

# the Link

**The United Pastorate of  
Leatherhead  
Cobham  
Effingham**

## November 2011



*The*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**

### **Linking:**

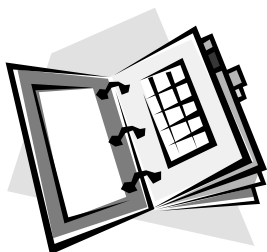
**Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead  
Cobham Methodist Church  
Cobham United Reformed Church  
Effingham Methodist Church  
Leatherhead Methodist Church**

**The Methodist Church**



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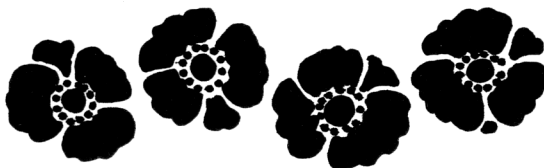
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## A REMINDER

**All copy for the December issue should  
be with the editor by:**

**12th November**



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**All copy for the December issue to the editor by 12th November**



# *The Ministers Write...*



***From Rev. Kim Plumpton***

Dear Friends,

It seems to have been a month when I have asked the same question to myself time and time again, how does God reveal himself to us? How can we know what is truth from that which is fanciful speculation? The Rev. Dr Janet Tollington, lecturer at Westminster College Cambridge, spent the morning with us at Cobham URC. 'An introduction to the Old Testament' was the theme for the morning and we welcomed a group of visitors from across the pastorate.

I remember thinking like so many people that the Old Testament was only something to be grappled with if you had several commentaries to hand, or a learned scholar to explain them. I spent hours under Janet's tutelage at College, always exciting and inspiring, Janet had such a gift in the way in which she revealed God to us through Old Testament scripture. I came to realise that I could find the God of the New Testament just as easily if I allowed myself to understand the context and literary style it was written in.

Janet's desire for the morning to be engaging, informative and stimulating was certainly fulfilled. By the end of the morning Janet had revealed to us the very beginnings of an educated and informative glance into the formulation of the texts.

Questions were quickly forthcoming. Why does the Old Testament appear to present the picture of a wrathful God who is happy to condone slaying others so that the faithful few can be saved? Many could relate to the suggestion that instead of grappling with the texts, the church has over the years remained silent, even the lectionary is selective. Theological understanding of the God of the Old Testament had remained the domain of the few, and little had been explained about the genre and literary perspectives found within the texts. In our Sunday Schools, the Old Testament stories have often been sanitised, cleansed and presented in such a way, there seems to be some disconnection between the God we knew as children and the God we would later read about as adults. Myths, poetry, allegories, parables or stories, all mixed together to create a sacred text, our difficulty is how we read it without recognising what we are dealing with.

*continued on the next page*

There was a real sense of liberation as the biblical text was interpreted through our Hebrew scholar and teacher. How can we know that this wasn't simply fanciful speculation? Because it made sense, like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle coming together but it was something more, something within us seemed to affirm this truth. God had truly been revealed to us in a way that we might not have imagined when we first walked into the room. There have been calls for Janet to return next year to open up some of those particularly challenging texts for us, a request I hope to make possible.

Thank you to all who made the morning such an exciting occasion.

With every blessing,

***Kim***

### ***From Rev. Ian Howarth***

Dear Friends,

I always find November a reflective time of year. The nights draw in, the rush of Christmas is still a few weeks away, and events like Remembrance Sunday lead us to prayer for those who have died, and those who still suffer, as a result of our inability as human beings to live in peace with each other.

In a way it is a sombre time, it includes also at the beginning of the month the festivals of All Saints and All Souls, but it can also be a profound time when we consider prayerfully issues of loss and hope, and through which the presence of God can be truly felt.

Memory is important to who we are, both our individual memories and our corporate memory as a nation and as a church. It is why the loss of memory is such a disturbing and tragic thing for people, because it affects their very identity.

The challenge for us as Christians is to honour the memories that are important to us, of people, of traditions, of past times, while at the same time looking forward hopefully to the future. On Remembrance Day we do that by honouring those who have suffered in war, by committing ourselves to work for peace and reconciliation. We also honour our other memories not by living in the past, and preserving them in aspic, but using them as a resource to help us live in today's world and look towards the

future, remembering that the God who has been faithful to us in the past, will not desert us as we move into new uncharted waters.

In our increasingly uncertain world, with so many potential crises, economic, political, environmental, it is tempting to live in the past. But these crises need a proper Christian engagement, where we need to interpret our understanding of God from the past and find ways of making His love, His care, His hope real today. If we do that, I believe we will find the best way to honour the past is to change and adapt so that we find the right way to communicate the message of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to a world that with all its changes still desperately needs it today.

Yours in Christ,

*Ian*

### **On reaching Three Score Years and Thirty...**

...I would like to associate myself with the words of Sheila Hancock, written at the age of 75:

*"Some people dread old age, but I am having a ball! At my age I can get away with anything. At worst I will be labelled eccentric or senile. I can leave when I'm bored, boo when I hate something, love whom I choose, be outrageous, be self-centred and downright silly. I do sometimes feel lonely, but increasingly loneliness has become a valued solitude. On my own I will laugh, cry a lot, be thrilled, be desolate, have fun and take risks. My last lap is going to be hair-raisingly exciting".*

To carry out the hopes of the last sentence my family have arranged a massive party for my relatives all over the world, plus some of my old and local friends on my actual birthday, but I would like to have "open house" for my friends from Cobham and Leatherhead. So I am arranging an "at Home" day on Saturday 12th November when I hope that my Cobham and Leatherhead friends will call in for coffee and cake in the morning (10.00am-12noon) or cream teas in the afternoon (2.00pm-4.00pm) at 12 Sole Farm Avenue, Bookham. Do come and celebrate/commiserate with me! I do not want or need presents but a donation to Alzheimers' Research would be much appreciated.

*Freddie Jenkins*

# SINGING THE FAITH

## **"Singing the Faith"**

The New Methodist Collection of Hymns and Songs

### **An Introduction**

Rev. Ian Howarth is a member of the Methodist Music Resources Group responsible for producing the collection. Ian is leading a series of introductory sessions on Tuesdays in the New Year at Leatherhead Methodist Church as follows:

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 17th January  | Introduction to Singing the Faith and new hymns  |
| 14th February | Worship Songs, learning and using them effectively                                     |
| 13th March    | Creative approaches to worship using Singing the Faith including prayers and responses |

The sessions start at 8.00pm and will end by 10.00pm. All will be welcome at the sessions, (particularly musicians, preachers and worship leaders).

No need for booking, but it would be helpful to know numbers likely to be attending, so please phone the Leatherhead Methodist Church office (01372 362145) and leave a message, or e-mail [leatherheadmc@gmail.com](mailto:leatherheadmc@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.





# Cobham

## Methodist Church

# Cobham Methodist Diary - November



Thurs	3rd	2.00pm & 7.30pm	Bible Study "Images of God" at Cobham URC
Fri	4th	4.30pm	CYC at St Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>11.00am 6.30pm</b>	<b>Angie Choat United Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship</b>
Thurs	10th	2.00pm & 7.30pm	Bible Study "Images of God" at Cobham URC
Sat	12th	10.00am 2.30pm	Time 4 You Platinum Service
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b><u>10.50am</u> 6.30pm</b>	<b>Rev. Frank Smith - Remembrance Service United Pastorate Service at Cobham URC</b>
Wed	16th	8.00pm	House Fellowship at the Manse
Fri	18th	4.30pm	CYC at St Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Rev. Kim Plumpton - with Holy Communion</b>
Fri	25th	5.30pm	Cobham Parade of Lights followed by a service at St. Andrew's Cobham
Sat	26th	10.30am - 3.30pm	Christmas Bazaar ( <i>see page 9</i> )
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Rev. Paul Cockburn</b>
<b>December</b>			
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Simon Lucas</b>

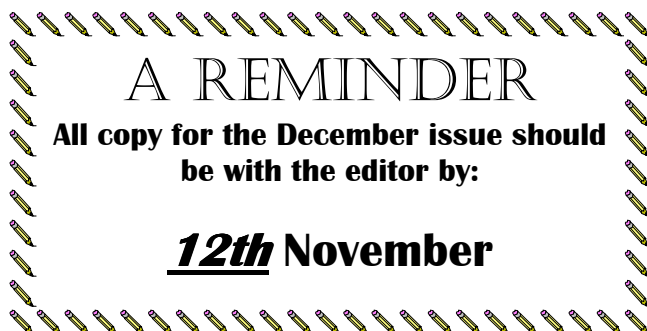
**Next "Time 4 You" -  
Saturday 12th November,  
10.00am - 12noon**



**Bible Study on "Images of God"**

at Cobham URC on

Thursdays 3rd & 10th November at 2.00pm and 7.30pm







**Cobham Methodist Church**

# **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

**Saturday 26th. November**

**10.30-3.30**

**in aid of Besom & Help for Heroes**

# **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

**something for everyone!**

**SATURDAY 26TH.  
NOVEMBER**

**10.30A.M. - 3.30P.M.**

**GIFTS, CRAFTS, RAFFLE,**

**SANTA'S GROTTO AND SO MUCH**

**MORE**

**COBHAM**

**METHODIST CHURCH**

**Cedar Road**



# **Cobham**

## **United Reformed Church**

### **Cobham URC Worship Diary - November**



Sun	6th	9.00am 10.30am	Early Bird Service led by Anita Sydney Shore
Sun	13th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion United Pastorate Service
Sun	20th	10.30am	Derek Wensley
Sun	27th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
December			
Sun	4th	10.30am	Derek Wensley

### **Prayers at the Manse**

at 9.30am on

Wednesdays: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th November

## **Bible Study on "Images of God"**

at Church on

Thursdays 3rd & 10th November at 2.00pm and 7.30pm

## **Cobham URC Events - November**

Tues	1st	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting
Thurs	3rd	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Fri	4th	4.30pm to 6.30pm	CYC meets at St Mary's Church
Sun	6th	3.00pm to 6.00pm	Special Needs Group
Fri	18th	4.30pm to 6.30pm	CYC meets at St Mary's Church
Tues	22nd	8.00pm	Evening House Group <i>(date might change - please check before you attend)</i>
Thurs	24th	10.30am	Morning House Group at church
Fri	25th	3.00pm	T @ 3 at church
Sat	26th	10.30am - 3.30pm	Christmas Bazaar at Cobham Methodist

## **Marriage Course**

at Church on

Fridays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November at 7.30pm

# On walking to church

I was brought up in a suburb of Edinburgh. As stern Presbyterians we walked regularly to church some four miles from our home. On the way we passed by a cluster of churches of various denominations which would all nowadays be welcomed within the embrace of the United Reformed Church. My father insisted that it was important to make some sacrifices by walking to church, rather snootily ignoring the various welcoming kirks. The anomaly struck even a dull teenager. But the issue passed because the time came when I started cycling to church, setting off some half-an-hour later than my father.

These thoughts came to me recently when I decided to walk to church. To be more accurate, I decided to walk back from church. Actually I was given a lift to church but the car was not available for the return journey and I determined on making an experiment. So on a warm settled day I set off from the URC, Cobham for the four mile walk to remotest Oxshott. I was of course, the only pedestrian. But I had the company of cars galore all the way and the more cordial company of joggers and cyclists. It confirmed the old dictum that Elmbridge is not amenable to pedestrians.

I proceeded along Stoke Road in an easterly direction. Then I encountered the lethal crossing from Stoke Road to Blundell Lane. Half-a-mile on, the pavement narrowed; in another quarter it petered out entirely. I took my life in my hands on the notorious railway bridge.

Shortly I turned off the road onto the bridle path, past the Furze and the radar mast. On up the hill to the playing fields of Danes Hill School and down Wrens Hill to the ever menacing A244, the famous supplement to the M25. Home at last in about an hour, six times what it would have taken by car.

I shall not do this idiosyncratic thing for a while, especially not during winter. Of course, it gave me a sense of achievement, needed physical exercise and all that. True, it gave me time for cool reflection on the service. No one can deny the necessity for that. But alas it fell short of my memory of yesteryear when walking to and from Church was a spiritual experience. Or so I was told!

*Ian Nish*



# Effingham

Methodist Church

## Effingham Methodist Diary - November



Tues	1st	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	2nd	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sat	5th	10.00am - 11.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>10.00am 6.30pm</b>	<b>Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion United Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship</b>
Thur	10th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>10.00am 6.30pm</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday with Rhys Frost United Pastorate Service at Cobham URC</b>
Tues	15th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	16th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Juliet Fuller</b>
Thur	24th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Jon Fisher</b>
Tues	29th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	30th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
<b>December</b>			
Sat	3rd	10.00am - 11.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion</b>

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

## Birthday Dates to celebrate this month



Happy 90th Birthday to Freddie Jenkins on 4th November, Barbara Rombach on 18th and Pat McElhill on 19th.

*Remember we need your help to update our records of birthdays and important anniversaries. **Sorry we missed your 80th Jean.***

### Dates for your diaries

After a successful launch last month, **Churches together in Effingham & Little Bookham** are holding another **Café Church**, for alternative worship, at **King George V** hall on **Saturday 5th November** from **10.00am - 11.00am**.

Coffee & croissants, food for thought!



No fireworks expected until  
**KGV's Fireworks Spectacular**  
**Saturday 5th November**

Gates Open 6.00pm

Advance Tickets £3 from the Post Office  
or Parker & Son in The Street, Effingham  
£5 on the gate, Under 12's free



# What Can We Do About Metal Theft?



I've just read a letter titled "An Unregulated Industry" in the letters page of the Methodist Recorder for the week 13th October, and watched Breakfast TV today about this growing problem. It strikes a cord with us in Effingham as we had a telephone cable stolen in August which left over 800 homes without a landline or computer access for nine days.

St. Martin's in Dorking have a £25,000 repair bill after persistent theft over the last few years. 14 brass memorial plaques were stolen from Carshalton war memorial last month and a local church had its bell stolen. Churches are vulnerable and insurers won't cover the cost if it keeps happening.

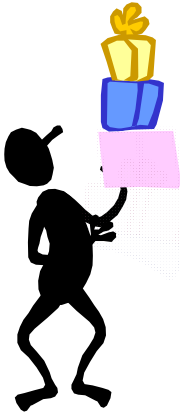
A recent debate in the House of Lords discussed *Scrap metal theft: Laws in the age of 'Steptoe and Son'*. The UK's laws on scrap metal are still in the age of Steptoe and Son, and called for police to be given more powers to shut down traders selling stolen scrap metal. The crime cost £770m last year.

*Smartwater*, the official police security initiative, won't work until the whole industry is properly regulated. At the moment a large amount of scrap metal is shipped off to other parts of the world to be dismantled.

So let's write to our MPs and keep up the pressure for a change in the law.



...at the going down of the sun we would have remembered them - but some rotten scrap metal thief has stolen the brass plaque with the names on!!



## A Few Words...

She's fun and feisty, wise and witty,  
Seldom stuck for words...

She's got a heart of gold and makes us all proud.  
She's game for anything, even sends emails and  
composes her sermons on screen!  
Who is she?

Why Effingham's own **Mrs Freddie Jenkins** of  
course, and we can't believe she's 90 this month  
but we've got invitations to the big "DO" so it must  
be true!

**HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY FREDDIE**



## Wear your Poppy with Pride

Another feisty 90 year old celebrates this month.  
The **Royal British Legion** was formed on 15th  
May 1921, bringing together four National Organisations of ex-  
Servicemen begun after the Great War of 1914-1918. When the  
Legion's leaders looked around them in 1921, not only did they  
see a gigantic task in front of them looking after those who had  
suffered, but they also sought to prevent further sacrifice by  
reminding the nation of the human cost of war and to work  
actively for peace. The tradition of an annual **Two Minute  
Silence** in memory of the dead had already been established, but  
the first ever **Poppy Appeal** was held with the first Poppy Day on  
11th November 1921. The *Legion* was granted "Royal" status in  
1971.

This year they hope to raise £5 million and to do this every year  
for the next 10 years. The *Legion* will be working with the Army,  
the MOD, Veterans' agencies, Service charities including Help for  
Heroes, Erskine, SSAFA and ABF, the Soldiers' Charity in a joint  
effort to ensure that wounded, injured and sick men and women  
are given the best possible help to recover. To donate online see  
website: [www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance)





## I'm dreaming of a green Christmas...perhaps?

Nobody likes an eco-Scrooge at Christmas time. An eco-Scrooge would tell you to save paper this festive season by wrapping all your gifts in newspaper, pages from magazines or the used wrapping paper you carefully conserved from last year. An eco-Scrooge might suggest cooking only as much food as you can eat, not the usual gargantuan quantities! An eco-Scrooge would encourage frugal gift ideas like the jars of homemade chutney I'm sure you've been making all year with the windfall fruits from your garden. An eco-Scrooge would send only e-cards, saving the cost of stamps!

Wooow! Charities are having a very tough time as everyone is feeling the pinch, but many rely on Christmas card sales. Some charities are even offering e-cards now. Great idea... maybe I'll even send a few, but for me, they just don't hack it! Oops! Sorry! It's just that I think e-cards are rather clinical, not very decorative, and won't fit on a mantelpiece. Just your computer screen!

I know it's a bit of a chore finding Christmas cards with any relevance to Christ or the Nativity these days. Finding time to write them can add to the seasonal stress... or have you written yours already? Perhaps you too get a nice warm feeling when you've written them! Keeping in touch with family and friends is important, especially at this special time of the year. So I'll be taking my own cloth bags when I'm browsing through *Cards for Good Causes* which I hope will be running at **Dorking Christian Centre** again this year, then re-cycling my cards just to be eco-friendly !!

AJP



# Leatherhead Pages

## THE DOWNSMEN IN CONCERT ON SATURDAY 26th NOVEMBER

Our own barbershop chorus, The Downsmen, won a cup for an outstanding performance at the Croydon Music Festival earlier this year. Following that success, the club decided to organise a concert in order to bring its style of close harmony singing to a wider audience. Some talented guest artists have also been invited to perform at the

**Ashted Peace Memorial Hall  
at 7.30pm on Saturday 26th November**

The other acts include 'Mr Music Man', playing a range of instruments, a brother and sister tap dancing duo, the Banstead Accordion Band, and a mixed a capella choir singing unaccompanied numbers arranged and conducted by Lisa Robathan, Musical Director of The Downsmen.

**Tickets at £10 each from:  
Mary and John Friend on 01372 459312.**



### Next Messy Church:

Thursday 17th November,  
3.30pm to 5.30pm at



# Leatherhead Youth Project

**November**

**LYP**

***BFree youth cafe***  
*Open everyday after school*

***Triumph Cell Group***  
*Weekly cell group for young people in Year 8.*

***Triumph AM***  
*10-12pm at BFree  
Years 5.*

***KNOW?*** *13 November  
6:30-8pm at BFree, Year 8.  
Exploring faith and lifestyle issues  
relevant to teenagers*

[www.leatherheadyouthproject.com](http://www.leatherheadyouthproject.com)

# Petite Messe Solennelle Rossini

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Misericordias Domini K222

Conducted by  
Ian Assersohn

7:30 pm

Saturday 26th November 2011

The Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon,  
Cobham KT11 3QQ

Tickets £14

08700 842020

[www.menuhinhall.info](http://www.menuhinhall.info)

[tickets@leatherhead-choral.net](mailto:tickets@leatherhead-choral.net)

01737 766203



# **Surrey Fairtrade County Campaign - Christmas Craft Fair**

Fairtraders across the county are campaigning for Surrey to become a Fairtrade county. Enthusiasts presented their case to County Councillors at a meeting preceding their October Council meeting on 12th October, and the next step planned is the

**Christmas Craft Fair at the  
Dorking Christian Centre on  
Sat. 19th November, from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.**

There will be about twenty stalls in the Christian Centre (next to St Martin's Church) selling gifts and crafts from all over the world, including leather and bead bags from Nepal, soap, olive oil, spices and carvings from Palestine, Fairtrade jewellery, and a host of other products, plus locally produced homemade jams, honey, pickles and cakes. And there will be refreshments, with Fairtrade ingredients.

This will be the best opportunity this year to buy fairly traded and ethically produced gifts and crafts. Some of you already know the variety of products available on the Fairtrade stalls in your churches – this Fair will open your eyes to the vast range of products available.

Put a little charity into your Christmas shopping and come along to Dorking on 19th!

*Margaret Jones (806853)*

## **Radical Welcome**

Advance notice of three special meetings for Christ Church and LMC to work together and learn from each other about how best to be truly welcoming churches.

**12th January**

**9th February**

**8th March**

at Christ Church at 7.30pm. Book the dates.

## **Christ Church and LMC Together**

All members of Christ Church and LMC are encouraged to attend an evening of prayer at LMC on Tuesday 6th December at 8.00pm to pray for guidance on our future together.

## **Real Easter Egg company reveals choccy Christmas tree campaign**

A campaign to make the UK's 20 million Christmas trees a bit more meaningful this December has been launched by the company behind The Real Easter Egg.

To help parents, grandparents and godparents communicate the Christmas story to the next generation, The Meaningful Chocolate Company has produced the UK's first ever interactive set of chocolate tree decorations, based on the characters of the Nativity story.

Each box of Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations contains a limited edition Christmas card, a sticker set and six hand wrapped, high quality, Fairtrade chocolate decorations. The Christmas story, which can be found on the card, enables adults or children to read the story while placing character stickers on the decorations. Once completed, the decorations can be hung on the tree as a reminder of the real meaning of Christmas.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said "We estimate that most of the UK's 20 million Christmas trees don't have anything religious hung on them. The Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations are an opportunity to buy a gift that allows the telling of the Christmas story at home.

"The card also includes an invitation for people to go to church to hear the Christmas story. So, not only is it educational, it's also a piece of evangelism."

The Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations cost £3.95. Orders can be made through [www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk](http://www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk) or exclusively from Traidcraft. Orders should be made by mid November 2011 as supplies are limited.

Last year the Meaningful Chocolate Company launched The Real Easter Egg, the UK's first and only charity Fairtrade Easter egg to mention the religious understanding of Easter. By Christmas 2012 the company expects to have helped raise over £60,000 for charitable projects, as a result of Meaningful Chocolate sales. Find out more at [www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk](http://www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)

*Parish Pump*



# Leatherhead

Methodist Church



## Diary - November



Fri	4th	1.15pm	Daytime House Fellowship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion</b>
		6.30pm	<b>Bible series: 'What is the Bible to make of You'</b>
			Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday - Simon Lucas</b>
		6.30pm	United Pastorate Service at Cobham URC
Tues	15th	7.30pm	Bible Study - "A Multitude of Approaches" - different ways of reading the Bible
Wed	16th	7.30pm	Wednesday House Fellowship
Thurs	17th	3.30pm	Messy Church
Fri	18th	1.15pm	Daytime House Fellowship
Sat	19th	2.00pm - 5.00pm	Surrey Fairtrade Craft Fair at Dorking Christian Centre
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Rev. Ian Howarth</b>
		6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion, jointly with Christ Church at Christ Church
Sat	26th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at Christ Church hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Rob Pitt</b>
		6.30pm	New Fire - Rev. Ian Howarth
<b>December</b>			
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion</b>
		6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth

# LMC Family News



## *Congratulations to...*

...Winifred & Arnold Ashbrook on the safe arrival of their fourth great grandchild, Kraig, on 12th October.

## *Welcome to...*

...new members, James & Tracey Wild and Bob Greenfield who were received into the LMC fellowship on 2nd October.



## *Congratulations also to...*

...Tim Hall, who is County Councillor for Leatherhead & Fetcham East. He was recently promoted to Cabinet Member for Children & Learning at Surrey County Council following the recent reshuffle of the Executive under the new Leader. Tim's new position holds great responsibilities and time demands and we wish him success in his new role.

## *Every Happiness...*

...to Jay, Carol and Reuben Bristow following the move to their new home at Beech House, Fortyfoot Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8RN



# Synod at Camberley

Synod is not new to me. I have been attending for a number of years. During that time I have written reports for Women's Network, made bread for Communion, taken part in the Communion Service itself, and arranged prayer stations. Synod is rarely boring. Parts can be a bit dull; a lot depends on the speaker and subject.

The theme of Synod was Leadership and Teamwork. We were welcomed by Rev. Stephen Robinson, the Superintendent Minister of Aldershot, Farnborough and Camberley Circuit, followed by the usual housekeeping information. Rev. John Hellyer, Chair of the District, led Holy Communion. In his sermon, John spoke about being able to grow and understand what kind of disciple we are called to be, to be willing to serve and give. He stressed the need to engage with each other and recognise the diversity among us. We are all leaders, he said, and all leaders are disciples of Christ, following Him in the way of the Cross.

Clergy new to the District distributed the elements from four positions in the hall. It was a continuous process, going to the nearest station, the only possible way with the numbers involved. It is not a procedure that really appeals to me. Somehow there is not that opportunity for a quiet moment of one-to-one with God.

The latter half of the morning dealt briefly with Synod business, most explained more fully in leaflets sent prior to the date. Once over we explored the theme of 'Leadership'. Following a general introduction, we were invited to view ten very diverse pictures on the theme. A lot of them did nothing for me. Ian explained one showing an orchestra, then I got stuck working out one which showed three men with a ladder approaching a gap that they had to cross still holding the ladder!

Lunch was 'chat' time, catching up with those around the District, new friends and old. After lunch there were some excellent and informative presentations. I was impressed with Jill Baker's (MWiB) introduction to the new women's movement, and I am sure it influenced the numbers attending the Launch Roadshow at Central Hall, Westminster on 18th September. Rev. David Chapman, Superintendent of the Central Sussex United Area (formerly at London Road, Horsham) spoke about the Methodist World Council held in S. Africa earlier this year. Not only is he an eloquent speaker but his talk was illustrated with photographs. The captions were so funny and Synod was in fits of laughter! Sometimes I found myself forgetting to listen because I was waiting to see the words under the next picture!

*continued on the next page*

There was a report proposing changes to the membership of Synod. Normally these propositions go through with a show of hands. It was recommended that the number of Circuit lay representatives should be reduced. It provoked a lot of discussion and, eventually, a vote taken, agreed. I did not! I think it is the lay people who take back information to their Circuits and churches, and often instigate ways in which that information can be acted upon. Lay people volunteer to attend Synod and have quite a different mind-set from those who attend because of an office held.

It was a good, stimulating day. No doubt LMC Leadership Team and Church Council will hear more.

*Jean Plant*

## **Westminster Women's Outreach Seminar**

**Title: Women in Leadership - Putting our Gifts into Practice**

**Place: Central Hall, Westminster**

**Date: 12th November, 10.00am - 3.30pm**

**Cost: £8**

**Speakers: Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin -  
Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons;**

**Aileen Mkandawire -  
Life coach and Counsellor**

**A chance to listen, enabling women to share experiences,  
discover their gifts, build confidence and affirm their role  
within the Church.**

## **Street Pastors in Leatherhead**

A regional representative from Street Pastors will meet with Leatherhead officials from the town, police and churches on Wednesday 2nd November at Christ Church URC at 7.00pm. This is a Churches Together initiative and we are looking for some representatives from LMC to attend this meeting, either with a view to becoming trained as a Street Pastor for Leatherhead, or to simply find out more. If interested, please speak to Rev. Ian Howarth.

# Women - for such a time as this

Methodist women in Britain (MWiB), the new movement for women, was officially launched at the July Conference in Southport. Not only was space there very limited, but distance also prevented many from attending. To compensate, a series of six Launch Roadshows have been arranged at venues around the country.

The first was at Central Hall, Westminster on Sunday 18th September. There must have been about 500 people there - it is very difficult to gauge numbers in such a huge space. It was a very varied programme, with a focus on Dalit women, one of the special action concerns. Kasta Dip, the desk officer for Justice, Peace and Reconciliation in the church of North India, spoke very movingly of the problems Dalit women encounter. As a Dalit himself, he spoke from family experience.

Rev. Val Ogden led a lively and interesting Bible Study based on the story in Matthew, of the healing of the Official's daughter and the faith of the haemorrhaging woman who touched Jesus' cloak. There were many thoughts to challenge new ways of thinking. Rev. Jenny Impey, co-Chair of the London District, was interviewed about her job, and particularly the role of women in leadership in the Church. Rev. Nicola Vidamour, a keen lover of art, reflected on a picture of an African woman embracing a child. She stressed that now is such a time as this to embrace the present. Rev. Dr. Mark Wakelin brought greetings from Conference. Rev. Femi Cole-Hjie led prayers and the whole gathering affirmed their support of the new leaders of MWiB. Peter Baker, as light as will o' the wisp, flitted around in a dance/drama telling the story of Esther. Leytonstone Youth Choir led music accompanied by drums and keyboard - very loud!

I could go on and on there was so much, all tidily linked together by Jill Baker, MWiB's first President. Her theme 'for such a time as this' held together and bonded the programme.

As always on these occasions, the singing was wonderful! There were friends from far and wide to chat with. There were resources to examine and buy, and welcome cups of tea to wet parched throats. Gathered outside the Great Hall at the end, that number of women make an awful lot of noise!

Between now and next March there will be five similar Roadshows held at Bristol, Loughborough, Chester, York and Edinburgh. All have excellent speakers and each will highlight another of MWiB's social concerns.

There is much going on in the movement for such a time as this.

*Jean Plant*

# Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

Come and listen to our continuing

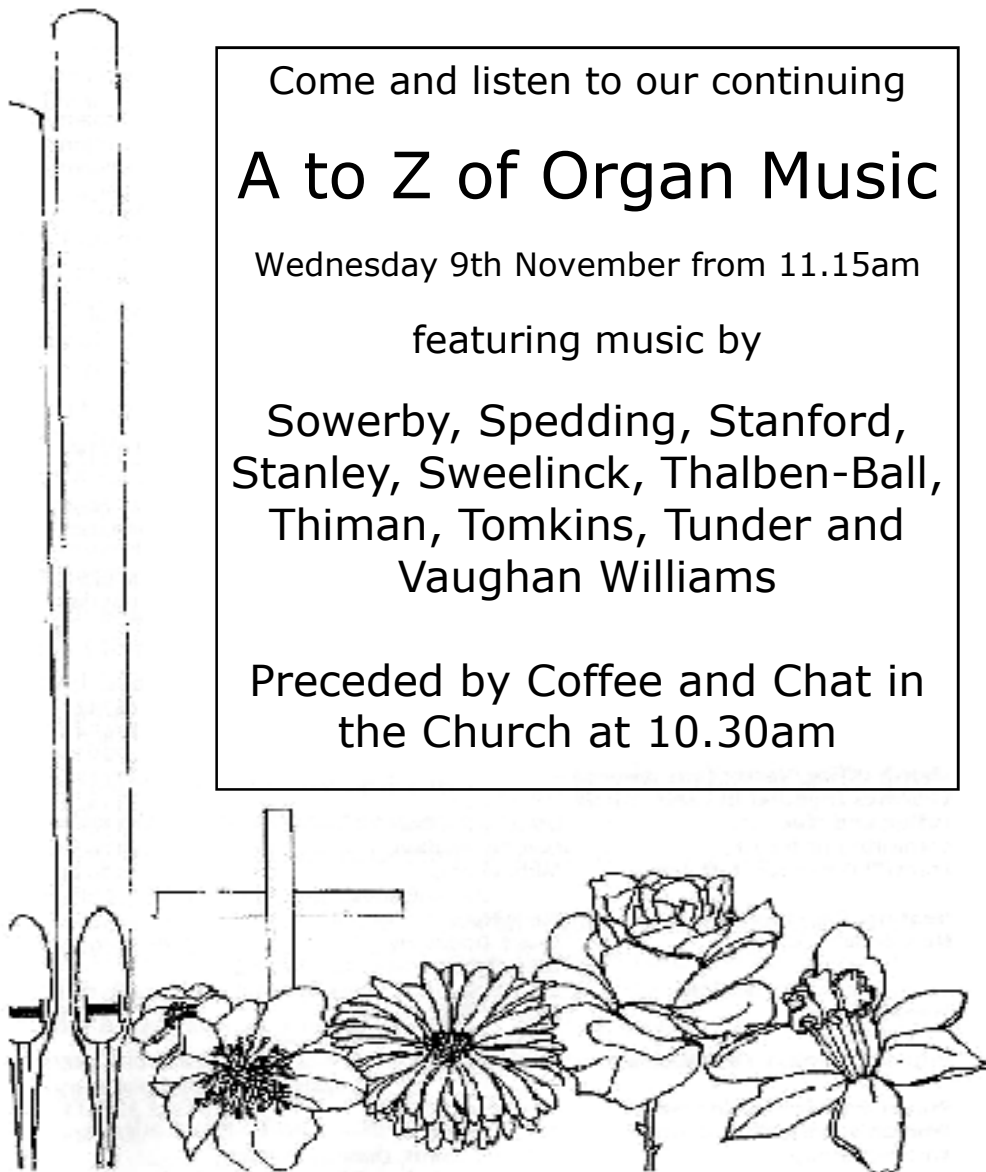
## A to Z of Organ Music

Wednesday 9th November from 11.15am

featuring music by

Sowerby, Spedding, Stanford,  
Stanley, Sweelinck, Thalben-Ball,  
Thiman, Tomkins, Tunder and  
Vaughan Williams

Preceded by Coffee and Chat in  
the Church at 10.30am



# Christ Church Diary - November



Wed	2nd	10.30am	Coffee and Chat: Garson's Farm
Sat	5th		Synod Together: time and venue tba
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion:</b>
			<b>Rev. Ernest Yu</b>
			<b>Organist: Gina Eason</b>
		6.30pm	Evening Service at LMC: The Minister
Wed	9th	10.30am 11.15am	Coffee and Chat in the Church A-Z of organ music (Sowerby, Spedding, Stanford, Stanley, Sweelinck, Thalben- Ball, Thiman, Tomkins, Tunder and Vaughan Williams).
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>10.30am</b> 6.30pm	<b>Parade Service: the Minister</b> Pastorate Service (5 Churches) at Cobham URC - Rev. Ian Howarth & Rev. Kim Plumpton
Thurs	17th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC
Sat	19th	2.00pm - 5.00pm	Surrey Fairtrade Craft Fair, Dorking Christian Centre
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>10.30am</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Rev. Donald Finnan</b> Holy Communion: Worship Group and Minister (jointly with LMC at Christ Church)
Tues	22nd	7.45pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat	26th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast Fellowship: Christ Church hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>The Minister</b>
<b>(Advent)</b>	<b>12noon</b>		<b>Church Meeting</b>
		6.30pm	New Fire at LMC
Mon	28th		Music Exams in the church Mon 28th to Fri 10th Dec
<b><u>December</u></b>			
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Rev. Barbara Pearson</b>
			<b>Organist: Gina Eason</b>
		6.30pm	Evening Service at LMC

# Christ Church Family News



I offer my apologies to **Jane Newmarks's** family and friends for giving her the wrong surname in October's newsletter.

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**Carol, Jay and Reuben Bristow** have moved to Beech House, Fortyfoot Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8RN. We wish them many happy years in their new home.

**Bernard Buckle** has been unwell for some time and has been unable to attend church. We hope that he will soon feel better and be able to come again on Sunday mornings.

We are sad to report the death of **Mary Morgan-Owen** on 24th September at the age of 101. We send our sincere condolences to Alison Wright, her daughter, and all the family. The funeral and celebration of her life took place at Christ Church on 3rd October in a packed church. (This missed October's newsletter).

**Lilian Parsons** has been in hospital after a fall, but we're glad to report that she is now back at home. We send her very best wishes for a return to good health.

Congratulations to **Alison and Julian Recordon** on the birth of their third child, Isla Poppy, on 5th October, a sister for Lara and Sebastian and a fifth grandchild for Jill and Richard Osmond.

We remember in our prayers all those who are unable to come to church, including **Averil Parkinson**, those undergoing hospital treatment or recovering from illness, and those who have been bereaved.

*Anne Cairns*



# THANK YOU

I should like to say "thank you" to all who sent greetings for my 90th birthday. We celebrated with a small family dinner and there have been two surprise tea-parties. The final planned celebration is a nostalgic trip. In 1951, when Bob had an exchange ministry with Justin Hartman, we made our first crossing of the Atlantic on the Mauretania, with four-year-old Timothy and one-year-old Lydia. During the last 50 years our family has sailed across the Atlantic a total of 37 times.

I decided it was time for another trip in conditions somewhat less primitive than the first crossing with a year-old baby and no laundry facilities on board! At the end of October Lydia and I will fly to America. After a few days in Connecticut we will meet Tim and Martin in New York City and the four of us will sail back here on the Queen Mary 2.

*Eunice Paul*



## A REMINDER

**All copy for the December issue should  
be with the editor by:**

**12th November**

# Pastorate Details

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

## **Leatherhead Methodist Church:**

[www.leatherheadmethodist.org](http://www.leatherheadmethodist.org)

Contact: Senior Steward -  
Carol Stoves 01372 377125

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

[www.chch.org.uk](http://www.chch.org.uk)

Contact: Local Church Leader -  
Mike Essex 01372 273472

## **Effingham Methodist Church:**

[www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk)

Contact: Senior Steward -  
Dave Putland 01372 454850

## **Cobham United Reformed Church:**

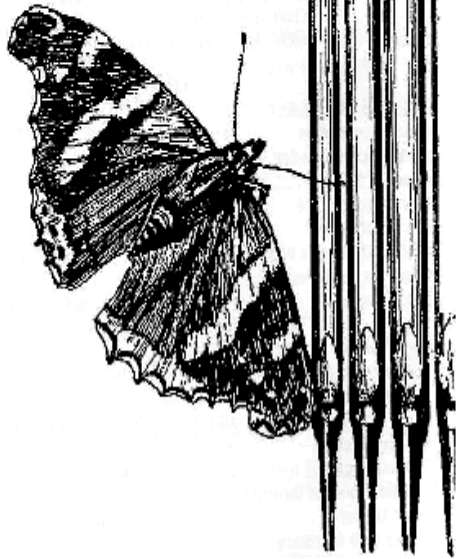
[www.cobhamurc.org.uk](http://www.cobhamurc.org.uk)

Contact: Church Secretary -  
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

## **Cobham Methodist Church:**

[www.cobhammethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.cobhammethodistchurch.org.uk)

Contact: Senior Steward -  
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



## **United Pastorate Ministers**

### **Rev. Ian Howarth**

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

### **E-mail:**

[ian@thehowarths.org.uk](mailto:ian@thehowarths.org.uk)

### **Website:**

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

### **Rev. Kim Plumpton**

38 Stoke Road  
Cobham  
KT11 3BD  
**Tel:** 01932 586988

### **E-mail:**

[kimp\\_822@hotmail.com](mailto:kimp_822@hotmail.com)