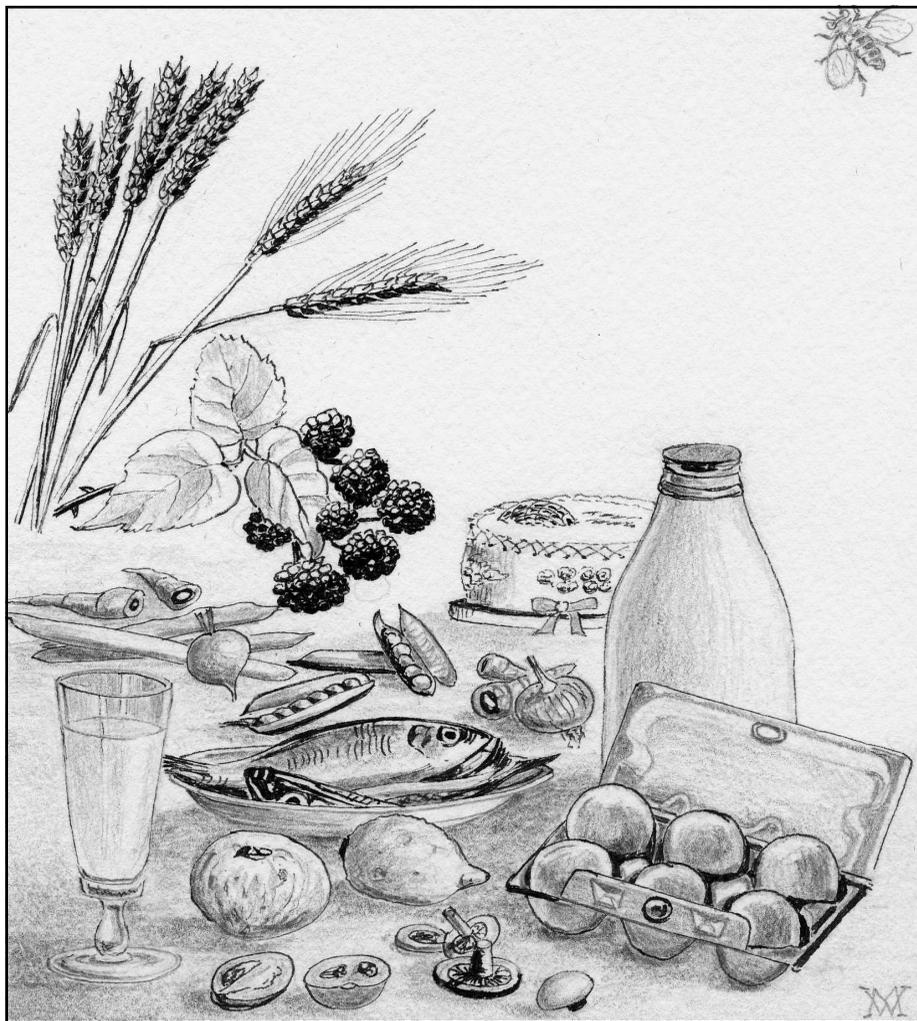


the Link

The Methodist Church of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham

September 2010



Family Link



Congratulations and Best Wishes to...

David and Helen Crome on the safe arrival of Sophie Alice on 30th July in Germany – a sister for Alex, Daniel and Charlotte, and a granddaughter for Bernard and Margaret.

Congratulations also to...

Rosie Howarth on her recent TV role with the Cardiff team on University Challenge. We look forward to Round 2!

A Warm Welcome to...

David Barnes who has been worshipping with us recently at LMC.

Many Thanks...

to Merry Worsfold for this month's front cover.

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All copy for the October issue to the editor by 15th September.

The Minister Writes



Dear Friends,

September marks the beginning of the new Methodist year, and this September is a new start for our three churches in various ways.

Most importantly, we welcome Kim Plumpton to be minister of Cobham and Effingham churches, in partnership with Cobham URC. We are very much looking forward to her ordination and induction at Cobham URC on 25th September. For us Methodists it will be unusual to be part of an ordination at one of our local churches, and I hope that people across all three churches will come and support Kim, and affirm our new partnership with the URC in this area.

Before that, on Sunday 19th September, I will be inducted as the minister of Christ Church URC, Leatherhead. Again, I hope it will be a service that is supported by all the churches. It seems somewhat strange to be having a welcome service in Leatherhead after being here thirteen years, but it signals a new phase in ministry, not just for me, but for Christ Church and LMC, as we seek to more actively develop a common mission strategy, making the best use of our common resources, remembering too our commitments under the Covenant, to work in partnership with our Anglican friends in Leatherhead as well.

As part of developing that mission strategy, at LMC we are going to use the morning of Saturday September 25th, as a time of strategic planning, addressing the question: 'LMC in five years time?' seeking to work through the particular gifts and graces which God has given us, and how we develop them over the coming years.

I will be leading a similar session for Christ Church at the end of October, and the outcomes of those meetings will be our guide for how we go on from there.

At the same time, this Autumn sees important developments in our joint children, family and youth work in Leatherhead. To develop the fantastic work done at Holiday Club, (with over 90 children attending this year), Triumph AM, for children 9 and above, will now meet for fun, teaching and worship, on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 10.30. While the younger children and their families are invited to Messy Church, a new initiative, with messy craft, worship and a shared meal, based round a bible story, which will meet on the third Thursday of the month at 4.00 p.m. at LMC.

Other plans for LMC in the autumn are to brighten up the outside front of the church, with a new notice-board, and clearing some of the overgrown bushes, to make the church building look as welcoming as we hope the church community is. When things are ready we will be looking for a working party to help with this.

continued over the page

It is a time with a lot going on, with much to think and pray about. Some may find this exciting, others unsettling, but I hope that we can be open about our thoughts and views, and also that through it all, we can grow deeper in our prayer life, as we seek God's guidance, and know his loving support.

Yours in Christ,

Ian

Rev. Kim Plumpton Writes

Dear Friends,

It is almost the season of Harvest, it is a time when we can give thanks for God's provision and for the world around us. It is fitting then that I am able to give thanks for the generosity and warmth of those who have made us feel so at home. We arrived on 2nd August followed by what seemed like an endless stream of packing boxes, too much furniture to fit the house and a sense of bewilderment at where to start. The day was made all the more easier by the constant stream of visitors from all three churches, bearing cards, sandwiches, flowers, plants, vegetables, cakes, biscuits, and many more gifts. It was overwhelming in the most wonderful way and as a family (Colin, Samuel and Joel), we felt loved and cared for before we had even seen the first week out. For all of this we give God thanks for his loving generosity shown by you all in making us feel comfortable and genuinely welcomed into the community. Thank you !

Many of you will know this is my first pastorate, I am surrounded by a great deal of wisdom and experience, your knowledge and guidance will help a great deal as we embark on this journey together. I am excited at the prospect of getting to know you all more. Be encouraged that I look forward to sharing the gospel message with you in your respective churches and that we can find time to get to know one another before and after worship as well as at other events. I also have an open door policy at the house so please feel free to call in for a cuppa at any point.

May God's blessings be abundant as we seek the heart of God together in prayer, worship and communion. We rely on God's grace to reveal to us the plans that will enable us to share in a fruitful ministry together, it is a journey I look forward to with great joy!

With every Blessing, *Kim.*



Cobham

Cobham Diary - September



Sun 5th 11.00am Mr. John Oborn

Tues 7th 7.30pm House Fellowship

Sat 11th 2.30pm Platinum Autumn Party in the Village Hall

Sat 11th Church open for Surrey Churches "Ride and Stride".

Sun 12th 11.00am Mr. Rhys Frost

Sun 19th 11.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton

6.30pm Rev. Ian Howarth's induction at
Christ Church URC, Leatherhead

Sat 25th 3.00pm Kim Plumpton's Ordination at Cobham URC

Sun 26th 11.00am Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion

On Saturday October 9th, Cobham Churches Together are organising a country walk for all the community. Meet at 9.45am for a 10.00am start near the Cricketers in Downside. About 5 miles taking in River Mole water meadows, Chatley Heath Semaphore Tower, woodland and farmland with fine views. (There are stiles to be negotiated). Finish back at Downside about 1.00pm. Bring a picnic lunch. Children's games on Downside Common.

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER 10 -12 noon
COBHAM METHODIST CHURCH

COFFEE - CAKES - BRIC.A.BRAC
PRESERVES - RAFFLE

PROCEEDS TO METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED



Effingham



Please note Service times this month
1st and 3rd Sundays @ 9.30am
2nd and 4th Sundays @ 10.30am

Dates for your diaries

Kim's first service at Effingham will be on Sunday 5th September at 9.30am when we look forward to welcoming her and her family. Her **Ordination** will be held at **Cobham URC at 3.00pm on Saturday 25th September**. All welcome, so contact Dave if you need a lift.

Ian's Induction Service will be on 19th September at 6.30pm at Christ Church URC.

Heritage Open Days Weekend - 9th to 12th September

The Church will be open on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th from 10.00am to 5.00pm with cream teas and ploughmen's lunches available in the hall, and an exhibition about our Victorian Chapel, Methodism and some local history, including a history trail and a quiz for kids.

Surrey Churches Preservation Trust's sponsored annual bike riders will be popping in for refreshments too. Offers of help to be an exhibition guide, serve teas, make scones etc. will be greatly appreciated.

Commoners' Day



On Sunday 26th September, Effingham Parish Council, the Friends of Effingham Common and Guildford Borough Council will jointly celebrate the rights of 'commoners' on Effingham Common with a **Commoners' Day Fair** from 12noon - 4.00pm, with a hog roast, petting zoo, guided walks, and an ecology display by local schools. Come and learn about why

our common is so special and celebrate over 1000 years of history and share your memories and any old photos with the local history group. Please talk to Pat, Janet or Ange.

Effingham Diary

- September



Sun	5th	9.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
Tues	7th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed	8th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Fri	10th	10am-5pm	Chapel open for Heritage Weekend
Sat	11th	10am-5pm	Chapel open for Heritage Weekend
Sun	12th	10.30am	Mrs. Freddie Jenkins
Sun	19th	9.30am	Rev. Val Ogden - Holy Communion
Tues	21st	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
Wed	22nd	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thur	23rd	8.00pm	House Group at Freddie Jenkins'
Sat	25th	3.00pm	Kim Plumpton's Ordination at Cobham URC
Sun	26th	10.30am	Mr. Rhys Frost



Our new Minister, Kim Plumpton said farewell to her church at Elmwood URC, Birmingham on Sat 24th July. The service was a very memorable occasion with lots of good singing. Ten of us went from Surrey to be part of her commissioning. Kim was given a beautiful stole embroidered with the true vine, similar to some of Elmwood's wall and lectern hangings. Our three churches were also given a memento of this visit uniting us all as branches of the true vine.

She and the family will obviously be missed from the church where they have worshipped for ten years; they are a very talented bunch ! They have now safely moved into the Cobham Manse, and face a challenging future. Making a move is never easy and a United Pastorate is new for us all. We look forward to sharing the future together. May God bless us as we seek to know His will and do His work.

Back to the Future

This was the rather strange title of a celebration I shared in at a previous Circuit early in August. Wallace and I spent eight years in the Amersham Circuit in the 70's and it is 50 years since the church was built.

When we celebrate an event we naturally want to look back and remember the happy experiences we shared, but we also need to look forward as we trust that we will have many exciting times in the future. This is something that Effingham is experiencing in the present. We look back with gratitude to the twelve years we shared with Ian during his period as our minister. We each have our own particular memory which we will cherish. But John Wesley in his wisdom initiated the itinerant ministry, something envied by other denominations whose ministers sometimes spend a lifetime in a church, much to the irritation of some members who long to have a change of leadership ! There comes a time in the life of a church when a new minister can bring fresh ideas and fresh challenges, a kind of 'wake up call' that is needed. So, although we are sad that Ian will no longer be pastorally responsible for us, we look forward to welcoming Kim taking us on. We pray that she will lead us in the pilgrimage of life in new ventures and with fresh ideas, and that Ian will bring a breath of fresh air (as well as a musical wake up call) to Christ Church URC in Leatherhead. Good old John Wesley, he knew what he was about !

Freddie Jenkins



**9th to 12th
September 2010**

**Effingham Methodist Chapel will be open on
Friday 10th from 10.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday 11th from 10.00am - 5.00pm**

There is an exhibition about our Victorian Chapel and Methodism with some local history and a quiz for kids.

Cream teas and ploughmen's lunches

**Find us @ www.heritageopendays.org.uk
and discover other properties open around Leatherhead.**



Leatherhead

Leatherhead Diary - September



Sun 5th 10.30am Rev. Ian Howarth - Holy Communion
6.30pm Rev. Kath Jones

Sat/Sun

11th/12th Heritage Open Days at LMC

Sun 12th 10.00am Triumph AM at BFree
10.30am Mr. John Oborn
6.30pm Service at BFree (all welcome)

Sun 19th 10.30am Rev. Ian Howarth - Harvest Festival
(Praise Service)
6.30pm Rev. Ian Howarth's Induction Service
at Christ Church URC

Fri 24th 7.30pm The Glory of the Garden (see page 10)

Sat 25th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at Christ Church
10.00am "LMC in Five Years' Time"
3.00pm Induction Service for Rev Kim Plumpton
at Cobham URC

Sun 26th 10.00am Triumph AM at BFree
10.30am Mr. David Cappitt
6.30pm New Fire - Rev. Ian Howarth

LMC in Five Years' Time

Saturday 25th September, 10.00am to 1.00pm. This is a really important morning when we are going to look at our future together, to pray about where God is leading us, and work towards a strategy for the next five years. Please put it in your diary, and encourage everyone to come

PILGRIM PLAYERS of Leatherhead and
EPSOM METHODIST DRAMA GROUP

present

a light-hearted, warm hearted entertainment

in music, poetry and drama

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th** at 7.30
at **EPSOM METHODIST CHURCH**

and on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th** at 7.30
at **LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH**

No charge for admission - we do it for love! - but we would welcome donations to the Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund, the Leatherhead Youth Project, and Action Duchenne (working towards a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)



St. Mary & St. Nicholas Church...

...will be holding their Annual Autumn Market in the Parish Church Hall on Saturday 16th October from 10.30am until 3.00pm. Entrance £1 to include a cup of tea/coffee. Accompanied children free. There will be a wide range of stalls from jewellery, books, china & glass, cakes, bric-a-brac, books, etc.

**BOOK THIS DATE!
SATURDAY 9th OCTOBER**

**“Catching God’s Vision”
A Quiet Day for All**

Time: 10.00am for 10.30am until 3.30pm

Place: Leatherhead Methodist Church

Leader: Mrs Jacqui Hicks

Bring your own lunch - tea/coffee provided.

Day Charge: £5.00

**Numbers to Jean Plant by 1st October
(01372 453101)**

**ROCKY'S
plaiice**

Rocky’s Plaiice was our eighth successive children’s Holiday Club and I reckon it was one of the best. At both sites, we had a lovely crowd of children and young people, full of enthusiasm and throwing themselves into all the activities we had on offer. Add to that a highly committed team of helpers and you have a winning combination!

Something that really stood out for me was the deepening relationship we have with children who come back year after year. Some of our holiday club regulars first made contact with us when they were tiny tots, coming to our toddler groups with their mums. It’s great to see them coming back, having loads of fun, and exploring what they think about God. This year, we also clearly saw the fruits of relationship-building through Leatherhead Trinity, LYP and the Scouting and Guiding groups, with many of the children coming from those sources. And of course it’s also great to welcome our “extended family” of grandchildren and friends of church members, (including several very responsible and enthusiastic teenage helpers).

We hope that many of this year’s participants will go on to get involved in Messy Church and Triumph AM, and thereby continue their exploration of what it means to have a Christian faith. And I would like to express my thanks to everyone who got involved and supported us in prayer.

Jane Smith

What is a Quiet Day?

"Quiet Day" is a term commonly used for a day set apart to listen to God. My own description is "Me Time", a precious space to withdraw from the hustle and bustle of the everyday goings-on and to think deeply about what the title of the day suggests and how, as individuals, we latch on to any Bible references.

There is no right or wrong way to approach a Quiet Day. Each person is so very different in their needs and the way they go about things. The leader will only make suggestions to lead into a theme. There will be no organised group discussion nor any feed-back sessions. There is rarely utter silence - that can feel very threatening - but a peaceful serenity, with an unspoken support between everyone there.

I have been to many Quiet Days, each one different from any other. I remember on one occasion, after the introductions, a lady found a comfy spot and slept the day away, even missing lunch. She declared it 'the best day ever'!

But we all need this time apart. If we commit ourselves to spend time listening to God, we are more likely to hear God's word to us. By hearing God, we are strengthened and healed, and we can be agents of God's justice in the day-to-day life of which we are a part. I once read that attending a Quiet Day is like putting an 'At Home' sign on the window of our soul so God can see we are ready to listen.

Our Quiet Day on Saturday 9th October challenges us to 'catch God's vision' for ourselves and the wider world. Are you up to such a challenge?

Jean Plant

Messy Church Update

Leatherhead's Messy Church will be officially launched on Thursday 21st October, 3.30pm to 5.30pm at Leatherhead Methodist Church. Messy Church is specially designed for children of primary school age or younger, accompanied by an adult. Including games, crafts, lively inter-generational worship and a delicious meal!

Messy Church is part of a new Uniting Churches strategy for engaging with families, children and young people who are becoming increasingly disconnected from traditional Sunday morning worship. We hope it will act as a natural feeder into the expanded Triumph programme, being introduced through LYP.

Young people journeying with God

This August a group of young intrepid explorers made their annual pilgrimage to Shepton Mallett for the Christian festival, **Soul Survivor**. The group enjoyed camping together and experienced energetic, life-giving worship with 12,000 other young people. Soul Survivor gives young people the opportunity to further their relationship with God by providing interesting and educational seminars, first class contemporary worship, relevant and exciting teaching, guidance from the Holy Spirit, with valuable prayer time, fun and fellowship.

A number of the young people had real experiences with God and as a team we are working to continue this life changing journey by providing a youth cell group starting in September. The aim of the **Triumph Cell Group** will be to inspire, challenge and make the young people passionate about living for Jesus and having a tangible relationship with God. The same principles are behind our decision to increase **Triumph AM** to twice a month. Triumph AM is aimed at young people in school years 5+ and will provide worship and spread the gospel in a relevant, engaging and fun way.

Triumph Cell Group

Tuesdays, 7.00pm - 8.30pm (for school years 7+)
starting on **September 7th**

Triumph AM

2nd and 4th Sundays, 10.00am -12noon
@ BFree (for school years 5+)
September 12th & 26th

Triumph PM - 2nd Sunday, 6.30pm

@ BFree (everyone welcome)
September 12th

For more details phone Jay 07971 294994 or Carol 07793 026472



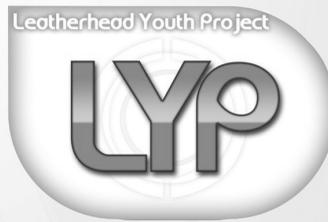
Leatherhead Methodist Church

Saturday 11th September 10am - 4pm

Sunday 12th September 1pm - 4pm

The Church will be open again as part of the National Heritage Weekend. Walkers and cyclists raising money for the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust will be visiting the church on the Saturday. Further details from Fred Meynen 01372 372919.

Leatherhead Youth Project



**BFree opens every day after school
from 6 September**

**New Triumph cell group starting
from 7 September for Year 7+**

Contact jay@leatherheadyouthproject.com for more details

**Sunday 12 September Triumph AM
10-12pm @ BFree (school years 5+)**

**Sunday 12 September Triumph PM
6:30-8pm @ BFree (everyone is welcome)**

**Sunday 26 September Triumph AM
10-12pm @ BFree (school years 5+)**

Sunday 26 September MTB bikeathon
contact Lucie@leatherheadyouthproject.com for more info

www.leatherheadyouthproject.com

Jigsaw

The Church was open for 29 hours over a period of four days, attracting 60 or so people who signed the visitors' book, many who were stewarding or those who helped set up the event. The numbers may have been low, but comments of appreciation made it all worthwhile. For two in the Uniting Churches working party, it was an introduction to something completely new.

Wednesday began hopefully with a number of people coming in, but they were lost souls wanting the physical health check offered by the company booked into the halls at the back. As they hurried through, in one door and out the other, they didn't recognise the spiritual "health check" we offered.

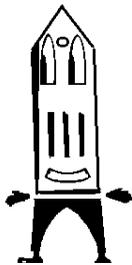
For a short time on Thursday morning, Jigsaw was alive with children and adults from Spatterbox. Some mums were worried that the children would run around, make a noise, touch things. Freda and I, stewarding at the time, said in unison "So what!" We encouraged the children to examine the dolls, swirl the globe and smell the lemon-scented geranium. "Whose Birthday is it?" the children asked when they saw the balloons. The wind chimes were rung so vigorously, it was like the great wind of the first Pentecost! We had blown out the candles so there was no risk of "tongues of flame" to test the fire alarm! It was 20 minutes of such joy! David's quiet background music should have been changed to the Hallelujah Chorus!

On Saturday, a couple came for a second time to "experience the peace" and to write down words that attracted them. They were given the jigsaw piece written in Jill's beautiful calligraphy. "I'm going to frame it" the man said.

The name Jigsaw was the right one. It was all the little things voiced, words written down and snatches of conversation that helped it all fall into place and making the offering complete.

Jean Plant

[Article written for the July/August LINK, but erroneously omitted. Sincere apologies to Jean for the oversight. Editor].



Leatherhead

Activities at Leatherhead Methodist Church

Sunday Services: 10.30am and 6.30pm

Holy Communion is normally celebrated on the second Sunday in the month (morning) and the third Sunday in the month (evening).

Evening Services - the second Sunday is normally a service run by young people at the BFree Café, where all ages are welcome. The fourth Sunday is normally "New Fire" contemporary worship with the Uniting Churches held at the Methodist Church.

Crèche available for young children during the morning service.

Coffee is served after every morning service - all are very welcome to join us.

Junior Church: Sundays at 10.30am

Contact: Gill Harris 01372 458518
Mary Pittam 01372 272658

House Fellowships

Monday Fellowship: Meet fortnightly

Contact: Carol Stoves 01372 377125

Wednesday Fellowship: Meet monthly

Contact: Winifred Ashbrook 01372 276776

Friday Afternoon Fellowship:

Meet fortnightly

Contact: Jane Smith 01372 372919

Tiddlywinks: Friday mornings term-time
10.00am - 11.30am

Contact: Jane Smith 01372 372919

Splatter Box: Thursday mornings
10.00am - 11.30am

Contact: Jane Smith 01372 372919

ROOM BOOKINGS Contact: Joy Foreman 01372 378869
ALL BOOKINGS MUST BE ENTERED INTO HER DIARY

Minister

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