

the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

October 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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Editorial:

Thank you to those who have given me some feedback about the magazine. Most comments have confirmed what was originally thought across the Pastorate, that a joint magazine would be welcomed. Folk have liked being able to keep up with news of the other Churches, and the format has generally been thought to be good.

There have also been suggestions about how content might be improved. For example, that it would be useful to have the services listed for the first Sunday in the following month. As a consequence I have included these in this edition, although sometimes the Methodist three-monthly plan isn't published until after our publication date, so this might not be possible once in three months for the Methodist churches.

A view has also been expressed that the magazine is now too bulky and we should return to the former separate magazines. I'd be grateful to hear your views on this or any other topic. Maybe you could write an article? My contact details are below. Many thanks. *Editor*

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The Ministers Write...



From Rev. Ian Howarth

Dear Friends,

At this time of year we have been celebrating the goodness of God's creation in our harvest services. We see the wonder of the natural world around us easily in this beautiful area of the world, no more so than when the trees turn from green to a myriad of browns and oranges as we move into autumn. We are moved to thanksgiving at the fruitfulness of creation.

However, September has also seen us remembering the tenth anniversary of 9/11 and alongside the beauty of the world, parts of our country have been bombarded by gales and damaging storms.

Sometimes it is difficult to hold it all together. At times it is easy to see God in the world, at other times faced with human evil and natural disaster we wonder whether it is all wishful thinking.

There are no easy answers here, but in spite of the difficulties, I do think at root the universe is a wonder that points me to one who is beyond, to God who is at the heart of the creative process.

Why creation does not seem perfect to us is a mystery, but we believe not just in a God who is creator, but a God who comes to us in Jesus to share in the imperfections of this world, and to be with us through them. When I look at Jesus, he points me to a God who is love, who reaches out to us in times of joy and sorrow to bring us his new life.

The sorrow and pain of this world is real, but so is the joy and the wonder. I am convinced that following Jesus leads us through the sorrow and pain and opens up the joy and wonder that is at the heart of our creator God.

I pray that our churches may help us all on that journey, offering care in Jesus' name through the sorrow and pain, and leading us in the power of the Holy Spirit to God's joy and wonder.

Yours in Christ,

Ian

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

By now you will have gathered I enjoy a good movie every now and again and the odd spot of telly. I have come to realise over time that the visual is an important stimulus for me. So sitting down to a black and white movie on my day off is a pleasurable experience.

Made in 1960, 'Conspiracy of Hearts' is a film which involves Italian nuns smuggling Jewish children out of an internment camp near their convent. Nominated for a golden globe in 1961 this was well worth a watch. Well written, the script challenged the viewer to consider what it means to be a Christian in complex and uncertain times. "If we sit in the presence of evil and do nothing what are we?" came the reply to a nun as she struggled with the idea of smuggling children through the fence of the camp. "Surely this is not what God would want", suggests the reluctant nun.

Then when the nuns discover that it is Yom Kippur (a time of fasting in the Jewish tradition) and the children will not eat, even though they are half starved, the mother superior imports a Rabbi to lead a service in the convent to mark the end of the day. Many of the nuns are horrified proclaiming that God might strike them down. "What will God think of us?"

When the nuns are caught red-handed later on in the movie, the Italian commander must decide where his conscience lies as the mother superior and two loyal nuns face the firing squad in front of a German officer. The Italian commander cannot console himself that God would condone such an action and changes the events so that the nuns escape and he and all his men are forced to consider life on the run.

The searching question throughout the film is one which is thrust at the viewer time and time again: How should I respond? Most of us will not find ourselves in such traumatic circumstances but the question is a relevant one.

Many things have been said and done in the name of God and yet some of us might question where God's love is evident. Life is not black and white; sometimes when one person can justify their actions, another cannot condone it.

Discerning the heart of God is not always easy and it may be that it will make great demands upon us. Yet if we say that we are followers of Christ then we must make every effort to pray for a heart that will exemplify the will of God. Let us be who we say that we are. Seeking the heart of God is a lifelong process but we need to be seeking it earnestly.

With every blessing

Kim

Methodists face problems in Fiji

The Fijian government has banned all Methodist Church meetings except for Sunday worship in an unprecedented crackdown on religious freedom. This includes house groups, women's prayer fellowship, choir practice, mid-week communion and youth fellowship, as well as the Church's governance meetings. All Methodist ministers are also forbidden from leaving the country for any meeting.

The Church is responding with prayer and fasting. The Methodist Church is the largest faith group in Fiji and the only group to receive this treatment by the Government.

"We are gravely concerned about how this situation is developing," said Michael King, World Church Relationships Team Leader for the Methodist Church in Britain. "Our brothers and sisters in Fiji are asking us to keep them in our prayers."

Parish Pump





The URC's campaign of radical welcome

Time for you to pray and decide

Lucy Berry, campaign advocate, looks in more details at the URC's campaign of radical welcome that was introduced at all 13 URC synod meetings in March 2011.

As you may know, an initiative was announced at your URC Spring synod meeting which is like no other. Some people believe it's the most important thing to happen since the formation of the URC in 1972. The Revd. Roberta Rominger, general secretary of the URC, certainly believes it to be one of the most significant things in which she's been involved in the course of her ministry. It's a chance for all URC congregations to change the way "Church" is seen to behave to all those who walk through their doors; and to develop and transform the life of their individual churches in the process. Every URC congregation in Britain is being invited to think and pray long and carefully about being part of it.

What's it all about?

One of the things about Jesus which made Him so extraordinary was his love and open welcome for those whom the Pharisees and Sadducees saw as unclean. Jesus never turned anyone away. And yet today people of all kinds know or suspect that they won't get a welcome in many churches. So we've developed an evangelism campaign of radical welcome, backed by a powerful advertising campaign, which will tell people that there are churches where they will find a proper welcome; URC churches (including LEPs) where anyone will be welcomed, whoever they are. Such a commitment to love will require your own personal discerning prayer, as well as the reflection and deep preparation of your congregation. But we believe that this radically welcoming approach will help the spiritual lives of many, many people who currently feel excluded from the love of God. And, by offering our own love, we believe it will help us too.

What happens next?

The most important thing is to make sure that you take this opportunity seriously. It is a very big thing. It isn't a study programme or a reading project. It is about evangelism and congregational development which will support your church's confidence in offering love to women and men who may well feel that the church has let them down - or is not for people like them. The process is not a complicated one; although the journey may well be profound.

The URC's campaign of radical welcome

Here's how it works

There are three clear steps on the journey towards becoming a campaign church. These are:

- a. Exploration: This is the stage when interested churches can find out more detail about the preparation process, the theology of the campaign, the advertising messages that will be unveiled to the public at next year's launch, and other issues which surround radical welcome. To do this fully churches will need to contact Denese Chikwendu on 0207 691 9864 or denese.chikwendu@urc.org.uk and ask for an introductory pack.
- b. Opt-in: This is when your congregation has worked through the exploratory material provided in the introductory pack and feels ready to start the next stage of the journey towards becoming a campaign church. You do this by registering with Denese Chikwendu and asking for a companion. Once your companion arrives you can begin the deeper preparatory conversations, discussions and workshops which are needed to familiarise your church with the challenges you will encounter and strategies you will need to be consistent and confident in the radical welcome offered by your church.
- c. Covenant: This is when your congregation and your companion feel the time is right for you to become registered as a campaign church - and to be named as such on the campaign website. You will need to let Denese Chikwendu know of your covenant and you may wish to hold a church service celebrating this - and pledging your commitment to radical welcome to God.

We estimate that this process from exploring to covenanting will take at least four months, ideally, all this needs to happen by spring 2012 so that your church can get the fullest benefit from the rollout of national advertising which will begin in March 2012.

Why you?

You belong to a tradition which says we're "called to be God's people, transformed by the Gospel, making a difference for Christ's sake". The URC is committed to transformation, to inclusivity and to changing things that are wrong or destructive. No wonder that this is being launched by the United Reformed Church. It's the most recent expression of all that makes us who we are.

Still got questions? Contact: Lucy Berry

T: 07715 104 361

E: lucy.berry@urcorg.uk

To explore the process in more detail, please contact

Denese Chikwendu on

T: 020 7691 9864

E: denese.chikwendu@urcorg.uk



Cobham

Methodist Church



Cobham Methodist Diary - October

Sun	2nd	11.00am	David Cappitt & James Cameron
Thurs	6th	2.00pm & 7.30pm	Bible Study "Images of God" at Cobham URC
Sat	8th	10.00am 2.00pm	Time 4 You Platinum Service
Sun	9th	11.00am	Clair Fisher
		6.30pm	United Pastorate Service at Effingham
Wed	12th	8.00pm	House Fellowship at the Manse
Thurs	13th	2.00pm & 7.30pm	Bible Study "Images of God" at Cobham URC
Fri	14th	4.30pm	CYC at St Mary's
Sat	15th	10.30am	Lecture by Rev. Dr Janet Tollington at Cobham URC, followed by lunch
		7.30pm	Concert (Beethoven and Mozart) at St Andrew's Cobham in aid of CUP
Sun	16th	11.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - Harvest Festival with Holy Communion, followed by lunch
Tues	18th	7.30pm	Church Council meeting
Thurs	20th	2.00pm & 7.30pm	Bible Study "Images of God" at Cobham URC
Sun	23rd	11.00am	Lavinia Hicks
Sun	30th	11.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton (jointly with Cobham URC at CMC)
November			
Sun	6th	11.00am	Angie Choat
		6.30pm	United Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship

Time 4 You?

Well the answer to this is YES...

On Saturday 10th September I received a reply from Rev. Leo Osborn (President of the Methodist Conference) to a letter I had sent in August. (for Rhonda's letter, see last month's Link - Ed)

Here is an extract from his reply:

"I was delighted to hear about Time 4 You and especially, of course, that it has developed from a very small congregation. The reality is that most of our churches are smaller but some like yours are doing amazing things! I soon realised as a District Chair that there was little point in talking about what churches with 400 or so members were doing - unless it was in terms of inspiring - because the danger was that smaller churches would feel even more discouraged than they already were because they could not do such things.

One of my colleagues here uses the phrase "grow where you are planted", which suggests to me that each situation is different and we are faithful in our own particular field. You clearly are doing that and I hope as I tell your story - if that's OK - it will encourage other smaller churches that they still have a work to do for God."

Rhonda Frost



TIME 4 YOU
'A place and space for You'

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

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

01932 423100

Next "Time 4 You" - Saturday 8th October, 10.00am - 12noon

For One Night Only



Ludwig Van Beethoven

Sunday 16th October

7.30pm

St. Andrew's Parish Church, Cobham

International Concert Pianist

Alberto Portugheis

&

International Concert Violinist

Adrian Justus

Performing

Beethoven Sonatas No's 8 & 5 (Spring)

and Mozart Sonata in B flat K.454

Admission at Door -

Suggested minimum donation of £8 per person

All Proceeds to Cobham Uganda Partnership for the

Gulu Primary Teachers Training College

For further details, or to reserve seats, contact 01932 863128



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary - October



Sun	2nd	9.00am 10.30am	Early Bird Service led by Jane Allen Ian Stewart
Sun	9th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion United Pastorate Service at Effingham Methodist Church
Sun	16th	10.30am	Roy Bones
Sun	23rd	10.30am	Rev. Ian Howarth/Gift Day Service
Sun	30th	11.00am	United Service at Cobham Methodist Church - Rev. Kim Plumpton
November			
Sun	6th	10.30am	Sydney Shore

Prayers at the Manse
at 9.30am on
Wednesdays: 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
October

Cobham URC Events - October

Sun	2nd	3.00pm to 6.00pm	Special Needs Group
Tues	4th	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting
Thurs	6th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Old Windsor Castle, Bookham
Fri	14th	4.30pm to 6.30pm	CYC meets at St Mary's Church
Sat	15th	10.30am	Old Testament Study by Rev. Janet Tollington (Cambridge Lecturer) followed by lunch. <i>(See next page for details)</i>
Tues	18th	8.00pm	Evening House Group
Fri	21st	3.00pm	T @ 3 at church
Thurs	27th	10.30am	Morning House Group

Bible Study (Images of God)...

... with Rev. Kim on Thursdays 6th, 13th, 20th October from 2.00pm to 3.30pm and from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at the Church. This will continue on 3rd and 10th November.



Introduction to the
Old Testament
by
Revd Dr Janet Tollington
Lecturer at Westminster
College Cambridge

Date:
15th October

Time:
10:30-12:30
Followed by
Lunch

Venue:
Cobham United
Reformed
Church
Stoke Road
KT11 3BD



This a wonderful opportunity to explore the Old Testament. Revd Dr Janet Tollington is a lecturer at Westminster College, Cambridge where she lectures in Old Testament Studies and Hebrew. Come along and enjoy an engaging morning, followed by lunch. There is no cost but donations towards the morning are welcome.

Contact details: 01932 586988 or
e-mail: kimp_822@hotmail.com



The
United
Reformed
Church

commitment for life - Update

"Long term development is about seeing the bigger picture and being committed till the end."

This is what Commitment For Life is about and lots of activities are marked each year (together with Christian Aid and the World Development Movement) to pursue these developments - Faith and Justice; Helping the poor and marginalised people all over the world. As usual, lots of campaigns are on-going with information available on the Commitment For Life website which is cforl.org.uk

This year, the question of making choices come into focus as people in the UK are having to start making choices that they may not have needed to make a few years ago. Is this making us aware of the lack of choices others have in the world? Do we think about what we buy, e.g., do we consider Fairtrade, local and ethically sourced products and the implications of these choices? For many in developing countries, choices are more stark, often between life or death and health or education. By choosing Christ, we accept the Christian way of living which can be difficult and confusing but God looks at the heart, the choices and the efforts we make. As churches and followers of Christ, we are called to engage with the scheme in a positive way thus making a difference to those who need our help.

This year celebrates 20 years of Commitment For Life and the organisation is immensely grateful for the contributions made through the generosity and support of the churches involved with it. The partnership has helped to fund its critical work and made a profound difference to the lives of many men, women and children living in poverty. It is hoped that church members will continue to be motivated to help contribute and support the organisation so that more lives will improve.

The theme for One World Week this year is 'LIVING FOR ONE WORLD'. This involves valuing and understanding the world and those who live in it.

It takes place from 23rd - 30th October 2011 and involves three main focuses:

- Living for the planet - which considers how we treat the world in which we live and the impact we make on the environment.
- Living for its people - where we realise that our actions can have profound effects on others, e.g. through food distribution, wars, etc.
- Living and acting for change - as in the choices we make in our life styles.

By acting together, we can activate collective power to influence change towards a fairer and more environmentally sustainable world. Lots of activities take place at this time in various communities. To find out more, please go to oneworldweek.org website.

Rachael Nanna



Effingham

Methodist Church

Effingham Methodist Diary - October



Sat	1st	10.00am - 11.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall
Sun	2nd	10.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Bible Harvest
Sun	9th	10.00am 6.30pm	Rev. Val Ogden United Pastorate Service at Effingham
Mon	10th	7.30pm	for 8.00pm, KJB film - Catholic Church Hall
Tues	11th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	12th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thur	13th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
Sun	16th	10.00am	John Oborn
Fri	21st	10.00am - 4.00pm	History of the Bible in English Exhibition
Sat	22nd	10.00am - 4.00pm 7.30pm	History of the Bible in English Exhibition Wycliffe Bible Translators - talk by Ann Long
Sun	23rd	10.00am	Freddie Jenkins & Ann Long
Tues	25th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	26th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thur	27th	2.00pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
Sun	30th	10.00am	Ecumenical Service at All Saints
November			
Sun	6th	10.00am 6.30pm	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion United Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship



Dates to celebrate this month

Happy Birthday to Margaret Warner on 27th and to John Rogers who celebrates his 80th on 30th.

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

Dates for your diaries

Churches Together in Effingham & Little Bookham are holding the first **Café Church**, an opportunity to experience alternative worship, at King George V Hall on Saturday 1st October from 10.00am -11.00am. Coffee & croissants & food for thought.



We celebrate our **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 2nd October with Kim. All contributions gratefully received, including bibles, as it's a **Bible Harvest** because this is the *Year of the Bible*. We'll be decorating the chapel on Friday/Saturday, so do come and help.

Advance Notice -

"BURNS NIGHT"



We are planning a Burns Night next year in Effingham. Please put the date in your diary now for a splendid Scottish evening. It will be on 21st January in the King George V Hall, Effingham.

More details in due course.



October is Bible Month

We're celebrating the *400th Anniversary of the KJB*, starting with a **Bible Harvest Festival** on 2nd with **Rev. Kim Plumpton**.

Then on **Monday 10th at Effingham's Catholic Church Hall** in Lower Road, at 7.30 for 8.00pm, we're screening a film "**KJB - the book that changed the World**", a swashbuckling saga of a Scottish King, son of Mary, Queen of Scots, but steeped in Biblical and Calvinist thought, ushered to the English throne and a church divided by doctrinal and political intrigue. Against this turbulent background, the idea for a new and scholarly translation of the Bible was hatched. It's brilliantly narrated by **John Rhys-Davies** (Indiana Jones films) and under the masterful direction of **Norman Stone ('Shadowlands')**, 'KJB' never flags as it unfolds this gripping story. If you missed seeing this on the *History Channel* earlier in the year, why not come and join us.

Our Chapel will be open from 10.00am - 4.00pm for an exhibition about "**How we got the Bible in English**" on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd.

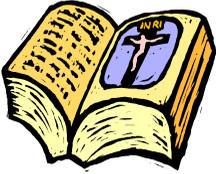
Refreshments will be available so if you can talk to visitors or help with refreshments we'd be very grateful! Ask Pat or Janet.

But we need your help for a display of bibles! Do you have a family bible? An interesting translation? An old illustrated bible? A bible in another language? A really modern bible? Old hymn book or Methodist service book? Pilgrim's Progress or devotional books?

What's your favourite bible verse and why ? Please email me at theputlands@aol.com

On **Saturday 22nd October** at 7.30pm, **Ann Long**, an "old friend" of Freddie's from *Wycliffe Bible Translators*, will give a talk in the Chapel about her work in Africa.

AJP



News from Wycliffe Bible Translators

The rate of progress in Bible translation is greater today than at any point in history. Since 1999, there has been a huge increase in the number of translation programmes. In fact a new project starts every five days! One of the key factors in this increased pace is so many groups are now working together towards the same goal, for God's story to be available in every language in the world by 2025. [Wycliffe Global Alliance](#) is a global partnership of people from many nations who want to see the world transformed by God's power and love.

Their news website: www.thewordislife.net, is packed full of stories, prayer items and information about what God is doing through Bible translation worldwide. **How many languages are there?** There are almost 6,900 living languages in the world. **Who has God's Word in their language?** Over 2,500 language groups have at least some of the Bible in their language. **Who doesn't have God's Word available in their language?** Today about 340 million people speaking 2078 languages do not have any of the Bible available in their own language, nor do they have any work in progress. **What work is already in progress in minority language communities?** There are more than 2,025 active translation projects. Audio and video Scripture production is in progress in hundreds of languages. Many of the language communities are also being helped through compassionate service including health care and education, multilingual education, and community development.

What else needs to happen? Scripture translation still needs to begin in more than 2,078 languages before these communities can have access to God's Word in their language in any format. Most of the language communities who still need God's Word are oral cultures and need Scripture in multiple formats. Others are Deaf language communities. All of them still need to see God's message of hope lived out among them. **Who's doing something about the need?** People like you. People in organisations, in communities and families around the world. This is not the job of one group of people, but of many people serving together with their unique skills and abilities. Making God's Word accessible to all language communities is a part of God's mission to restore the world.



Just Research or Obsession ?

Oh dear! It does seem rather OTT now, but we just thought of it as research. You see Dave and I like history, and for the past few months we've enjoyed visiting a number of exhibitions about the bible, because we wanted to get ideas. The *King James Bible Trust* website has a list of events happening for this 400th Anniversary year, and it's constantly updating. We missed out on the talk by *Melvyn Bragg* at Hampton Court, and we're not going to Bradford Cathedral in October because he's talking mainly about the worldwide impact of the KJV, and we're more interested in how we eventually got the bible in English. So we've been to a lot of exhibitions up and down the country: a United Reformed Church in Exmouth, a bible-themed church fete near Brighton, Guildford museum, the Bodleian Library, a Victorian book-collector's library at a stately home, a chained bible in a tiny wattle & daub church in Shropshire, Winchester and Hereford Cathedrals, St. Martin's Church in East Horsley and lastly our own St. Martin's, Dorking.

We've seen a wonderful array of bibles and translations: the earliest is the *Caedmon manuscript* at the Bodleian which dates from about 900AD. Also **Anne Boleyn's Tyndale** New Testament, which was beautiful, but so sad. It's about six inches thick, and only three inches wide. Not easy to hide in a pocket! **The Winchester Bible**, a wonderful example of an illuminated bible hand-written in Latin, in four huge volumes held in glass cases in the library. Hereford Cathedral has an elaborately decorated "**Wycliffite**" bible in their chained library. We've seen most of the early printed translations including several original *KJV* bibles from 1611, a Great bible, weighing a whopping 75lbs, a rare *Matthew* bible, and a *Martin Luther* translation in German of course. It's addictive! We've gathered lots of ideas, bought lots and lots of books of course, and several DVDs! Now will anyone want to come to our bible exhibition or film show?

Perhaps we're all a bit smug and take the bible for granted these days. There's a copy beside our beds, under the seat in church, in a drawer at our B&B. But what if it were suddenly banned? Think of Fiji! Would you fight for it, die for it? Tyndale did, John Rogers did, and thousands more. Please come and hear their story.

AJP

(Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd, 10.00am - 4.00pm)

Tuesday Teas - "Our Day Out" to Worthing



The Tuesday Teas group decided that they would like to visit the seaside this year for a day's outing, and chose Worthing again. By special arrangement we were able to use the Horsley Community Bus, which together with two cars meant that 20 of us headed for the seaside. The first drop off point was the pier where some headed for a good cup of coffee whilst others strolled down the length of the pier (and back!) passing a number of unsuccessful fishermen – how do they manage to sit for so long without a bite? We have no time to stand and stare but only fish...

After a happy and refreshed hour we headed for the excellent pub we had used last year, The Rose and Crown, in West Worthing, who do a magnificent pensioners' lunch for £3.95 with a choice of either fish and chips, cottage pie or the roast of the day, all excellent in quality and quantity. This is a free bit of publicity for the pub who are well known locally there, but if anyone makes a trip to Worthing it is definitely worth a visit – excellent value for money and good service too.

Around the corner the seaside beckoned, so some walked along the front, while a few headed for the shops, before we all headed for home. The weather could have been better, but at least it didn't rain.

Our special thanks are due to Chris Tailby who drove the Horsley Community Bus for us, Pat Steer and my other half who both drove cars in addition. We hope to manage another half day's outing somewhere in the Autumn.

Tuesday Teas is open to anyone in and around the villages and meets on a fortnightly basis, from 2.30pm until 4.00pm in the Catholic Hall, Lower Road. This is a Churches Together initiative with volunteers from the churches. The tea, cake and chat is splendid with Eileen, a regular, playing the piano for us as an additional treat. The next Tuesday Teas will be on Tuesdays 4th & 18th October and fortnightly thereafter – just come along.

For more information call Gill or Keith Walker on 01372 457987.



Mission Aviation Fellowship

The Link has a wider circulation than one would suppose: following my last article in the June edition, appealing for POSTCARDS for resale to collectors by Rev. Ken Thom of Sevenoaks URC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), we had a surprise telephone call from an elderly couple of members of Leatherhead Parish Church. They had a lot of postcards to offer if we could collect them from their home. So we did: ...a lot? In fact, it turned out they had cleared out fifty years of memories, so no fewer than 879 postcards! - many of them in mint condition, many from UK with local scenes and pictures of British Churches and Cathedrals, many from Israel (some with the insignia of each of the twelve Tribes), birds and flowers from European countries, and one I couldn't even place - from Guatemala!

Amazingly, the couple had a relation who had worked as an Engineer for MAF in Chad, hence their wish to support the cause. It remains a mystery how they had come upon 'The Link' as members of St. Mary's, so we are asking our Editor to ensure that henceforward the Parish Church gets sent a regular copy. Since we at Effingham started collecting postcards for Rev. Ken Thom, in May 2000, we have now sent him a total of 5,846 for his resale. He has already made about £8,000 so far this year and hopes to have gathered £10,000 from his collectors by the year end, so this will have helped him on his way!

Any more to come??

John Rogers

Editor's note: Mystery solved, John. The Uniting Churches in Leatherhead (Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed) have been in covenant for some years now and work closely together through our Uniting Churches Council. One consequence has been the sharing of magazines; St. Mary's gets a few copies of the Link, while LMC and Christ Church receive a few copies of the Parish Magazine. In this way, our friends at St. Mary's have obviously picked up a copy of the Link in the Parish Church and responded to John's request for postcards.

How can we help too? Well, the MAF has been the Methodist Women's Network (now Methodist Women in Britain) chosen charity for the past year and the Circuit are holding a Circuit Service for the charity at LMC on Sunday 6th November at 6.30pm. If you'd like to help the MAF, you will be most welcome at this Service. In addition, please save your postcards, new or used, and send them to John Rogers at Effingham Methodist Church. (I can give you details of how to do this, or send them to me and I will pass them on).

Editor

Leatherhead Pages

Soul Survivor 2011

A group of young people from our Cell Group in Leatherhead camped at Soul Survivor week B at the Royal Bath & West Showground in Somerset. Soul Survivor is where a group of 12,000 young people come together to worship God. It has been running for nearly 20 years.

A range of seminars we all enjoyed included: 'Healing instead of hurting', 'What next?', 'Dating dilemmas' and 'Our journey with Jesus'. There were also lots of different activities, including: music, gigs, sports, dance and the 'Toolshed' with a variety of stalls and exhibits.

We all attended a main meeting together twice a day where we all met, praised God and prayed for each other. Some people were touched and healed by God. Throughout the duration of our time at Soul Survivor, 1056 people gave their lives to God.

Many amazing speakers spoke and we related to several of the talks. The speakers included: Danielle Strickland – a lady from America who gave a hilarious but emotional talk and Scott "Sanga" Samways – a funny guy from Australia who spoke about his job as Hillsong Youth Pastor.

We worshipped in many ways including singing, praying, talking and dancing.

We want to say a big thank you to our amazing youth leaders (Jay, Carol & Lucie).

Bring on Soul Survivor 2012!

*Nicola Artiss, Holly Brookes, Aila Diffey, Freya Diffey,
Karen Fallon, Emily Friend, Hannah Tearall*

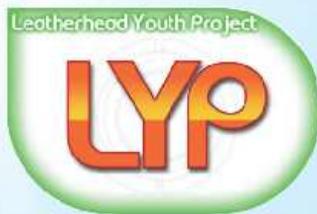


Next Messy Church:

Thursday 20th October,
3.30pm to 5.30pm at



Leatherhead Youth Project



BFree is open every day after school

Weekly Triumph cell group for Year 7+

Contact jay@leatherheadyouthproject.com for more details

Sunday 9 October Triumph AM

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

Sunday 9 October

KNOW Forgiveness?

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

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

Halfterm Fun:

Triumph AM Light Party

Cell group retreat to Worth Abbey

www.leatherheadyouthproject.com

Leatherhead Night Hostel

now **Leather**HEAD START

When the hostel was set up during the 1980s by the churches in the area, it was for short stay homeless people, but over the years its function has changed. Now it is mainly younger people who have come to a crisis in their lives, which has resulted in their becoming homeless, who seem to need it more. The hostel staff have changed their method of working with the residents, and now they are staying for longer periods while the staff try to help them to come to terms with their problems, perhaps find a suitable job, and more permanent accommodation.

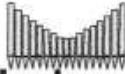
The house which Mole Valley District Council provided for the hostel's use was no longer suitable, as it consisted of three rooms for four residents sleeping in two-tier bunks; alright for a short stay, but not very "homely". Fortunately when MVDC gave

up all their stock to Housing Associations, 3 Church Road was taken over by Raven Housing Association, and it has now been completely refurbished and made suitable for its present day occupants. I look forward to seeing the transformation!

However, the Hostel's needs at Harvest Festival time are as great as ever, and they hope that the churches will continue to drop off tinned and packaged goods as they always have, and to help with tin rattling on 8th October in Leatherhead, Ashted, Fetcham and Bookham.



Freddie Jenkins



Antiphonia

the Leatherhead chamber choir sings music

For Peace

by Schütz, Bach, Mendelssohn, Murrill,
Vaughan Williams, Colin Mawby,
Richard Rodney Bennett and John Rutter

GINA EASON organ, piano
ANTHONY CAIRNS conductor
plus solo and duet items

7.30pm Saturday 29 October 2011

at Christ Church, Epsom Road

Programmes at the door £8 (students £3)
in aid of LeatherHEAD START (Night Hostel)



Leatherhead Parish Church...

...will be holding their

Annual Autumn Market on

Saturday 15th October

This will take place in the Parish Hall
between 10.30am - 3.00pm.

Light refreshments, and various stalls with
eye catching goodies.

Entrance is £1 to include one cup of tea/coffee.

Accompanied children free.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

SIMPLY SINGING with

Leatherhead Choral Society!

Saturday 15th October

from 2.00pm - 4.30 pm

at Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road, KT22 8AY

As part of the Mole Valley Arts Alive Festival, Leatherhead Choral Society is hosting a light-hearted afternoon of singing for all ages. This event, led by Ian Assersohn, the choir's Musical Director, is open to all those who enjoy singing, or think they might!

Children and adults will rehearse separately and come together at the end to entertain each other.

Admission is FREE. Please telephone to book your place.

Box Office and information: 0208 337 3809



“Mission:Rescue” - Holiday Club

It will seem a long time ago, by the time this is published – but that is the nature of print deadlines! Last August some 85 children and young people joined us for the *Mission:Rescue* Holiday Club. As “secret agents” for the week, we cracked codes, wore silly disguises, made gadgets, tried out weird communication devices and generally had a load of undercover fun. And, at Bfree, the gunge-ing of leaders was a special moment for everyone!!

A highlight for me was the deepening relationship that we have with the children who come. Many of them are now involved in other activities – especially Messy Church and Triumph AM – and it’s great to see them enjoying exploring their faith. The story of Moses was the Biblical thread running through the week, and we heard how he was “sent undercover” into Pharaoh’s palace and given the mission to rescue God’s people. And of course we celebrated that Jesus extended that “rescue plan” to every man, woman and child.

Many thanks to the small army of people who got involved in *Mission:Rescue* and made it all happen. It is a testament to the increasingly close relations between our churches that the team blends so well together and gets on with the business of caring for the children and celebrating God’s love.

Jane Smith

Messy Church – can you help?

Messy Church is coming up to its first birthday and is going from strength to strength. We are building a community of families and friends who are really enjoying this child-friendly way of exploring faith. There are regularly 40-50 children present – plus the parents, carers and grandparents who come along to enjoy the fun.

With this number of people, there is a lot of work to do! We could do with some more help – with the children and behind the scenes. **PLEASE** let us know if you could help with any of the following:

- Shifting chairs and tables (1:20-2:30pm and/or 5:30-6:30pm);
- Sweeping, mopping and hoovering (5:30-6:30pm);
- Acting as a “host” for the adults who come with their children – mingling, chatting and making them feel at home (3:30-5:30pm);
- Helping at a craft table - sitting and chatting to the children, showing them what to do and giving them a hand (3:30-5:30pm);
- Preparing crafts in advance – e.g. cutting out card or paper into shapes ready for use.

We meet on the third Thursday of the month. Helpers need not be available every month – anything is better than nothing! Please contact Jane Smith on 07834 051046 or janevcw@googlemail.com.



Surrey Fairtrade County Campaign

There are eleven towns in Surrey, including Leatherhead, which have achieved Fairtrade Town Status. The Surrey Fairtrade Steering Group is now working to gain Fairtrade County Status.

Five goals must be reached for the Fairtrade Foundation to grant this: County Council support, a proportion of supportive businesses, schools, and churches, and an increased awareness of Fairtrade issues reflected in support by the general public and local media. The Steering Group are working towards these goals, and to help raise awareness are organising a **Fairtrade Christmas Craft Fair**. This will be held on **Saturday 19th November** from **2.00pm to 5.00pm** in the **Dorking Christian Centre**.

Tables have been booked by a number of Fairtrade charities selling leather goods, soapstone carvings, handmade cards, beads, and other gifts including Traidcraft and Tearcraft goods. There will be a cookery competition, and homemade preserves and cakes stalls (using Fairtrade ingredients, of course).

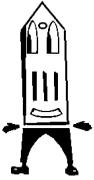
St Mary & St Nicholas is a Fairtrade church, and I am hoping to see at least some of our congregation in Dorking on 19 November. It will be an excellent opportunity to do some Christmas shopping with an ethical bias. I will be happy to give you more information, and if you know anyone who would like to take a stall (only £5) do let me know.

Margaret Jones (806853)

Editor's Note:

Thank you, Margaret, for this piece about the Surrey Fairtrade County Campaign and the Christmas Craft Fair at Dorking. I would encourage those in our Pastorate congregations to do some Christmas shopping at the Craft Fair as well. You mention that the Parish Church is a Fairtrade church, and you'll be pleased to know that both LMC and Christ Church are also signed up.

Traidcraft stalls support our commitment to Fair Trade - see Jill & Richard Osmond's article in last month's Link about the Traidcraft stall at Christ Church, and Barbara Howarth's plea for help in re-establishing and running the Traidcraft stall at LMC on page 30 of this issue.



Leatherhead

Methodist Church



Diary - October



Sun	2nd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion Bible series: 'A multitude of Approaches' Rev. Val Ogden
Sun	9th	10.30am 6.30pm	Angie Choat United Pastorate Service at Effingham
Sun	16th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion, jointly with Christ Church at LMC
Mon	17th	8.00pm	Church Council
Tues	18th	7.30pm	Bible Study - "A Multitude of Approaches"
Wed	19th	2.30pm 7.30pm	Pastoral Visitors' Meeting Wednesday House Fellowship
Thurs	20th	3.30pm	Messy Church
Sat	22nd	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at LMC (Joe Crome - 'Mole Valley Youth Mentoring Scheme')
Sun	23rd	10.30am 6.30pm	Juliet Fuller New Fire - Rev. Ian Howarth
Sun	30th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Paul Cockburn Leatherhead Uniting Churches Service at St Mary & St Nicholas Parish Church
November			
Sun	6th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ian Howarth with Holy Communion Bible series: 'What is the Bible to make of you?' Circuit Service at LMC in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship

LMC Family News



Congratulations to...

...our young people on their achievements in this year's A Level and GCSE examinations

Our thoughts and prayers are with...

...the Cameron family following Jo's recent road accident.



Traidcraft at Leatherhead Methodist Church

LMC has been a great supporter of all things Fair Trade for many years, and for this reason I was sorry to have to have a year away from supplying your tea, coffee, chocolate, Christmas cards and all sorts of other things. This was because a) I was studying for a professional qualification, and b) Mark's respite care has changed so that I rarely get to church on Sundays. But I have never stopped supporting Fair Trade in other ways and I would like to re-launch the Methodist stall.

So now I must ask for some help to share the work and the fun. At Greenbelt Festival this year I heard an inspiring speech from the chief executive of Traidcraft, Paul Chandler, describing the future plans the organisation is forming to extend its reach to more people and more trade opportunities. He was able to answer some challenging questions from the audience, from "Why can't you supply apple juice in litre boxes?" to "How can you justify exploring the use of Palm Oil in fair trade products?". He is so proud of the organisation's record of providing security through real work in many parts of the world.

Traidcraft has recently produced its Strategic Plan for 2011-2014 for which the aim is: "A world freed from the scandal of poverty, where trade is just and people and communities can flourish". Traidcraft is an organisation that provides opportunities to help people improve their lives, by challenging the rules of trade, pioneering new areas of fair and ethical trade and building support for trade justice. These are the tenets of its new plan, and we can help in our own small way.

So if you feel you could help me set up and run a stall, particularly in the run-up to Christmas, or have any other ideas to promote Fair Trade in our own community please do contact me.

Barbara Howarth

Problems in the Garden

We are being spied upon! No, we do not have noisy neighbours, just a cheeky robin! We can go in and out of the garden to pick beans or water plants in the greenhouse or put the washing on the line, and he is nowhere to be seen. But the moment Denis does a bit of tidying up involving digging or weeding, the little fellow is there, waiting to see what tasty bits are unearthed. He is not shy either. He waits not yards, but inches away. I was sweeping up bits that the wind had blown into the corners just outside the back door. And there he was, so close he could have been swept up with the rubbish! He comes the moment I appear with the bag of birdseed to fill the feeder that hangs on the plum tree. He seems to know I am going to use the seat of the garden bench to put the bag on, and sits waiting on the back of it. I am sure if I left the bag open, he would help himself. As it is, he has to wait until I throw a special handful on to the grass.

Without a garden I would miss the birdlife tremendously. Not only do they provide a joyous dawn chorus – although in the summer it's sometimes far too early – but their antics are equally pleasurable. We have a whole flock of hedge sparrows. They seem to have a queuing system for feeding. While some feed, others wait in the plum tree, while others peep out from the hedge. That hedge will never be a fussy gardener's pride and joy. The birds are in and out all the time and have made 'windows' to look out from – the leaves stand no chance!

This year we have had jackdaws in the garden. Most years they have kept their distance on next door's chimney but this last spring they bred, and brought the youngsters down into the garden. They simply love scraps of meat, and are very fond of potatoes. They are not fussy if they are roasted, chipped or plain boiled, they all go. Usually they have to fight for supremacy around the scraps – magpies are just as keen.

This is the first time for some years that we have seen starlings. At the moment, every late afternoon they sit on the ridge of the roof of the bungalow next door eyeing the grapes. They seem to know exactly when they are ripe and can strip the vine in a matter of hours!

Gardens are not hard work all the time. There is a lot of pleasure too, when we can simply sit back and listen.

Jean Plant

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

Come and listen to our continuing

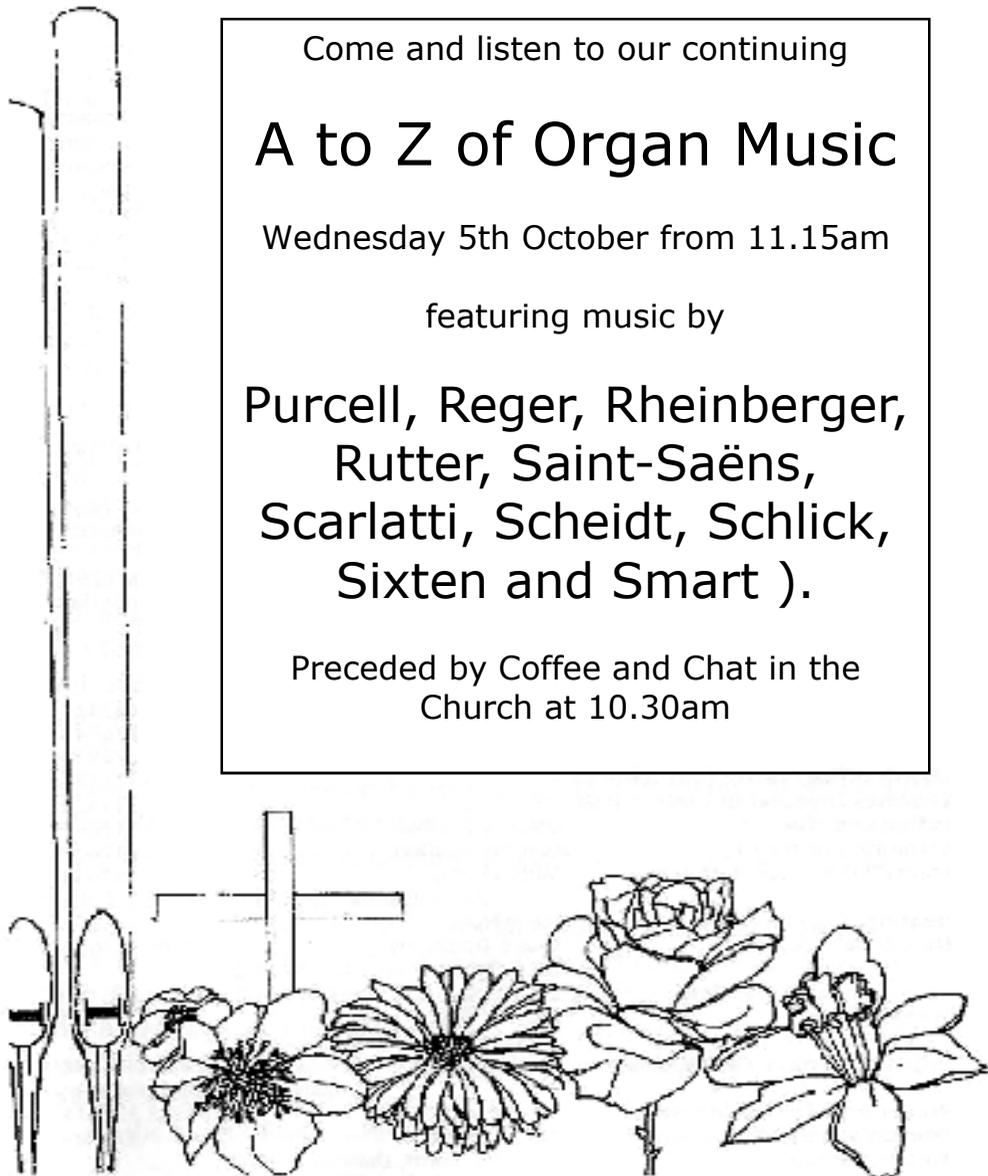
A to Z of Organ Music

Wednesday 5th October from 11.15am

featuring music by

Purcell, Reger, Rheinberger,
Rutter, Saint-Saëns,
Scarlatti, Scheidt, Schlick,
Sixten and Smart).

Preceded by Coffee and Chat in the
Church at 10.30am



Christ Church Diary - October



Sun	2nd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Brian Treharne Organist: Gina Eason Evening Service at LMC: The Minister
Wed	5th	10.30am 11.15am	Coffee and Chat in the Church A-Z of organ music (Purcell, Reger, Rheinberger, Rutter, Saint-Saëns, Scarlatti, Scheidt, Schlick, Sixten and Smart).
Sun	9th	10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion: the Minister Pastorate Service (5 Churches) at Effingham Methodist Church - Rev. Ian Howarth & Rev. Kim Plumpton
Tues	11th	7.30pm	Surrey/Sussex Synod Area Meeting; Christ Church, Crawley
Sun	16th	10.30am 6.30pm	Dr Graham Campling (Lindfield) Hospital Service Holy Communion with LMC at LMC - the Minister
Tues	18th	7.45pm	Elders' Meeting
Thurs	20th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC
Sat	22nd	8.00am	Men's Breakfast Fellowship: LMC
Sun	23rd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Kim Plumpton New Fire at LMC
Mon	24th		One World Week begins
Sat	29th	7.30pm	AntiphoniA Concert: For Peace. (See page 25)
<u>November</u>			
Wed	2nd	10.30am	Coffee and Chat: Garson's Farm
Sat	5th		Synod Together: time and venue tba
Sun	6th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Ernest Yu Organist: Gina Eason Evening Service at LMC

Storrington,
West Sussex

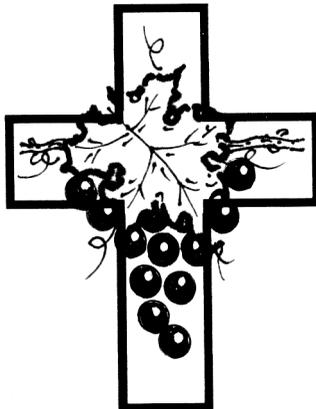
Philip Moss

Many, many thanks for all the cards and kind messages I received on Philip's passing. It is comforting to know so many were thinking of us both. I would especially like to thank those who came to the funeral – it meant a great deal to me that Christ Church – our Church for so many years – was represented there.

I am thankful to be close to so many of our family here – they have been so supportive, both with the removal and Philip's illness. I am getting to know Storrington and am within walking distance of all that I need for daily living. I'm attending the Parish Church here now (Philip was originally C of E) and that is a 10-minute walk through the meadows.

My grateful thanks to you all and you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Betty



Christ Church Family News



Joyce Cuss has had a foot problem which prevented her coming to church. We wish her well and hope that she will soon be back in her usual place.

Frank Farnell has been very unwell and was in St Helier Hospital for a week. He is now recovering at home and we send our very best wishes to him for a return to good health and to **Monica** who is caring for him.

Congratulations to **Ellen**, daughter of **Anne Fraser**, who did well in her A Levels and in Grade 8 piano and is going to the University of East Anglia to study music. We wish her every success.

Harry Kerr is not well at the moment and we hope he will soon be feeling better. We keep him and **Marguerite** in our thoughts.

Mary Morgan-Owen has recently moved to the Beeches in Fortyfoot Road. We send her our good wishes.

It is so good to have **Lindsay Trim** back in our midst with **Richard**, and to know that she is making good progress.

We are sorry to announce the death of **Jane Waymark**, recently living at Birdcroft Nursing Home in Ashtead, on 14th August. She attended church regularly with Anne Ray's help.

We remember in our prayers those who are no longer able to come to church and all who are unwell or undergoing treatment. Also we remember the recently bereaved.



Pastorate Details

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

Leatherhead Methodist Church:

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

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

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

Effingham Methodist Church:

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

Cobham United Reformed Church:

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

Cobham Methodist Church:

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



United Pastorate Ministers

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07590 564544 (mobile)

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Rev. Kim Plumpton

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