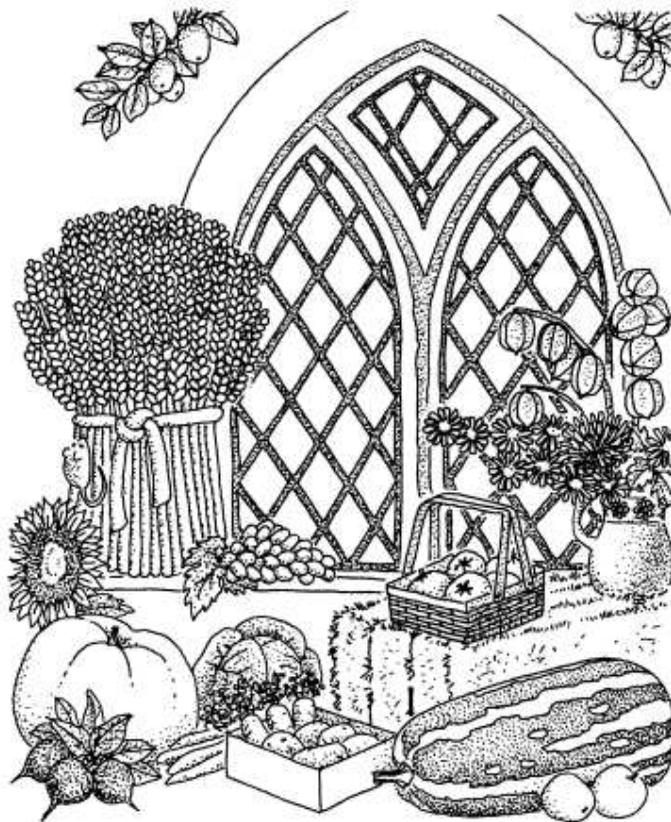


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

September 2013



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Linking:
Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham Methodist Church
Cobham United Reformed Church
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church

The Methodist Church



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



The Ministers Write...



From Rev. Lynda Russell

Dear Friends,

Well here we are - after so long we have finally arrived in Leatherhead and are safely ensconced in the Manse. Of course as I write this, I am still surrounded by boxes in most rooms and until the wardrobes are assembled, the upstairs looks like a badly run jumble sale!

Seeing all your possessions packed into boxes is a strange feeling, and was a reminder to me of how ultimately transitory they really are - seeing those things I thought of great value to me contained in cardboard boxes! However as I opened some of the boxes I felt as if I was opening presents, so well wrapped were the contents! What would I find inside? Indeed some were almost a surprise - I had forgotten I even had that! However I'm extremely glad not to have to move too often.

As we stand together at the beginning of another new Methodist year, we can look forward to what God has for us during this coming year. It will without doubt be both exciting and challenging. It feels as if there will be 'many boxes' to open in the coming months - surprises perhaps not only for me as the new Minister, but for all of us as God leads us onwards in our journey together.

However, for the moment, I'm looking forward to my welcome service and all the other events coming up, and especially getting to know you all.

Blessings,

Lynda

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

The new Methodist year is one we enter into with great excitement and perhaps a little apprehension as we move from a place of familiarity to one of new horizons. When we cast our sights beyond the local, we can see that our circuit is changing. Val left Dorking to work hard to finish her doctorate for which we wish her well. God will use her wisdom and her wonderful mind to bring about his kingdom and who knows where that might be, but I know she is looking forward to seeing where God takes her. And of course we said many goodbyes to Ian in the last few weeks. I had the pleasure of visiting him in Birmingham (whilst on holiday), in his new palatial home in Moseley amongst the few boxes left to unpack, I was impressed. He seemed remarkably calm and Barbara was also looking forward to her new role. We will of course miss them all, but like the potter at the wheel we are now being moulded and shaped in a different way.

I am delighted to welcome Lynda Russell as the new minister at Leatherhead, and as a new face amongst the familiar. Lynda I'm sure will bless us all, different from Ian of course, but with her own gifts and with the knowledge that God has led her to us, to guide us and to nurture and shape us as we move forwards.

Of course we must also make sure that along the way Lynda is also nurtured and allowed to blossom so that the fruit she bears may be shared. I know that as someone who came here to her first pastorate almost three years ago, you have allowed me to grow and blossom and I hope that along the way we have shared moments that we might consider growth.

Many of us are looking forward to the Induction Service on 7th September because it will be an opportunity for us to say hello to Lynda and her husband. But on the evening of 29th September there will be a far less formal service and a chance for us not only to worship together as a pastorate but to share fellowship over a meal, a 'family' gathering, a chance to get to know each other a little better. (*see notice at bottom of page 7 - Ed.*)

So I am looking forward to working with Lynda and I hope between us we might serve the pastorate in ways that allow the churches to flourish.

So we look forward with excitement.

Every blessing, Kim

New Private Rented Sector Access Scheme: Preventing homelessness among young people

MoVE Leatherhead Start is a new support and advisory service enabling young homeless people to move to independent private living in their local community.

The aim is to help homeless people, particularly young single homeless people who live on low wages or are in receipt of benefits, and who are generally the lowest priority when it comes to allocating the scarce supply of social housing.

Working directly with prospective tenants and private sector landlords in a partnership with the local councils, CAB and the Probation Service, we aim to tackle homelessness by supporting landlords who take on more vulnerable people within the community.

Funded and supported by Crisis, the national charity for the single homeless, there is additional funding from Mole Valley District Council, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and the Three Oaks Trust.

Our free service includes: Advice and information, 'Tenancy ready' tenants who are aware of their responsibilities and how to manage their tenancy, Housing Benefit liaison and applications for direct payment, a Bond guarantee in place of a deposit, and help with rent in advance.

Roy Chamberlain, our private rented sector officer, would be happy to hear from any landlords who would like to take advantage of this new opportunity.

They are invited to contact Roy on **07964 173438** or email: roy@leatherheadstart.org

With grateful thanks,

Roy Chamberlain





Pitstop Holiday 2013

On 14th May, 10 intrepid people left Leatherhead for a not to be forgotten week of adventure in the Peak District.

We arrived at the foot of Mam Tor at 3.00pm, and walked to the top where a gale was blowing very hard. We walked along the ridge to Hollins Cross down to Edale Youth Hostel, where we stayed for the night.

The next morning after breakfast and photo calls, we set off on a walk that ended up being 18 miles up on to Kinder Scout over to Kinder Downfall. The weather was perfect with clear views over the area. We walked along the path from Kinder Scout to Russup Edge, where the famous mass trespassers walked to Kinder. Along the route we saw the sterling conservation work by the Army restoring the path to its former glory after erosion caused by thousands of people walking along the path, then back to the hostel for well-earned food and sleep.

The next day we hired bikes and cycled around Ladybower reservoir where Barnes Wallis and the Dambusters practised dropping bouncing bombs at the Dam. We had a great cycle ride on varied terrain but all enjoyed it and found muscles we never knew that we had. After lunch we went for a local walk and back to Eyam Youth Hostel. The village of Eyam suffered devastation during the Great Plague.

Thursday and Friday were two days where we were all challenged. Thursday morning we did Weaselling, i.e. crawling through and under holes in rocks in some of the most beautiful scenery in the area. On our way to abseiling on the Monsal Trail, we saw the flypast of Second World War planes used during the Dambusters bombing raid. In the afternoon we did abseiling from a viaduct to the river below. Most of us had three turns each. Then we went back to the Hostel tired out, challenged but satisfied.

Next day we went climbing on an outcrop of rock next to the Tissington Trail for cyclists and walkers. Here we discovered that man did indeed come from monkeys! Three people had never climbed before. During the climbing we could see individual confidence and team building growing all the time. This was probably the best activity for the team.

In the afternoon we went to Matlock and went down an old lead mine. Here we saw the terrible working conditions and the enclosed areas that miners worked in. We all went through and came out wet and dirty.

Our last morning was spent visiting the sights of Eyam and Buxton, before making the journey home which was quiet as people recovered.

The outcome is that we have done walks and outings and we hope to start cycling locally round Mole Valley. Thank you to all our supporters and we are looking forward to next year's break.

Graham Peddie MBE

Truth and Lies about Poverty

In March, the Joint Public Issues team of the United Reformed, Methodist and Baptist Churches produced an excellent report on poverty, which has been taken up nationally.

It focuses on six myths about poverty that are widely believed, but which statistically evidence shows to be completely untrue.

The full report is available on-line at:

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Truth-And-Lies-Report-smaller.pdf>

The Link is publishing all six myths one by one to help us reflect on the issues. In the July/August edition we looked at the myths: *'They' are not really poor - they just don't manage their money properly*, and *'They' are on the fiddle*. In this edition we look at the fifth myth:

5. **'They' have an easy life**

Over half the British public believes benefits are too high and churchgoers tend to agree. Government ministers speak of families opting for benefits as a lifestyle choice. Yet we know that benefits do not meet minimum income standards. They have halved in value relative to average incomes over the last 30 years. We know the ill and the unemployed are the people least satisfied and happy with life.

[The sixth Myth, "*'They' caused the deficit*" will be published here in the October edition.]

UNITED PASTORATE EVENING SERVICE

The next United Pastorate Service will be held at
5.00pm on Sunday 29th September at
Leatherhead Methodist Church, followed by tea.



The
United
Reformed
Church

At the suggestion of Kim Plumpton, I have reproduced this article, with permission, from the "In Gear" magazine of the United Reformed Church. "GEAR" is an acronym for "Group for Evangelism And Renewal" within the URC.

Editor

The Romans One Eleven Trust: No change, all change

For 21 years the Romans One Eleven Trust has been in the business of renewal. It was set up when John Hall became the GEAR chairman to help further renewal in our churches. An international conference had brought together a number of significant leaders from sister churches around the world and their shared testimonies had brought an immense amount of encouragement to those attending. John's perception was that their faith and experience had so much to offer us - that our faith and commitment would be encouraged if we continued our contact with them.

He also believed that God had graced us with gifts that could and would be of use in building up the churches from which these brothers and sisters came - if shared. The Trust was set up to do these things.

The work of the Trust has not changed. It is continuing to do the work that it set out to do 21 years ago and will continue to do so until the sharing is no longer needed or there is a better way of doing it.

And yet - at the same time - it is all change. John will step down as Director of the Trust over the summer. A new structure has already been put into place so that David Pattie will become chairman of the trustees and a number of the trustees will begin to take responsibility for the work that John has been doing. Some of that work may change as God gives fresh vision and new relationships are made but the underlying principles and the purpose of the work will go on as before.

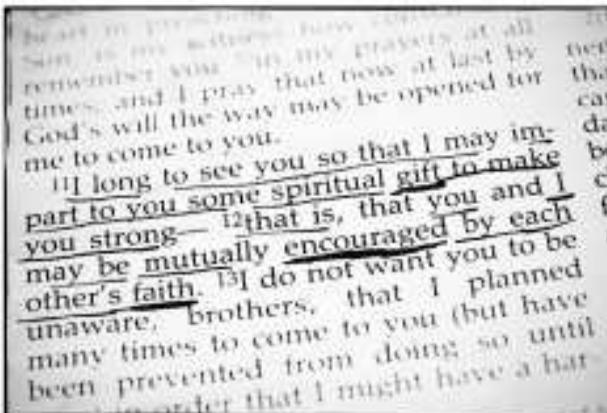
Over a year ago a group of us were visiting Kibale District, Uganda. 50 miles deep into the bush, in a small mud and wattle church we were with a congregation of very poor and amazingly joyful Christians.

We met a young man - I never did learn his name but he was part of a young people's singing group that was praising God and entertaining us at the same time.

Young men like him have only a little chance of a decent education. Then they stand only a little chance of getting a decent job. By our standards, he is probably condemned to the life of a subsistence farmer and has a miniscule chance of reaching his potential and making a decent life for himself and a family. But there is every chance he will go on smiling and singing his praise songs and giving God thanks for his life and for the salvation he has found in Jesus.

We don't bring young men to the UK but we do bring significant leaders to visit our churches. They come and share their stories and they both challenge and encourage our faith. We also offer opportunities for people from the UK - "you?" - to visit these brothers and sisters living out their faith in challenging circumstances. It's an eye-opener and a life changing experience.

Being a part of the world Church makes an immense difference. Over the coming months we will share some of the life-changing stories. But for now, of this we are sure, life is full of change but with God there is security and encouragement.



"I long to see you that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong - that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." Romans 1 : 11-12

Surrey Churches

**SURREY CHURCHES
RIDE & STRIDE
SATURDAY**

14th SEPTEMBER 2013

**Linking locally with the
Heritage Open Days:**

**Cobham MC - open all day
Effingham MC - see page 20
Leatherhead MC - see page 31
Christ Church - see page 37**



Preservation Trust

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

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

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

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

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

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

Supporters who prefer not to 'ride or stride', please consider sponsoring



Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary - September



<u>Please note: From 1st September, all Cobham Sunday services will be at 10.30am</u>			
Sun	1st	10.30am	Rhys Frost
Sun	8th	10.30am	David Cappitt
Fri	13th	4.30pm	CYC at the URC (to 6.30pm)
Sat	14th	10.00am	Time 4 You (to noon)
		2.30pm	Platinum Service
		All day	Cobham Heritage Day and the church will be open all day for Surrey Ride 'n' Stride
Sun	15th	10.30am	John Oborn
Thurs	19th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Leatherhead
Sun	22nd	10.30am	Rev. Frank Smith with Holy Communion
Thurs	26th	3.30pm	Messy Church at the URC (to 5.30pm)
Fri	27th	4.30pm	CYC at the URC (to 6.30pm)
		7.00pm	Rock 'n' Soul at the URC (<i>see page 15</i>)
Sun	29th	10.30am	United Service at Cobham URC
		5.00pm	Pastorate Service at LMC followed by tea
<u>October</u>			
Sun	6th	10.30am	tba



Next "Time 4 You"

Saturday
14th September
10.00am - 12noon

Cobham Methodist Church

Lanercost Priory; Capital of England!

In June, while walking Hadrian's Wall, my companions and I deviated one day and descended to Lanercost Priory. It wasn't really a deviation because the priory was built (about 850 years ago) using stone from the Wall. The Priory Church is now a parish church, a beautiful and peaceful place, ideal for a rest and reflection. There I was given a bookmark, which has on it the Lanercost Prayer, which is well worth sharing. Apply it to your church.

If this is not a place where my spirits can take wing
Where do I go to fly?
If this is not a place where tears are understood
Where can I go to cry?

If this is not a place where my questions can be asked
Where do I go to seek?
If this is not a place where my feelings can be heard
Where do I go to speak?

If this is not a place where you'll accept me as I am
Where do I go to be?
If this is not a place where I can try to learn and grow
Where can I just be me?

As for the capital of England; during his last campaign against the Scots, King Edward I took his court to Lanercost for some six months (ruining the priory financially), and he had the Great Seal of England brought there during that time. Now where the Great Seal is, there is the official capital of England.

It's well worth a visit (and I haven't even mentioned the rest of the priory ruins, the William Morris dossal, the 18th century Abbey Bridge).

Postscript (of particular interest to Christ Church)

I contacted the vicar of Lanercost, Rev Dr Rod Allon-Smith, to ask permission to include the Lanercost Prayer in the Link, explaining that this is the magazine of five churches in Leatherhead, Cobham and Effingham. He replied that it is not their copyright, and can be found on the internet in various versions attributed to different authors. Then he asked about the churches in our united pastorate, of particular interest because his grandfather, Rev William Allon-Smith, was minister of Leatherhead Congregational Church, and died in the manse there in 1944.

David Cappitt



Cobham Methodist Church are planning to do another fund raiser this year in aid of Harrison's Fund

2nd November from 10.00am to 12noon at Cobham Methodist Church, Cedar Road, Cobham

Harrison is a boy of 7 years old who lives in Cobham and has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD).

There is no cure for this disease!!!

His parents have set up this charity to raise awareness and to try to help find a cure.

So what do I want?

I am suggesting that you ask all your friends, relatives and neighbours to help with prayers, prizes, cakes, donations etc. of any sort so that we can help in fighting this life-limiting disease.

Raffle

Tombola

Guess the Weight

How many in ?

Café

Mulled Wine

Hot Chocolate

Bacon Rolls

Cake/pancakes

Lucky Dip

Cake Stall

Chocolates

Bread

Jams/Marmalades

Chutneys



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary - September



Sun	1st	9.00am 10.30am	Early Bird Service Vivien Gerhold
Sun	8th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun	15th	10.30am	Rev. Roy Bones
Sun	22nd	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
Sun	29th	10.30am 5.00pm	Harvest (United Service) at Cobham URC Pastorate Service at LMC followed by tea
October			
Sun	6th	10.30am	Thelma Roberts

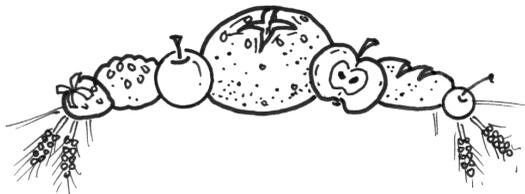
Cobham URC Events - September			
Sun	1st	3.00pm	Special Needs Group (to 6.00pm)
Tues	3rd	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting
Thurs	5th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Fri	13th	4.30pm	CYC meets at Cobham URC (to 6.30pm)
Thurs	19th	7.30pm	Evening House Group
Fri	20th	7.00pm	Marriage Course (to 9.00pm) (see page 15)
Thurs	26th	3.30pm	Messy Church at the URC (to 5.30pm)
Fri	27th	3.00pm 4.30pm 7.00pm	T @ 3 at Church CYC meets at Cobham URC (to 6.30pm) Rock 'n' Soul at the URC (see page 16)
Sat	28th	5.00pm	Steadfast Concert (see page 17)



The course is designed to strengthen an existing marriage or partnership. There are no group discussions just an intimate space to discuss issues with your partner over a meal. I took the course last year and I recommend this course to anyone who would like explore ways of deepening their relationship.

If you are interested you can get a taster of the course on the **20th September, 7.00 - 9.00pm at Cobham URC**. If you feel the course is helpful it will begin on the 4th October.

It really is worth investing in time for one another. If you want to know more please ring Kim on : 01932 586988.



Prayers at the Manse

at 9.30am on

Wednesdays: 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th September

Rock `n` Soul

7.00pm to 9.00pm

**Friday 27th September
(and every last Friday each month)
at Cobham URC**

This is an initiative to give teenagers a space to perform musically and vocally, no matter what the skill level or music genre, so that they may be given the opportunity to perform and if they wish to talk with like-minded people about music, vocals and instruments.

This is a place where people can get together for a couple of hours in an environment of mutual interests almost like a cross between an open mike night and a jam session.

All are welcome from songwriters, vocalists to bands. There are no exclusions. Bring yourselves, your voice and your equipment and let's rock. For more information contact Colin on 07931 522855.

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



Date:

**Thursday
26th September**

Time: **3:30pm - 5:30pm**

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

All are welcome

Steadfast & Gospel Choir
plus accompanying singers
In Concert



Date: 28th September
Time: 5pm followed by Harvest Supper
Venue: Cobham United Reformed Church,
Stoke Road, KT11 3BD

All are welcome.
No Ticket required but
donations are welcome
and will go to Cobham
Area FoodBank





Effingham

Methodist Church

Effingham Methodist Diary - September



Sun	1st	10.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - with Holy Communion
Tues	3rd	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	4th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Thurs	5th	2.15pm	Bible Study Group meet with Kim in the hall
Sat	7th	10.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall (to 11.00am)
Sun	8th	10.00am	Angie Choat
Fri	13th	10.00am	{ Heritage Weekend with lunch and cream teas <i>(see page 26)</i>
Sat	14th	to 5.00pm	
Sun	15th	10.00am	James Cameron
Tues	17th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	18th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun	22nd	10.00am	Rhys Frost
Tues	24th	10.00am	Church Council meeting (to 12noon)
Sun	29th	10.30am	United Service at St Lawrence
		5.00pm	Pastorate Service at LMC followed by tea
October			
Sat	5th	10.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall (to 11.00am)
Sun	6th	10.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton (Harvest Festival and Big Welcome Service)

Moving On

At this time of year when ministers are moving to new appointments I can't help remembering experiences of my own. The first was of arriving on the shores of the Isle of Man after a really rough crossing of the Irish Sea to find a reception committee there to greet us, consisting of the District Chairman, (who was also our Super) and Circuit and local stewards. They gave us a real Manx welcome, which consisted of a feast of porkpies, hams, cream trifles, and goodies that we hadn't seen in wartime Britain. Unfortunately our stomachs weren't quite up to them!

Another time we arrived at our new circuit to find that in addition to our 2-year old son we had acquired a cat! It had belonged to the previous incumbents and the removers had refused to take it. From then on, we were never without a cat. At the next circuit, those awaiting our arrival were astonished when the van drew up and in addition to furniture, Wallace and two children jumped out of the back, and I jumped out of the front with a 14-month old toddler in my arms. We were never approved of in that posh road of detached houses in Coulsdon.

Our arrival at the Chessington manse coincided with the fact that in addition to our four children we had picked up our 10 year old foster son, now part of the family. But we were pleased to have left behind a suitor of our older daughter who had been rather too persistent. We were just commenting on how good it was to have left him behind when there was a ring of the bell! The lovesick youth had cycled all the way down from Stockwell! Fortunately he soon became a boyfriend of the past when Val hitched up with a local lad, who eventually she married. Happy days!

Freddie Jenkins





Birthday Dates to celebrate this month

Happy Birthday to Dougie Reed on 17th

Please let us know about birthdays and BIG anniversaries!!.



Dates for your Diaries

Our next **Church Council** will be on **Tuesday 24th September** from 10.00am to 12noon in the Chapel. Items for the agenda to Gill Walker asap.

Our **Harvest Festival** will be on **6th October** and we're also making it the **Big Welcome service**, so invite a friend.

Prayer Group

Prayer meetings take place at the Chapel every Friday at 9.15am.

Light and Hope...



... the new Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2013-14, focuses on hopeful discipleship and celebrates the signs of hope in the Church, the world, our communities and our lives. The 31 day prayer-cycle has classic, ancient and new prayers with a daily lectionary to guide you through the year.

Copies available in the hall at £3.15 each.

Effingham pages continue on page 25

Dorking and Horsham Circuit
NEWSLETTER

**September
October &
November 2013**

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

As I'm sitting in my study, a fugue from the radio is drifting to my ears. A fugue is a particular composition (of which Bach was arguably the master) in which the initial theme keeps re-entering the music as if starting again, but somehow counterpointing and developing the ongoing music.

The kind of fugue I can hear on the radio is not quite musical, but it's following the same principle. There are two radios somewhere in the house both tuned to Radio 4, but one of them is tuned via DAB which has a second or so delay. So it sounds like two people talking, but one of them keeps talking over the other, coming in with exactly the same words that I've just heard.

On a longer time scale the life of the church is a bit like a fugue. The year starts in September with the usual round of services (such as Harvest Festival) and meetings (such as the Circuit Meeting). But there's the sense that we've been here before. If I check in my diary I find I was following an almost identical pattern a year ago. It's like a musical theme coming back in as if we were starting all over again.

But the thing about a fugue is that when you hear the same initial melody it doesn't mean the music has started again. Each new arrival of the same melody adds something to the totality of the music. Each repetition brings something new.

That strikes me as how the new church year should be. Yes, there will be repetition. Yes, we will be following familiar patterns as in previous years. But no, we are not just going in circles. This year's round of worship and meetings will add something new to the ongoing life and growth of the church.

There are parts of our circuit where the sense of something new this time round will be enhanced by the presence of a new person: Lynda Russell as minister in Leatherhead, Juliet Fuller as the Dorking Christian Centre Chaplain, Angela Birch as the circuit administrator and ministers' PA, and not to forget Derek Tighe, who has been at Dorking for a year already, but is now taking on responsibility for both congregations. There are other places where the familiar faces will continue to be seen.

Whether old or new hands are wielding the conductor's baton, the beginning of the new Methodist year is bound to seem to some extent like we've been here before. The same theme we encountered last year is being repeated. But remember the

(continued overleaf)

The **Methodist Church** 

(continued from previous page)

concept of the fugue. The context is different. This time round the familiar theme will be adding something new. The music of the Kingdom is always changing and adjusting.

So this year, whenever you recognise something you've heard or seen before, listen carefully for the voice of the Spirit. What new thing is being revealed this time? How are the familiar routines of life helping us to grow as disciples of Christ? Bach may have been a master of the intricate and beautiful fugue, but that's child's play compared with the way the Spirit weaves together old and new themes in the "discipleship movement shaped for mission" which is the Methodist Church.

Paul

st martin'S DORKING

On Saturday 29 June, around 125 people met in the Christian Centre to say thanks and farewell to Revd Val Ogden. The original plan was for Val to stay for 15 months but this was extended to 4 years, during which time many people had grown very fond of her and were there to wish her well on her move to Spurgeon's College in London, to complete her PhD on Revd Dr Colin Morris. With a little more peace than she has had in the last few years, that is much more likely. Val has been a real Christian role model for so many people and her love and care knew no bounds. Her insight, dedication and commitment will be hard to replicate.

During the evening there was a quiz and party games, followed by a huge buffet and delicious homemade cakes before the entertainment. Various humorous songs and recitations preceded Val singing with

her guitar. She soon had everyone joining in a rousing chorus about the Dorking cockerel! Finally there were short speeches offering thanks and good wishes to Val, then a presentation of flowers and a cheque of £1000.

The Methodists at St. Martin's now have Revd Derek Tighe, the Anglican Vicar, as their Authorised Minister in charge of pastoral care, and there is a move to have more shared services.

Also a very exciting appointment has been made: Juliet Fuller will be the new Christian Centre Chaplain, starting in September. There are many needy and vulnerable people who visit the Centre from day to day, so having a good listening ear was one qualification, but perhaps the ability to endure endless cups of tea should have been in the job specification.

Sue Jamieson

DISTRICT CHAIR

Revd John Hellyer has been appointed (and will later be installed) as an Ecumenical Associate of Guildford Cathedral, the equivalent of being an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE

This year's was held at Central Hall, Westminster, in early July.

Full reports were in the *Methodist Recorder* in several issues.

If you would like to delve more deeply, there is a wealth of information to be found at:
www.methodistconference.org.uk

EFFINGHAM

The London – Surrey Cycle race boosted Effingham’s congregation on 4 August, with many visitors from Cobham and Leatherhead who were unable to get to their own churches because of road closures enjoying a thought-provoking service, with powerful singing followed by plenty of tea /coffee, and cake and fellowship.

We have recently been part in the **URC’s Local Mission and Ministry Review** which is helping all of us in our part of the Pastorate to re-assess our **Mission Statement** and look to the future. Together with our **Churches Together committee** we’ve also helped to organize ecumenical prayer walks, prayer lunches and are currently planning activities for Advent. We hope to be using our “posada” figures in local schools again this Christmas.

Our monthly Café Church, **Saturday Morning Live**, continues to inspire alternative worship in Effingham, and has doubled attendance with guest speakers on topical issues. A Holocaust survivor, a Russian academic, once imprisoned for his faith and now a Roman Catholic priest in Sussex, and the wife of the Imam at Woking mosque who is an Interfaith worker here in Surrey. In September we’ll be discussing “**The God Particle**” with a university professor explaining how he reconciles science and religion.

Effingham Chapel is taking part in **English Heritage’s Open Days Weekend** again this year, with displays about our village and local Methodist history and an exhibition, entitled “**Journey to the Warmed Heart**” which celebrates the 275th Anniversary of John and Charles Wesley’s conversion experience at Aldersgate. We’ll be open from **10am-5pm on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 September**, so why not pop along to see the exhibition and enjoy a lunch or a cream-tea ?

We’ve signed up to be part of the **Big Welcome**, linking it with **Harvest Festival** on October 6. Possibly also using study-group material from **Methodist Church’s** free online resource – *First Impressions Count*, designed to help churches improve the quality of welcome in a culture increasingly unfamiliar with Christian faith and worship.

Angela Putland

Walking the Wall

At the time of the last Circuit Newsletter I was about to embark on a sponsored walk of Hadrian’s Wall. Many thanks to all who sponsored me, to the sum of £820 including Gift Aid; enough to buy half the bunk-beds needed for a women’s dormitory at Kitgum (Uganda) Primary Teachers’ College.

The walk went very well, with good weather, good company and good food and accommodation. We walked 120 miles in 10 days and had time to visit museums and archaeological sites en route.

One of the guest-house owners had ordered some fridge magnets for sale with the famous words of Julius Caesar. When they came back with “I came, I sore, I conquered” the person who made them offered to take them all back and correct “sore” to “saw”. She decided to keep them as they were, and now they are going like hot cakes!

David Cappitt

HELLO FROM REVD LYNDA RUSSELL

I have arrived in Leatherhead fresh from spending 5 years in a small village called East Peckham. When I first arrived there and people asked me where I lived, many mis-heard and thought I lived in Peckham, or just assumed it was a suburb of Peckham in London. I soon learnt to say I lived near Tonbridge or Tunbridge Wells in Kent. The first 4 years were spent as part of the Tonbridge Circuit, which then merged with the Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Circuits to form the new "Weald of Kent" Circuit, or WOK Circuit, as my colleague took pleasure in calling it, much to the dismay of some! I had pastoral charge of the village church which had nearly 90 members, and also spent 30% of my time working in an Anglican/Methodist LEP in the nearby town; a large church with 240 members, a Vicar, Curate, and P/T Youth Worker! I really enjoyed working in a team with them, and learnt a lot from them as well!

Before going to East Peckham I spent 2 years in F/T training at Wesley House Cambridge, while returning home each weekend to see my husband (!) and working on my placements in the Croydon Circuit.

I won't go through all my work history, etc, but suffice it to say that I grew up in Chessington and New Malden, so not too far from the northern part of the Circuit. It was there in the Kingston Circuit that I did my LP training.

I'm looking forward to getting to know the further reaches of the Circuit over the next few months. (Just one thing - I have the most terrible memory ever for names - so don't be surprised if I ask you several times - it's nothing personal!)

So I hope to meet you all over the coming months,
Blessings.

Lynda

Lynda's formal welcome is at 3.00 pm on Saturday September 7 at Christ Church URC in Leatherhead.

PARTRIDGE GREEN

We all enjoyed the visit of Revd Dale Sherriff to take our church Anniversary Service in June, and shared lunch following the service. It was delightful to see Susan and their growing family too.

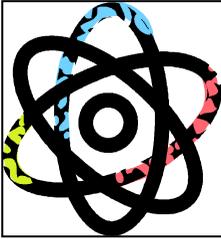
Our recent "Messy Church" at the end of July was most successful, with the theme of how Jesus calmed the storm and how He Walked Across the Water. This was enjoyed by over 30 youngsters with parents and carers. The activities were well enjoyed, with many of them being very messy! Then the morning was complete with songs, story and celebration, followed by lunch for all to enjoy. Our next "Messy Church" will be on Wednesday October 30.

We now have a new ecumenical church "Village Café" being held in our church hall on the second Thursday of each month, the next one being on September 12, from 2 pm – 4.30 pm. Members of St. Michael's and the Weald Community Church are leading the planning with our support. The first afternoon was a great success, with members from all the village churches, and many youngsters also, supporting this new venture.

Our next toddler service is planned for October 3, and our church Harvest Festival Service will be on Sunday September 29. *Alison James*

The next issue will be published in late November.

Please send contributions by **Tuesday November 5** to:
j.oborn671@btinternet.com



The God Particle?

Come and join us at Effingham's café church **Saturday Morning Live** on **7th September** from **10.00am to 11.00am** at **King George V hall** when we'll tackle another controversial issue:

Has Science killed GOD ?

Our Speaker will be **Professor Scott Elias** from **London University**, who will talk about how we reconcile the first few chapters of **Genesis** with the history of the **Universe** as reconstructed by science. He is a geographer, not a physicist so should be more accessible to those of us who didn't major in quantum physics !



**Coffee, croissants and plenty of chat,
so please come and bring a friend.**



Remembering the Dream on Racial Justice Sunday on 8th September 2013

It's the **50th anniversary** of **Dr Martin Luther King Jr's** monumental and iconic '**I have a dream**' speech in August this year, yet all over the world we are still struggling to eradicate racism.

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland have produced a thoughtful and relevant resource pack for **Racial Justice Sunday** which offers a service for all ages together, with a range of ideas and activities around the theme of dreams, visions and the 'Beloved Community', available to download from website www.ctbi.org.uk

Heritage Open Days Weekend



Effingham Chapel will be taking part in **Heritage Open Days** again this year, and will be open on **Friday 13th and Saturday 14th from 10.00am to 5.00pm** with refreshments all day, and an exhibition about our village, some famous local heroes, our Chapel's history, and **Wesley's Warm Heart** which explains how Methodism began.

SO PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

Talk to visitors, or help with refreshments, or bake some cakes or scones. There's also the usual cyclists will also be dropping by on Saturday for signatures on sponsor forms for the annual **Ride & Stride** on behalf of *Surrey Churches Preservation Trust* and we'll be providing refreshments and a "comfort break".



Contact Pat or Janet or ring Ange on 01372-454850



heritage open days

Effingham Methodist Chapel will be open on
Friday 13th & Saturday 14th September
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 at **www.heritageopendays.org.uk**
and discover other properties around Leatherhead.

Leatherhead Pages

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

Therfield Students Build School in Ethiopia

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me in raising funds for my recent trip to Ethiopia - the trip was a great success, and would not have been possible without the beneficence of everybody who made donations.

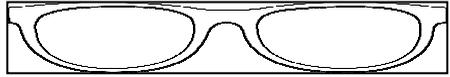


On 7th July, a group of 17 students from Therfield School (along with two teachers and a World Challenge leader) embarked on a four week expedition to Ethiopia. The objective of our trip was to build a small school in the remote village of Garamba, utilising funds raised in the UK. Set amongst the majestic

Bale Mountains, Garamba is a self-contained agricultural community, two days trek from the nearest road, shops, medic, toilets, radios, clean water supply etc. The local people were extremely charming. They live very basic lives, but seem content with only what they need to get by - this had a profound effect on us which I hope will endure. They spoke no English at all, and had never experienced a group of white/western people visiting their dwellings before.

continued on the next page

Harvest Spectacles



In this post-industrial age it is difficult for the average town-dweller to take something from our working lives to present at Harvest Festival.

Sitting at a checkout till, driving a bus, teaching an infant class, keeping a bank's computers whirring, raising a family – these are likely to be our 21st century preoccupations. Few of us are gardeners, fewer still farmers or market-gardeners.

So we buy a tin or a packet and we donate that. It's a genuinely useful act that will help a local family or retired person. But can we add something into this year's Harvest Festival that gives more of us a sense of "here's something I've harvested"?

Harvest Spectacles. It's a command – go and harvest some spectacles. It's a description – we're harvesting spectacles from the crop hidden all over the town. It's a useful act – Vision Aid Overseas really can make good use of the spectacles we've grown out of. Least important... it rhymes a bit – Harvest Festival, Harvest Spectacles.

Most important, it's something we can almost all do. A lot of us have them. Spectacles lurking about the home. Our old pair. Granny's old ones. The pair we found when we cleared Auntie's house. Little Dylan's or Marigold's first ever pair. *Even those old NHS ones?* Yes, those too.

There's nothing new in handing back our old specs, it's just that some of us need a nudge to do it. It's always possible to get your glasses to a place where they will be used again. You can hand them in at the opticians, and recycling spectacles is a major part of what Lions Clubs do too.

Vision Aid Overseas will classify and grade our old spectacles and make sure they are used again by someone who needs them. Giving a mother new glasses could prove life-changing for the whole family. The gift of spectacles can open up a child's educational opportunities and start them on a path out of poverty.

All through September we want Leatherhead to find its old specs and hand them in. We're making it easier than ever because the opticians, the churches, and some local shops will all accept the glasses you bring.

So this month, please have a good look through those drawers and cupboards and then hand in your used spectacles at Church or at one of the Harvest Spectacles Collection Points listed on the posters.

**Let's find 200 pairs in time for the
Harvest Festival on 29th September**

MUSIC

12.30

ON

Lunchtime

THURSDAYS

Concerts

Thursdays at Leatherhead Methodist Church

lasting 40 - 50 minutes

free entry - with a retiring collection to cover costs

September 2013

Thu 5 Sep **ACACIA Samantha Pearce** flute, **Heather Wrighton** harp

Thu 12 Sep **Thomas Humphreys**† voice, **Reya Humphreys**† piano

Wednesdays at Christ Church (United Reformed), Epsom Road

Wed 18 Sep **Anthony Cairns** organ, Dubois, Mathias, Bach & more

Thu 26 Sep **Occeña Chen Duo** **Hanna Porter-Occeña**† flute,
Belle Chen† piano

Thu 3 Oct **Edita Zurauskaite-Durrant** mezzo-soprano,
accompanied by **Peter Bailey** piano

Lunchtime concerts continue until the end of October 2013

We reserve the right to make alterations to this programme if necessary

www.musiconthursdays.org

The Effect of Poverty on Health Conference

2 Linden Court, Leatherhead, KT22 7JG

Dear Link Readers,

There will be a conference at Christ Church on Saturday 2nd November from 10.00am to 3.00pm on the topic of the Effect of Poverty on Health. This will promote **Surrey Save Credit Union**, and participants will include, Samaritans, Pitstop, Night Hostel, Age Concern Mole Valley North (speaker), Clubhouse & Mental Health (Speaker), Food Bank, Surrey Save (speaker), Volunteer Bureau, CAB, Housing Associations, etc., with information stands. Interested enquiries please to Hilary Porter at the above address or by e-mail to: hm.porter@ntlworld.com

Hilary Porter

Many Thanks from Age Concern Mole Valley North

As another school year approaches, I felt that I must put an article in the Link thanking the LMC and Christ Church for their kind support for Age Concern Mole Valley North.

I have been to visit both churches but perhaps, on the days of my visits, some people missed out on hearing where their donations have been going. So here goes.



As most of you will know I have been Chairman of Age Concern Mole Valley North for over eight years and during that time ACMVN has developed various ways to help the older people of Ashted, Fetcham and Leatherhead, but there is still much to be done. For example, many residents of these areas are over 65 and living alone. Others, though living with a partner, have to care for that partner as they have become less able to care for themselves. In certain areas, in particular North Leatherhead, older residents are not very well off and find it hard to make ends meet. In other cases, illness or old age means that they cannot move very easily and sometimes find it hard even to clean their homes.

Both these problems mean that older people tend to become very lonely and need a friend to talk to and even suggest where they may be able to get help. This is where Age Concern can help. Our "befrienders" can visit, have a chat and sometimes have a cup of tea with them to brighten up their day, becoming a friend who pops in regularly to see them.

In some cases, we have even been able to unite them with a long lost member of their family, or an old friend who has now returned to help them out. Today the computer has become a fact of everyday life, but many old folk have never touched a keyboard and are frightened to do so. Also the older you get the more embarrassed you become to admit that you did not understand something a tutor has been explaining. Six years ago we introduced the idea of free "One to One" computer tuition with a simple handbook, a short chat from our tutor,

continued on the next page

over a cup of coffee, and a student sitting down beside the person learning. That way we have taught over 120 to use the computer. This has allowed them to order online, surf the net, e-mail friends and even unite families who have lost contact with their mums and dads by going overseas.

The Leatherhead Youth Project has helped us by letting us hire their Bfree clubhouse and on occasions helping the clients who have become stuck.

We have been able to arrange advice on items like legal problems, insurance, form filling and how to obtain help from Social Services.

I hope that this gives you an idea of where your donations have been going. So once again many many thanks.

Dennis Wickham

20 Years Transforming Lives - Let's Celebrate!!!!

This year Happy Child International is celebrating its 20th Anniversary and we would like you to come and celebrate with us!

Twenty years ago as Sarah de Carvalho embarked on her mission to rescue children from the horrors she had seen on the streets of Brazil, she had no idea of the huge impact she and Happy Child were going to have on so many lives. She couldn't have imagined in her wildest dreams that 20 years later through the generosity and love of supporters at home, and the hard work of staff in Brazil, that over 9,000 children's lives would be dramatically changed for the better. She couldn't have believed that 14 children's homes would be set up and that there would be global partnerships supporting this important work.



So this year on Tuesday 24th September we will celebrate these achievements with a party on the Terrace at the House of Commons. With the River Thames as a backdrop, we are holding an evening celebration with live Brazilian music. We would love you to join us from 7pm to 10pm. Tickets are £50 per person and include a welcome drink and delicious bowl food. Please contact valerie.mcnally@happychild.org for more information (or leave a message at the office 01372 375848).

Goodbye, Ian

After Ian's sixteen years as the Methodist Minister in Leatherhead, it was quite difficult for us all to say "Goodbye" to him. Ian was also, of course, the Methodist Minister for Effingham and Cobham for some of those years, and the URC Minister at Christ Church for the last three years. However, with Ian's move to Birmingham as District Chair, we felt the need for some sort of "Thank You and Congratulations" event.

So on Saturday 20th July at Christ Church, we enjoyed a "Leaving Social". The crowd of well-wishers came from our two Leatherhead churches and from Effingham and Cobham. Some also came from the Circuit and from Ian's former churches at Stoneleigh, and we all enjoyed a fabulous buffet provided by Alison and her helpers. We then heard tributes to Ian's work in the area from: Les Prescott, Jean Plant, Tim Hall, Rev. Graham Osborne, Anthony Cairns, Mike Ward and Freddie Jenkins. Mike Essex then gave an Alan Bennett "sermon" and John Henderson showed us an excellent mounted photograph of Ian which is to hang in the vestibule of Christ Church alongside those of previous Ministers. Next, Ian accompanied his daughter Rosie who sang for us and Sue Friend handed Ian and Barbara some gifts - a camera, cheque and card from us all.

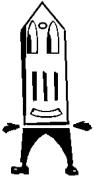
The evening concluded with some songs from the re-assembled Pilgrim Players. They included a rendition of Cwm Rhondda with appropriately altered words saying our last Farewell to Ian. I am sure everyone who attended would like to thank Mike Essex for organising the event, and everyone who played a part in putting an excellent evening together.

At Ian's final Sunday Service on 21st July at LMC, he preached on the text from Galatians 6: "Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation." He mentioned that this could be updated as: "neither Methodism or the United Reformed Church means anything, what counts is the difference God makes in our lives and in the world," or even wider: "whatever tradition or background you come from, whatever doctrine you have is unimportant, compared to the kingdom of God." This certainly gave us a lot to think about - the whole sermon can still be accessed from:

www.thehowarths.org.uk (and click on "sermons").

Goodbye, Ian.

The Editor



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

LMC

Diary - September



Sun 1st	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell
	6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell
Thurs 5th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 30</i>)
Fri 6th	2.30pm	Time for Tea (ends 4.30pm) (<i>see page 38</i>)
Sat 7th	3.00pm	Induction Service for Rev. Lynda Russell at Christ Church
Sun 8th	10.30am	Joint Communion Service at Christ Church
	12.30pm	"Meet the Minister" lunch at Christ Church
	6.30pm	Rev. Paul Cockburn
Thurs 12th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 30</i>)
Sun 15th	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell
	6.30pm	Joint Service at Christ Church with Holy Communion - Rev Lynda Russell
Wed 18th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 30</i>)
Thurs 19th	3.30pm	Messy Church (<i>to 5.30pm</i>)
	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at LMC
Sat 21st	6.30pm	(for 7pm) Harvest Supper - Parish Church Hall
Sun 22nd	10.30am	David Cappitt
	6.30pm	New Fire
Thurs 26th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 30</i>)
Sat 28th	8.00am	CTIL Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall
Sun 29th	10.30am	Parade/Harvest Service Jointly at at Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell
	5.00pm	Pastorate Service at LMC followed by tea
<u>October</u>		
Thurs 3rd	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 30</i>)
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea (ends 4.30pm) (<i>see page 38</i>)
Sun 6th	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell (tbc)
	6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell (tbc)

Question: "What is the Intelligent Design Theory?"

Answer: The Intelligent Design Theory says that intelligent causes are necessary to explain the complex, information-rich structures of biology and that these causes are empirically detectable. Certain biological features defy the standard Darwinian random-chance explanation, because they appear to have been designed. Since design logically necessitates an intelligent designer, the appearance of design is cited as evidence for a designer. There are three primary arguments in the Intelligent Design Theory:

- 1) irreducible complexity,
- 2) specified complexity, and
- 3) the anthropic principle.

Irreducible complexity is defined as "...a single system which is composed of several well-matched interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning." Simply put, life is comprised of intertwined parts that rely on each other in order to be useful. Random mutation may account for the development of a new part, but it cannot account for the concurrent development of multiple parts necessary for a functioning system. For example, the human eye is obviously a very useful system. Without the eyeball, the optic nerve, and the visual cortex, a randomly mutated incomplete eye would actually be counterproductive to the survival of a species and would therefore be eliminated through the process of natural selection. An eye is not a useful system unless all its parts are present and functioning properly at the same time.

Specified complexity is the concept that, since specified complex patterns can be found in organisms, some form of guidance must have accounted for their origin. The specified complexity argument states that it is impossible for complex patterns to be developed through random processes. For example, a room filled with 100 monkeys and 100 computers may eventually produce a few words, or maybe even a sentence, but it would never produce a Shakespearean play. And how much more complex is biological life than a Shakespearean play?

The anthropic principle states that the world and universe are “fine-tuned” to allow for life on earth. If the ratio of elements in the air of the earth was altered slightly, many species would very quickly cease to exist. If the earth were significantly closer to or further away from the sun, many species would cease to exist. The existence and development of life on earth requires so many variables to be perfectly in tune that it would be impossible for all the variables to come into being through random, uncoordinated events.

While the Intelligent Design Theory does not presume to identify the source of intelligence (whether it be God or UFOs or something else), the vast majority of Intelligent Design theorists are theists. They see the appearance of design which pervades the biological world as evidence for the existence of God. There are, however, a few atheists who cannot deny the strong evidence for design, but are not willing to acknowledge a Creator God. They tend to interpret the data as evidence that earth was seeded by some sort of master race of extra-terrestrial creatures (aliens). Of course, they do not address the origin of the aliens either, so they are back to the original argument with no credible answer.

The Intelligent Design Theory is not biblical creationism. There is an important distinction between the two positions. Biblical creationists begin with a conclusion that the biblical account of creation is reliable and correct, that life on Earth was designed by an intelligent agent—God. They then look for evidence from the natural realm to support this conclusion. Intelligent Design theorists begin with the natural realm and reach the conclusion that life on Earth was designed by an intelligent agent (whoever that might be).

*This article was submitted by Bob Greenfield who arranged for the Link to publish it. It is from the website **www.gotquestions.org** You can read more on this topic at <http://www.gotquestions.org/intelligent-design.html#ixzz2brjjMqw0>*



Methodist Women in Britain



The new logo for the movement has finally emerged and was duly launched at the MWiB event at the Conference in July. It has been designed by Sally Bamford, a professional graphic designer. The logo embraces the subtle use of the letters of MWiB to form this graceful butterfly motif. Some thoughts about butterflies from Jill Baker, the recently retired national President:

- "Butterflies appear fragile, yet show remarkable toughness and ability to survive - an appropriate symbol for Methodist women."
- "Butterflies travel huge distances and link continents. One of the main aims of MWiB is to connect British women with women around the world, especially through the British Unit of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women."
- "The beauty of butterflies is partly due to their time of darkness and struggle. A belief that God can bring 'beauty for brokenness' is lived out in the grace and courage of many women."
- "Butterflies are not long lived, but they make a difference to all who see them, and they pass on to the next generation their instinctive ability to find their way around the world. We do not know how long our lives will be, nor how long MWiB will endure in its current form, but that should not deter us from living the time we have now as fully as we can, spurred on to keep finding ways to encourage, enable and equip each other."

She ends by saying "It is a privilege to be involved with MWiB. There is still much to be done, but God's grace is sufficient. Peace be on the journey.

Many thanks to Jill for her two years as President. Linda Crossley has a hard act to follow.

Jean Plant



heritage open days

Heritage Open Days 14th and 15th September

LMC will be open as part of Heritage Weekend when private houses, schools, churches and buildings not normally accessible to the public will also be open. Ride and Stride cyclists raising money for church restoration will visit on the Saturday.

LMC will have on display items relating to the history of Methodism, the connection with John Wesley and the church building.

Brochures of the Weekend are available from libraries and The Help Shop.

Refreshments will be available and if you would like to help please contact Fred Meynen on 01372 372930

TIME FOR TEA Come for Tea and Company

From 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Fridays 6th September, 4th October...

...and every first Friday in the month at

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

EVERYONE WELCOME

If you need transport please contact:

Margaret Meynen on 372930 or Gill Harris on 458518

(Suggested donation £1)

“A Happy New Year”

This is not the January kind that is usually thought of. There will not be a gathering of great crowds in Trafalgar Square ready to high-five each other, to hug and kiss complete strangers on the first stroke of midnight. There will be no fireworks nor peals of bells, and it is doubtful that there will be a single Service in any church. At the beginning of September, the celebration, if that is what it could be called, is simply the Methodist Church quietly moving on into a new church year.



It is not all negativity! For LMC and Christ Church it is a time of rejoicing as we greet our new minister. We look forward to her newness and the gifts that she has, and, at the same time, to helping her during the transition to a new position. A time of learning for all concerned.

The quiet summer period is over. Children are back at school. (Thank goodness we hear the parents say!) and the round of meetings begin again. (Oh dear, some might sigh!) Nothing has quite stopped though. Certainly not when thousands of cyclists sped through the town, disrupting our routine and jerking us out of our complacency! Other than that Sunday, services have taken place, with hymns, prayers and sermons to feed our hungry souls.

What resolutions will we make? Some very small, others significantly greater. We anticipate the next report from the CPL about the future. There have been many emails and reports to them from the Steering Group, quietly working in the background. It is exciting, challenging and frightening - the unknown! As Christians, we must believe that we are being God-led.

A Happy New Church Year! May we all prosper.

Jean Plant

LMC Family News



Congratulations to:..

...Arnold and Winifred Ashbrook on their Diamond Wedding anniversary in August

Best Wishes to:..

...James, Joanne and Seth Cameron on moving to their new home in Guildford

Best Wishes also to:..

...Dreda Kitchen making a good recovery from surgery following her accident

and Best Wishes also to:..

...Dorothy Marlow back in Church following her recent surgery

Our thoughts and prayers are with...

...family and friends of Christine Edwards who died on 21st July

A Big Welcome to:..

...Lynda and John Russell, our new Minister and her husband, as they prepare for Lynda's ministry here in Leatherhead

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

Christ Church Flowers

Firstly, I would like to say a huge Thank You to Carol Hazell who has organised and arranged the flowers in the church so beautifully for so long.

She now feels the time has come for her to stand down and I have agreed to take this duty on.

We are most grateful to the people who offer to provide flowers every Sunday, often in memory of a loved one.

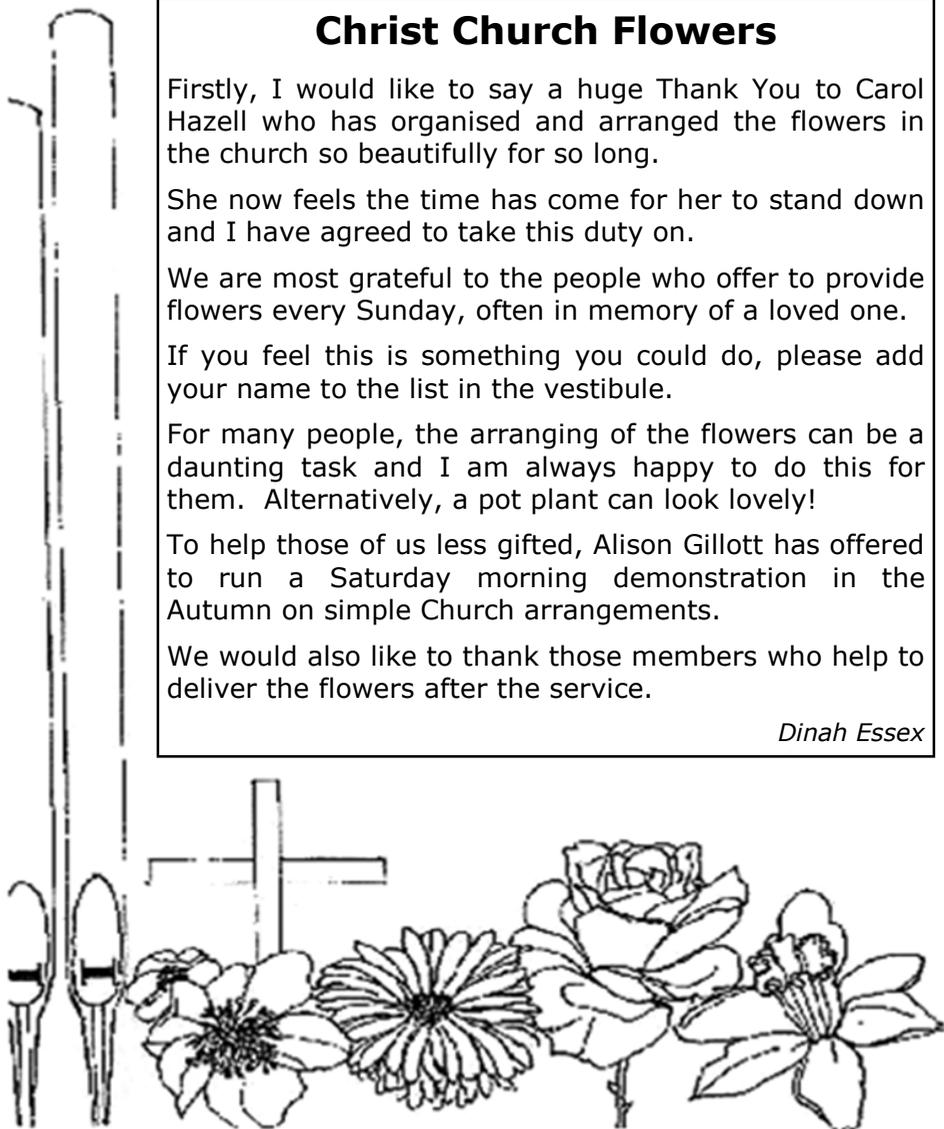
If you feel this is something you could do, please add your name to the list in the vestibule.

For many people, the arranging of the flowers can be a daunting task and I am always happy to do this for them. Alternatively, a pot plant can look lovely!

To help those of us less gifted, Alison Gillott has offered to run a Saturday morning demonstration in the Autumn on simple Church arrangements.

We would also like to thank those members who help to deliver the flowers after the service.

Dinah Essex



Christ Church Diary - September



Sun 1st	10.30am 6.30pm	Mr John Bell (organist Ed Sutton) Evening Service at LMC - Rev Lynda Russell
Thurs 5th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 30</i>)
Fri 6th	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC (<i>see page 38</i>)
Sat 7th	3.00pm	Induction Service for Rev. Lynda Russell
Sun 8th	10.30am 12.30pm 6.30pm	Joint Communion Service (LMC/URC) At Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell Joint Lunch at Christ Church Evening Service at LMC: Rev. Paul Cockburn
Thurs 12th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 30</i>)
Sat 14th	9.30am	Heritage Open Day and "Ride & Stride" (to 5.30pm) (<i>see page 43</i>)
Sun 15th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Brian Treharne Rev. Lynda Russell with Holy Communion (Joint Service LMC/ChCh at ChCh)
Wed 18th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 30</i>)
Thurs 19th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm)
Sat 21st	6.30pm	(for 7pm) Harvest Supper - Parish Church Hall
Sun 22nd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell New Fire at LMC
Thurs 26th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 30</i>)
Sat 28th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church hall
Sun 29th	10.30am 5.00pm	Parade/Harvest Service Jointly with LMC at Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell Pastorate Service at LMC followed by tea
<u>October</u>		
Tues 1st	7.30pm	Synod, Crawley
Thurs 3rd	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 30</i>)
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC (<i>see page 38</i>)
Sun 6th	10.30pm	The Elders: Mike Essex

Christ Church Family News



We are sorry that Carol Hazell is unwell again and send her our very best wishes and hope that she will soon be feeling much better.

Liz Hindman sends her love and best wishes to all her old friends at Christ Church. She and Milford are happily settled in Braintree (see address in April issue). She is now looking for a job after making a good recovery from cancer treatment since returning to the UK. Mimi is well settled in a retirement home nearby. Andrew has a good job in the hotel business in Manchester.

We are sorry that Mary Keene has a few health problems at the moment. We hope they will soon be resolved and send our very best wishes.

We wish Hilary Porter much happiness in her new home nearer the town. Her address is: 2 Linden Court, Leatherhead, KT22 7JG. The phone number remains the same: 01372 376247

We are delighted to report that Dorothy Poulton is home again and is feeling much better. It is good to see her back in church. We send her our warmest best wishes for her continued recovery.

Dorothy would like to thank everyone at Christ Church and LMC for their good wishes and prayers which have given her much encouragement.

We remember all these friends in our prayers, and others who are unwell or unable to attend church, or feeling alone at this time.

Anne Cairns

Heritage Open Day

Christ Church, along with other churches in the area, will be open on Saturday 14th September as part of the Heritage Open Days, and also to welcome cyclists and walkers on the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust's "Ride & Stride" event.

This is a little plea for volunteers to welcome visitors on the day, for just an hour or so between 9.30am and 5.30pm.

Thanks,

Anne Cairns

Pastorate Details

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

Leatherhead Methodist Church:

www.leatherheadmethodist.org
Contact: Senior Steward -
Sue Friend 01372 813464

**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.com
Contact: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



United Pastorate Ministers

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