road
Little Bookham
Surrey KT23 3AU
01372 452131

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs J Peers
1 Manor Cottages
Manor House Lane
Little Bookham
Surrey KT23 4EW
01372 456752

Charity Commission Registration No. 265962

The Bookhams, Fetcham and Effingham Nursing Association Trust

For people living in the villages of
**Great Bookham, Little Bookham, Fetcham
and Effingham**

The Trustees could make a grant towards the cost of providing help such as:

- **Nursing Aids**
- **Medical Aids**
- **Special Needs in the Home**
- **Transport**
- **Necessary Holidays**
- **Other Similar Needs**

If you know of anybody who might benefit from this financial help please contact:

Social or Medical Services (including your general practice)

who will pass the request on to the Honorary Secretary.

All cases are considered in strict confidence

Charity Commission Registration No. 265962



Women's World Day of Prayer - Friday 6th March

"Do You know what I have done for You?" is the theme of the service this year, which has been prepared by the **Christian women of the Bahamas.**

Our local services will be held on **Friday 6th March:**

10.30am @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

7.30pm @ Church of the Holy Spirit, Fetcham



LENT in Effingham

Effingham's fortnightly **Lent Lunches** will be held from **12.30pm to 2.00pm** on **4th & 18th March** in the **Catholic Hall** in aid of **Mercy Ships.**

Effingham and Little Bookham's Lent meetings - Interested?
Please look out for full details on posters later this month.



St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesday 11th March - 3.30 -5.30pm

Get Messy !! Very, Very Messy !
FUN! FUN! FUN!

Dorking and Horsham Circuit
NEWSLETTER

**March
April and May
2015**

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

How often do you take time to examine yourself? I'm not talking about a physical check – though there are parts of our body which it is wise to examine on a regular basis if we want to spot early symptoms of something wrong. I'm talking about an examination of who we are, where we are going, what our standing is with God.

Some people sail through life without ever pausing to take stock of these things. To such people I would suggest that Lent is a time to face up to the challenge of a serious self-examination.

Some people dwell constantly on their own lives as worthless failures. To such people I would say that Lent is a chance to be comforted by an honest view of who you are which will sweep aside your mistaken views of being worth nothing.

I don't believe any of us are as self-aware as we'd like to think we are. To get an accurate perception of ourselves we need to take into account the views of others. Which is why some find it helpful to get feedback from those who know them well. To get an even more accurate perception we need to see ourselves from God's point of view.

Before beginning his active ministry Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness examining himself, his abilities, his motives, his goals, his relationship with God his Father. During Lent we have opportunity to do the same.

I'd like to challenge those of you who busy yourselves with all kinds of activities to take time during Lent to being with God, seeing what you are doing with your life from his perspective, listening for the guiding voice of the Spirit, being open to new insights, being ready to change, becoming more like the kind of person God calls you to be.

But I'd also like to offer hope and comfort to those with very low self-esteem. Sadly there are many people today, including (and perhaps especially) teenagers and young adults, who have got it into their heads that they are worthless and that their lives amount to nothing. Maybe this is because they have grown up with parents and peer-groups treating them like dirt. In extreme cases people have taken to self-harm or sunk into deep depression because of their mistaken belief in who they are.

(continued on the back page)

The **Methodist Church**



LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

In this first quarter we, as a church family, are looking at the purpose of our church From Outside, From Inside and From Above, and Paul is leading post-sermon discussions on these monthly themes. In January Messy Church did lots of activities about Outside, including making up some small bags of goodies to give to the Night Shelter guests with drawings of themselves “with love”.

The mosaic made by JC@LR was dedicated at a lovely service on 25th January, led by them, including a video they had made about its theme “**I AM**”. In Horsham Park the video showed them feeding the ducks (**I am** the bread of life); walking through the gates into the human nature garden (**I am** the gate); **I am** the true vine and my Father the gardener, and sitting on the wooden sheep (**I am** the good shepherd). They had also made a very life-like TV from an old box to broadcast their message. This was followed by a delicious bring- and-share lunch. We hope it will not take us too long to fix the Mosaic to church wall – come and look at it if you are visiting Horsham this summer – we know you will be impressed. We need to support and encourage our young people in all we do and hope to achieve at London Road.

Lorna Manwaring



St Andrew's

st martin'S DORKING

Some will look back at Christmas and reflect on the traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Others will be grateful for the Christmas lunch and festivities provided in the Christian Centre. January embraced a lively “Sing for your Supper” social evening, and the Church Anniversary which was helpfully conducted by Revd Barrie Tabraham.

A new pattern of music recitals has commenced. Instead of weekly on Thursday lunchtimes, these will be presented on the first Saturday of each month at noon. Churches Together is not only planning Lent lunches on Fridays to support Christian Aid, but is actively working to establish a Food Bank for Dorking. Once various permissions are given, we intend to refurbish the kitchen in the Centre. The Centre is a busy place, and we appreciate the dedicated ministry of Juliet, our Chaplain.

PARTRIDGE GREEN

With spring around the corner, it's great to look forward to celebrating Easter with activities and worship for all ages. We will be hosting ecumenical Lent lunches in the hall each Thursday from 12.30-.2.00 pm throughout Lent.

The “Village Café” held on the second Thursday of each month from 2 pm continues to be very popular and well supported ecumenically. Everyone most welcome!

Our Easter “Messy Church” is planned for Monday 30th March, and it's great to welcome many young families from the village to share this time of worship, lunch, plus all the craft activities together.

The annual Good Friday Ramble will commence at 2.30 pm, followed by refreshments, and with our Good Friday Service to follow. Our Easter Day service will be at 10.30 am.

Alison James

EFFINGHAM

Effingham will be hosting the next Circuit meeting on 12th March, with refreshments, of course, and a short presentation about *Circuit 170*. The Chapel may be under scaffolding by then, as we hope work will begin on the roof soon. Meanwhile repairs to the hall roof have been completed, and a wasp's nest has been removed from the ceiling, much to the relief of the organists, who were sitting under it !! Bzzzzz !!

The village is busy with ecumenical initiatives !

Bibles will be presented to every pupil at our local primary school later this month, sponsored by *Bibles for Children*. and Churches Together. Messy Church started a year ago and now has about 30 children every month! We are having a coffee morning for Mums and carers get to know them better, and to see if any would like to join the managing team. Café Church tackled the thorny issue of Christians in the armed forces with an army chaplain who served in Afghanistan, and there are plans afoot for a Dementia support group in the village.

Easter is approaching so Churches Together have organised Lent lunches with speakers from *Mercy Ships*, house-groups and the Good Friday Devotional Walk followed by a service in our Chapel. We will be at the local shops giving-away hot-cross buns to remind people about the real meaning of Easter.

There's a **World Missions** coffee morning in our church hall on 28th March, with plants, cakes and a bring and buy stall. On 23rd April we have our popular **St. George's Day lunch** when we decorate the place in red, white and blue.

Home in time for Christmas. We recently said goodbye to **Freddie Jenkins**, our dear friend who died on the 15th December aged 93. A local preacher for 66 years, she and her husband, Revd Wallace Jenkins, have left their mark on places as far apart as the Isle of Man, Amersham, Sheffield, and of course Roffey and Effingham in our own Circuit.

Freddie's love of the Lord was evident in her preaching and in her life. She was interested in people, never shied away from the contemporary world, and was extraordinary in her ability to accept that the world was forever changing, and finding ways of engaging with it. She will be missed particularly at Effingham, where she was involved in just about everything, and always had something positive and helpful to say on any matter. She was a staunch supporter of the Circuit Local Preachers' meetings and was a great encouragement to young preachers and worship leaders. Her thanksgiving service was attended by over 170 people, and was a testament to a lady who has touched many lives with her indomitable spirit and steadfast faith.

Her family would like to thank all those who attended her Thanksgiving Service at Leatherhead and made it such a memorable occasion, and for the kindness shown to Freddie, Wallace and the family over many years. A collection taken in her memory raised approx. £800 for *Leatherhead Start* and *The Alzheimer's Society*.

Ange & Dave Putland

EASTER OFFERING

The gifts we make at this season for World Mission will be dedicated at a Circuit service at London Road at 6.30 pm on **Sunday April 19**.

Deadline for the next issue:

Monday May 4

j.oborn671@btinternet.com

(continued from front page)

Jesus came to bring good news. And a major part of the good news is that you are not worthless. God loves you. Jesus loves you. He loves you so much he was willing to die for you. You are far from worthless in God's eyes. You are one of his precious children. You are a gloriously unique creation.

If you are the sort of person who spends too much time thinking poorly of yourself, make Lent a time when you can focus on God instead. See yourself through his eyes. Know that you are loved.

Whoever we are, if we can truly learn to see ourselves as God sees us, our lives cannot help but be transformed by the insight.

Paul

ST ANDREW'S, HORSHAM

The good news from St Andrews is that we are now back home! Although there is lot of snagging to sort and one or two build related matters to smooth out/builders to manoeuvre around, the overwhelming feeling is one of deep gratitude to God who has brought us thus far! We are feeling blessed and excited to be back in our refurbished building, and are hopeful for many new opportunities for mission and interaction with our local community.

Our first service in the newly restored and reconfigured sanctuary was our Covenant Service – never have the words of the Covenant Prayer seemed more meaningful. People have sacrificed so much to have enabled us to be where we now are, and we are grateful. The grace and self-giving of God in Jesus Christ seems to have been working in hearts and minds all around us. We are hugely grateful to the wider Circuit for your support and prayers.

To date we have received over £500,000 in grant funding from the Circuit, District, Connexion, and other funding bodies, as well as generous gifts and loans from private individuals and congregational members, so we are hugely in awe of God's provision. Now we take a deep breath and get on with all that still needs doing, moving forward together in our mission to serve, celebrate, share and proclaim God's endless and transforming love! If the Spirit stirs your heart to support us then we would be very much grateful for any further gifts because we still have to find at least another £50,000 - £70,000 and funding sources are growing thin on the ground!

We have got ongoing issues with the restoration side of the project, having uncovered a couple of damp walls and we are having to put right several leaky stained glass windows etc. - all of which gives us additional, unanticipated costs.

Nonetheless we are in good missional heart! We have such exciting plans which will begin this spring when our Clothing Bank reopens, and we become a distribution point for the local Food Bank. Other plans involve starting a Job Seekers Club, a Silver Surfers Club, and we are beginning to explore ideas such as soup making/bread making lunch clubs etc. and we are now getting to grips with the various things needed to create and open up our new Community Café. We also need to attract more hirer groups to help over costs, so we have lots to do!

We have an Open Weekend from the 13th – 15th March, so drop in if you can, and we look forward to welcoming friends from around the Circuit at our Dedication Service on Sunday 15th March at 6 pm, with a welcome tea served from 4.30 pm. It would be very helpful to know numbers for this, so please can all senior stewards let us know who will be coming to represent your church, thank you!

St Andrew's Leadership Team

RSVP re Circuit Service to

Circuit Administrator Angela Birch,
dhecircuit@gmail.com, 07900 605284,

and copy to Rosemary Johnston,

rosemary@johnstnz.me.uk, 01403 268994

Leatherhead Pages

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



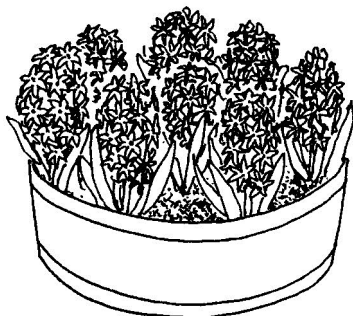
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Fairtrade Fortnight 2015: 23rd February to 8th March

This year Fairtrade Fortnight begins on Sunday 23rd February and ends on Sunday 8th March. Leatherhead is a Fairtrade Town: the Methodist Church has a Fairtrade stall twice a month, Christ Church URC has a stall on the third Sunday each month, and St Mary & St Nicholas has a stall on the second and fourth Sundays each month. During the Fortnight there will also be a Fairtrade stall after the Women's World Day of Prayer, which this year is being held at Christ Church URC, on Friday 6th March.

The slogan for 2015 is "Choose products which change lives" – so, please, during these two weeks buy any fairly traded product – in a supermarket, in a café, even on one of our stalls – which bears the Fairtrade mark: to support farmers and workers all over the world and help them improve their lives and their communities throughout the year.

Margaret Jones



Churches Together in Leatherhead

Easter Proposal:

Theme - The Extravagant Love of God

Instead of the walk of witness on Good Friday, we plan to do an Easter Celebration on the **Saturday before Palm Sunday 28th March**. We want to demonstrate the extravagant love of God!

Location: Leatherhead Town Centre - Time: 11.00am - 12.15pm

Staffed table filled with hot cross buns, flowers, balloons, bubbles, whistles, noisemakers, palm crosses, Easter message tracts, flyers announcing church activities for Holy Week etc., 11.00am to 12 noon.

(Note – there will be an hour prep from 10.00am to 11.00am getting the cart arranged, along with the balloons, flowers, etc.)

Parade at 11.00am around Leatherhead, adults and children, waving palms, palm crosses, instruments, whistle noise makers, banners, flags, handing out flyers, tracts, hot cross buns, flowers & balloons to people as we go.

Children's Treasure Hunt around Leatherhead shops 11.15am to 12 noon with palm crosses or lambs and prizes

12 noon to 12.15pm – One last parade around Leatherhead

Location: All Saints Café - Time: 12.30pm to 1.00pm

Refreshments for everyone, church members and visitors who come along

Tasks to Do:

- * Coordination with Town and Swan Centre Management -

Dave Banko

- * Refreshments Afterwards - All Saints Café –

Margaret Jones & Andy Gill

- * Organise the Children's Treasure Hunt - **Jane Smith**

Clues

Contact the businesses to place clues (Lucy Hanson will email the business asking who'd like to participate, and we'll get the list to Jane)

Handouts/Rules

Prizes

Coordinate with Messy Church

Hilary Porter will make plait fish for the children

* **Organise the Parades - please volunteer!**

Lead the parade, - Encourage noise (whistles and instruments), bubbles, waving palms
Arrange some people to hand-out gifts, tracts and flyers to people we pass
Banners, and Flags – We want people to know we are Christian and following Jesus
Sing children's songs or simple worship songs – Jesus Loves Me; This Little Light of Mine; etc.

* **Table - Rachel Hopper/Sue Roberts**

Staff the table
Cart (Swan Centre will provide 2 barrows/carts & a large table by 10.00am)
Purchase hot cross buns, flowers, whistles, noise makers, balloons, bubbles, etc.
Decorate table as well as provide extra to be handed out during parades and carrying bags/trays for parade – visual display of God's extravagant love
Margaret is going to look to get mini hot cross buns

* **Easter Tracts - Graham Osborne & Lynda Russell**

* **Holy Week Flyers - Sue Roberts/Chris Newtown/
Jack Newton**

Collect CTiL Church activities for Holy Week
Design flyer
Print and ready for distribution on 28th.

* **Press Release - Gerald**

Keep receipts for all purchases to hand into Cathy Noble for reimbursement

The key is I need people willing to help, particularly in the organisation of the parades, very soon to help finalise planning. If you can help, either see someone already working in an area or contact me for more information



Dave Banko
bankodav@sky.com

Leatherhead Community Association Spring Walks

We are already now nearly in March and looking forward to warmer and longer days. Peter Humphreys at the LCA has been arranging 'short' walks, 'longer' walks and 'strolls' for several years now and always welcomes new faces. Non-members are welcome.

The walks are free-of-charge and easy paced. The 'short' morning walks of 3 to 4 miles are usually on the first Wednesday of the month and last about 2 hours with time for a snack at the end. The 'longer walks' cover 4 to 6 miles on the second Wednesday of the month with a lunch or picnic break. The 'strolls' usually take place on the third Wednesday of each month are easy and flattish, and cover less than 2 miles in about 1 to 1½ hours.

Over the next three months the 'short' walks are on 4th March at Chilworth, 1st April in Bushy Park and 6th May in Teazle Wood. The 'longer' walks are on 11th March on Reigate Heath, 8th April at Rusper and 13th May around Albury and Blackheath. The 'strolls' take place on 18th March at Claremont Gardens, Esher, 22nd April at White Down, Effingham, and 20th May in the Rhododendron Dell at Leith Hill. All the walks start at 10.30am from a specified meeting point and each one has a designated Walk Leader. Lifts can usually be arranged, if desired.

If you are interested in any of them, long or short, Peter would be very pleased to give you full information so that you could join in. Please ring him on 01372 378347. You can find full details about each walk in our latest LCA news-letter. Please call into the Letherhead Institute, on the left at the top of Leatherhead High Street, and pick one up. This also gives information of the many activities and events which are arranged throughout the year by the LCA. Or please ring Sarah, the LCA Administrator, on 01372 360508, and she will be able to answer (most of) any questions that you might have. LCA membership only costs £5 per year and our website is:

www.leatherheadca.org.uk

where you can find all the information to become a member of the LCA.

Frances Presley

Leatherhead Community Hospital

On Wednesday 5th November, the staff of Leach Ward at the hospital were called to a meeting in the evening and were told by their employers CSH (Central Surrey Health) that the Ward would close on 1st December and that 10 inpatient bed places would be transferred to Dorking Hospital and five to NEECH at Epsom. This was unexpected news and the ward staff, many of whom live locally and have worked at the hospital for many years, including one case of 35 years, were now expected to work in Dorking or Epsom.

Leach Ward is the last remaining inpatient ward in the hospital and has been used for rehabilitating patients transferred from local acute hospitals prior to going home. Leatherhead has had a community (cottage) hospital for over 100 years, the first in 1892 in Clinton Road, the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital in 1904 in the Epsom Road, and now the present hospital built in 1940. When I came in 1968 the hospital had 52 beds in 3 wards, 2 operating theatres, and busy outpatient clinics. The League of Friends of the hospital has invested £2.5 million since its formation in 1960. The money has been donated by grateful patients, legacies, and the community, and used to improve the infrastructure and to supply equipment, furnishings, and amenities for the patients. Currently the Friends have allocated £500,000 to refurbish the X-ray Department and supply new equipment, but await confirmation on the future provision of services for the hospital.

In relation to the closure of the 15 beds at the hospital, the CSH supported by the Surrey Downs CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) state "the decision to move the beds from Leatherhead was based on recruitment issues. We are blessed with a number of Community Hospitals (Leatherhead, Dorking, NEECH, and Molesey) but are facing increasingly tough decisions both financially and keeping the recruitment levels over a number of sites." The CCG will be reviewing the situation in the spring together with relevant local groups, stakeholders, and the community.

It is of concern that the closure of the beds has been implemented at this time with winter here and the subsequent pressure on hospital beds. At the request of the CCG the League of Friends conducted a feasibility study recently into the potential uses of the hospital, the conclusion of which was "There is considerable potential to expand the existing services." The Friends believe the hospital has a great future in serving the community.

Dr Fred Meynen

Editor's note:

*Please support Leatherhead Hospital. See **www.surreydownsccg.nhs.uk** for more information. Volunteers are needed to form part of an independent local group to help the CCG identify issues that may affect the quality and safety of care provided. If you can volunteer - write "volunteers" in the search box on the website to see what's involved.*



Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:

Thursday 19th March
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



A NEW SPECIALITY COFFEE SHOP AND SANDWICH COMPANY

Open Mon-Sat, 8am-3pm

NOW OPEN TO ALL

*the very best coffee +
the very best sandwiches =
the very best support
for young people*

All Saints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT



Men's Breakfasts

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

28th Mar Parish Church - "Bell Ringing", Peter Ford
25th April Catholic Church

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.



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

***Please see the Leatherhead Pages
(pages 21 to 26) for more news***

West Hill School Community Café...

...is held at LMC every Tuesday morning at 10.30am, except during school holidays. *[No café on 31st March or 7th April (Easter holiday)]*.

West Hill School in Leatherhead is an outstanding special school for pupils aged from 11 to 16 with learning difficulties and autism. The café is providing learners with opportunities to develop work-related skills as well as social and communications skills.

Please come along on Tuesday mornings to support this very worthwhile enterprise.

LMC Housegroups

Please note that Lent Groups may affect dates of housegroup meetings.

The **Friday House Group** meets on the third Friday each month. Please contact Norma Shaw for further details.

The **Monday House Group** meets on alternate Mondays. Contact Carol Stoves - 01372 377125 - for details.



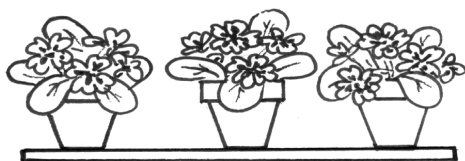
The **Friday Afternoon House Group** is led by John Russell and meets from 1.30pm to 3.15pm on the second and fourth Friday in the month. Contact Sue Friend - 01372 813464 - for details.

LMC Family News



Our thoughts and prayers are with...

...**Jean Jones** in Epsom Hospital, Britten Ward,
and **Gill Harris** who is not well.



Musical Terms Explained for the Non-Musical (With apologies to serious musicians)

p - piano (soft) -	the neighbours have complained
f - forte (loud) -	the neighbours are out
crescendo	
(getting louder) -	testing the neighbours' tolerance level
ff - fortissimo -	(very loud) - who cares
pp - pianissimo -	(very soft)- the neighbours are at the door
Obligato -	being forced to practise
Con moto -	I have a car
Allegro -	a little motor car
Maestro -	a bigger motor car
Metronome -	person small enough to fit comfortably in a Mini
Lento -	the days leading up to Easter
Cantata -	a fizzy drink
Tutti -	ice cream
Coda -	served with chipsa
Chords -	things that organists play with one finger
Dischords -	things that organists play with two fingers

...and more next time.

Jean Plant

LMC Diary



March

Sun	1st	10.30am	Rev Lynda Russell - Holy Communion
Tues	3rd	10.30am	West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome
Fri	6th	2.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer at Christ Church
Sun	8th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Frank Smith Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion
Tues	10th	10.30am	West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome
Wed	11th	1.30pm	(for 2.00pm) Bridge Drive & Tea
Sun	15th	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Bring and Share Prayer Breakfast Rev. Lynda Russell Circuit Service at St Andrew's, Horsham
Tues	17th	10.30pm	West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome
Thurs	19th	3.30pm	Messy Church (to 5.30pm)
Sun	22nd	10.30am 6.30pm	Alex Cloke New Fire
Tues	24th	10.30am 2.30pm	West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome Pastoral Visitors' & Elders' Prayer Meeting
Sat	28th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at the Parish Hall (see p.26)
Sun	29th	10.30am 5.00pm	Rhys Frost Pastorate Service at Effingham followed by tea

April

Easter Sunday:

Sun	5th	10.30am	Rev Lynda Russell - Holy Communion Joint Service with Christ Church at LMC
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**Methodist Women in Britain
South-East District Day**



"One Mission"

Speaker: Revd Alison Walker
Former Mission Partner in Florence, Italy

at Tonbridge Methodist Church
Higham Lane, Tonbridge, TN10 4JT
<http://tonbridgemethodistchurch.org/>

Saturday 28 March 2015
10.30am (for 11.00 start) to 3.30pm

Bring a packed lunch - drinks provided
£3.00 minimum day charge covers refreshments
and contribution to expenses

Collection in support of MWiB Partnership for Dalit Solidarity

Local contact: Daphne Arden 01732 355620
roi.daff@gmail.com

Christ Church

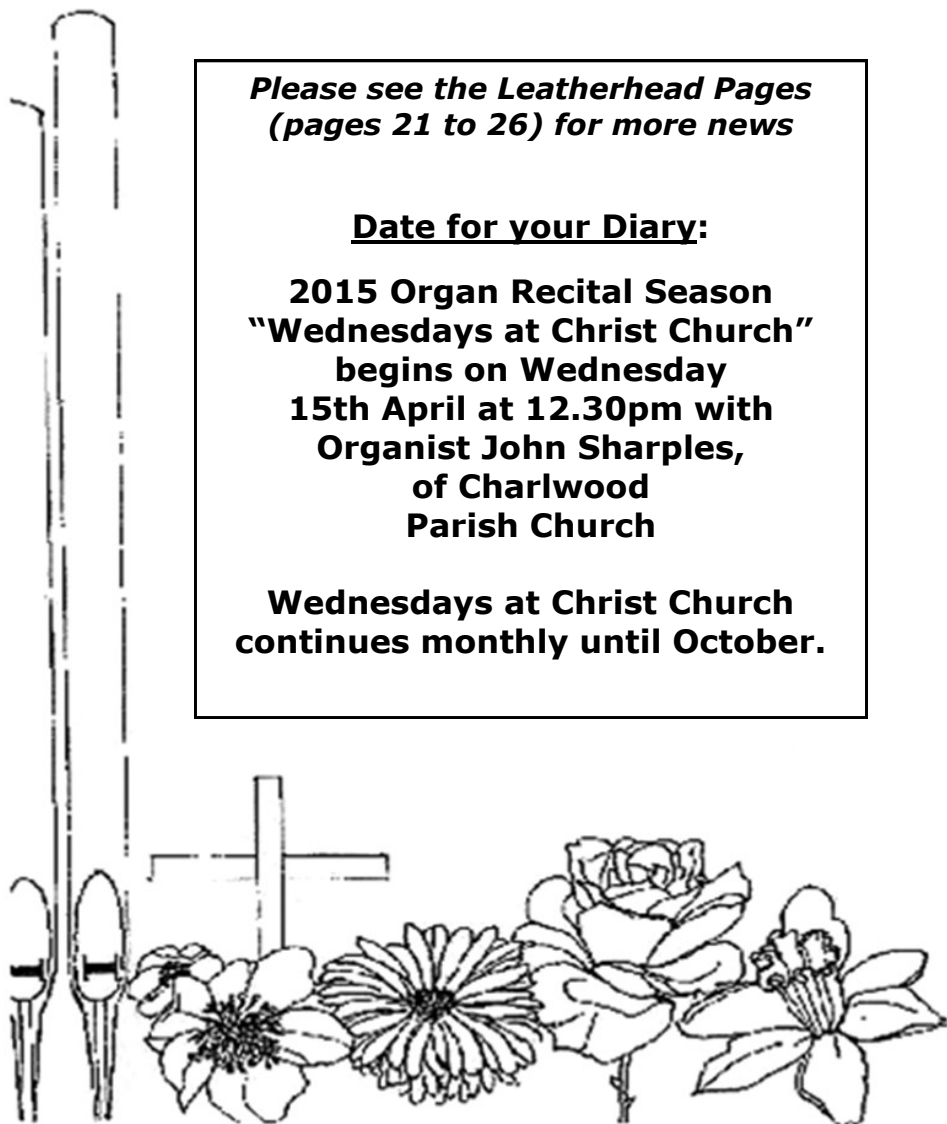
(United Reformed) Leatherhead

*Please see the Leatherhead Pages
(pages 21 to 26) for more news*

Date for your Diary:

**2015 Organ Recital Season
"Wednesdays at Christ Church"
begins on Wednesday
15th April at 12.30pm with
Organist John Sharples,
of Charlwood
Parish Church**

**Wednesdays at Christ Church
continues monthly until October.**



Christ Church Diary



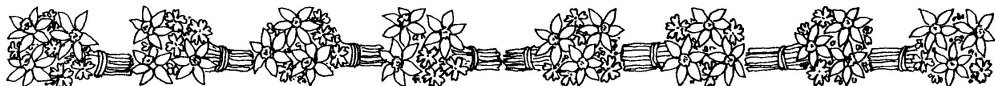
March

Sun 1st	10.30am	Rev. Brian Treharne
Thurs 5th	2.00pm	Uniting Churches Council at Christ Church
Fri 6th	2.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer at Christ Church
Sun 8th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion Rev. Lynda Russell - Communion at LMC
Wed 11th	1.30pm	(for 2.00pm) Bridge Drive & Tea
Sun 15th	10.30am	Rev. Bruce Stuart
Tues 17th	2.30pm	Service at The Beeches
Wed 18th	2.00pm	Elders' Meeting
Thurs 19th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm)
Sun 22nd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell New Fire at LMC
Tues 24th	2.30pm	Pastoral Visitors' & Elders' Prayer Meeting at LMC
Sat 28th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at the Parish Church (see p.26)
Sun 29th	10.30am 5.00pm	Rev. John Whitton Pastorate Service at Effingham Methodist Church followed by tea

April

Easter Sunday:

Sun 5th	10.30am	Joint Service at LMC - Rev. Lynda Russell
Sat 11th	8.30am	Sisters Get-Together at the Parish Church Hall



United Reformed Church - Southern Synod Surrey and Sussex Synod Area Pastoral Committees' Report

The Surrey and Sussex Synod Area Pastoral Committees met at Crawley United Reformed Church on 27th January 2015 and would like to report the following:

Those remembered: Revd Ron Talmey died on 20th January and his Thanksgiving Service is to take place at 11am on Saturday 21st March at Reigate Park led by Revd George Watt. Following the meeting it was learnt that Revd Mike Hensman had died on 23rd January and his Funeral Service took place on 4th February at Ewell. Also remembered were Ray Brotherhood and two ministers with health issues.

Pastoral Committees - Revd John Joseph has retired from the Surrey Pastoral Committee. Rob Upward was appointed as a member of the Sussex Pastoral Committee. The committees are still looking for people to join them.

Annual Deployment Meeting with Pastoral Conveners - At the recent meeting there was a suggestion that PCs become more strategic in their planning, it being noted that they were not a council of the church and so do not have any authority to make decisions. As there is not enough time at PC meetings to "brainstorm" regarding deployment it was agreed there should be a special PCs meeting concerning this after the Synod Area Meeting in March where the Moderator is to be invited.

Churches in Vacancy - It is proposed that Interim Moderators should be asked to give a report to each meeting to enable the PCs to know what was happening in regard to churches in vacancy.

LMMR - Steve Allott (Advocate) and Deidre Harrison (Coordinator of Administration) have taken over from Revd Andrew Mills as Synod LMMR Coordinator. People to act as members of Review Teams are urgently needed - Redhill, Horsham and West Sussex Area Ministry (Billingshurst, Petworth & Pulborough) - the reports are to be presented to the respective Church Meetings.

Mission - Martin Hayward in regard to "Are we a dying church?" had looked at the closure of 12 churches and noted that some

continued on the next page

had closed for unexpected reasons even where they had grown. He agreed to this being a component of a strategy meeting and said that there may be some issues that “go under the radar”. Martin considered it would be helpful to explore the reasons for church closures in the hope that it might offer us helpful insights. He felt it would enable clearer strategic thinking if we take into account some of the conclusions that have surfaced already in exploring this issue and that funding and low attendance are not always the only reasons for closure.

Dorking have appointed Chris Currie as Community Worker.

Property matters - The post of Property Officer for the Synod Area is still vacant. There is to be a Construction, Design and Management Meeting from 10.30am to 4.30pm on 28th February at St Andrews, Cheam led by Tom Beattie.

Revd David Skitt, our Area Leader and Minister of Oxted and Marsh Green has given notice of his retirement in January 2016 but will kindly chair the March 2016 Area Synod meeting to facilitate the handover. John Bunker expressed his very considerable appreciation of David’s work and support with which the meeting strongly concurred.

Synod Area Meetings:

10th March at Caterham on Deployment.

16th June at Worthing – 2 topics:

- (1) Talk by John and Ellie Bunker about the do’s and don’ts of big developments.
- (2) Revd Canon David Helyar on URC Retreats Group.

6th October – Guy Morfett on Synod Property matters.

Surrey Convenor: Revd Kim Plumpton - Tel 01932 586988
e-mail kimp_822@hotmail.com

Sussex Convenor: Revd Graeme Allan - Tel 01273 303496
e-mail graeme.allan59@btinternet.com

Secretary: Alan Kirby - Tel 01737 373736
e-mail alandkirby@tiscali.co.uk

Christ Church Family News



90th Birthdays:

Hearty congratulations and very best wishes to Margaret Ball and Ivan Haslam who both celebrate their 90th birthdays this month, Margaret on the 27th and Ivan on the 30th.

Margaret Ball is safely home again after a spell in Dorking Cottage Hospital. She says in some ways she enjoyed the experience. She is very cheerful and is making good progress.

Margaret Dodds-Ely is delighted with her progress after successful operations on both knees. We wish her a speedy return to normal activity, including golf.

John Rayner is settling reasonably well in St George's, Cobham, though his general condition is still very up and down. We send him and the family our very best wishes.

We remember these friends and all those in our church community with health or family concerns, and the bereaved.

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



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Lynda Russell

10 Church Road
Leatherhead
KT22 8AY

Tel: 01372 372743 (home)
01372 362145 (office)

E-mail:

lynda.russell@methodist.org.uk

Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road
Cobham
KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail:

kimp_822@hotmail.com