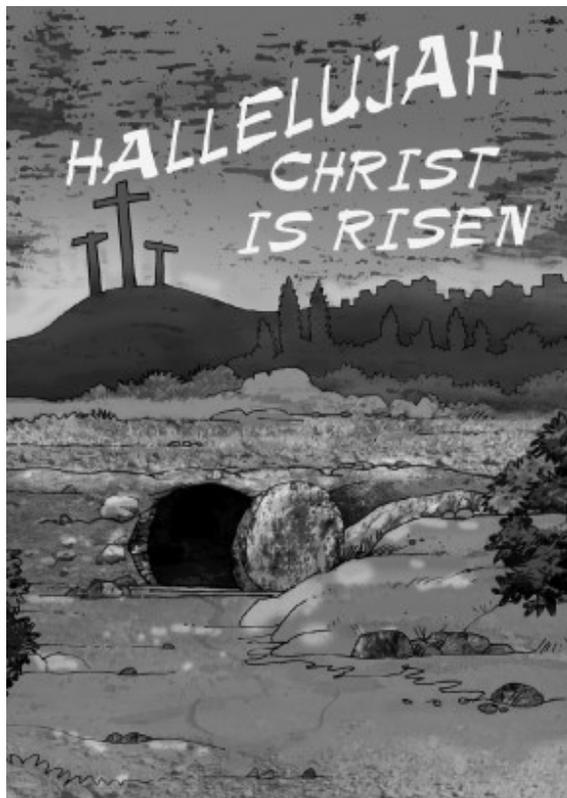


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

April 2017



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

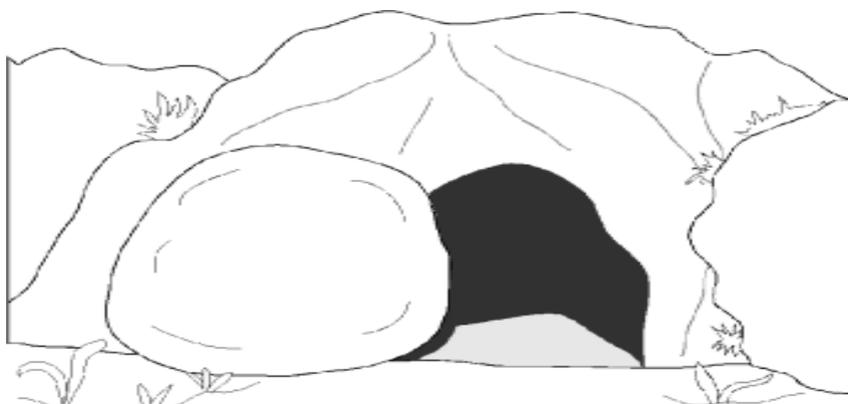
Linking:
Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham Methodist Church
Cobham United Reformed Church
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church

The Methodist Church



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Happy Easter

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



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear friends,

On Christmas morning during the united service at Cobham, with great hilarity we had a game of 'Speak Out'. For anyone who is not familiar with this game it involves placing a piece of apparatus into your mouth (similar to the device a dentist might use to keep your mouth open). Once it's comfortably in place you are then given cards to read. Your partner must then repeat what they think is written on the card. Of course in church I replaced the cards with the story of Christmas. It was so so funny, and eventually we managed to get through the Christmas story without serious injury to its participants. It caused endless laughter with phone cameras capturing every moment but there was of course a serious message, why is it that we sometimes find it so difficult to share the good news of the Christmas story, where God touches our world in the most remarkable way. Where have our voices gone?

It then led to our Lent course 'The Kings Speech: Finding a Voice.' The course is centred around King George VI. The king of course struggled with a stutter. The course invites us to contemplate the very things that hinder us from sharing the gospel more freely, our social anxieties, our definitions of calling, the power of friendship and encouragement, the importance of having faith in our voice. My conclusion (although on writing this we still have 3 more sessions to go), is that many of us find ourselves somewhere between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I fall into this category too. I'm someone who tentatively and at times apprehensively steps out of my comfort zones unsure of what lies ahead. For me in that space between good Friday and Easter Sunday, I move between anxiety and fear, unsure of where it will lead, unsure of the demands it will make upon me, but acknowledging that soothing thought that something significant is about to be born. It is the very thing that propels me forward.

I find myself being deeply challenged this Lent, reminded again of the silence that once dominated my own existence before I found faith. Reminded of a journey so deeply entrenched in the pain of Good Friday, yet recognising that there was something more, there is good news just around the corner. However, I must move towards it if I am to touch it. Sometimes we get stuck, we need others to give us a nudge.

Continued next page

Easter morning brings with it a freedom that needs to be experienced through the heart and not the head. Trying to rationalise the resurrection may not be the most helpful way to approach this extraordinary event, neither will it be helpful to accept it without questioning it. I suppose what I am trying to say is that the answer lies somewhere in-between for me; something significant happened and I trust in my heart that God's divine plan for humankind was part of it just as it was when Mary gave birth.

This Easter I want to encourage you to step out in faith, even though you may feel fearful, Easter Sunday gives us permission to reach into the unknown. Someone once said to me 'Kim be prepared to take a risk' and I invite you to do the same.

Step out, be heard, be known, do so extravagantly in God's name and you will grow stronger, your faith will grow deeper and you will find you spend less time in that space between Good Friday and Easter morning and more time rejoicing that Christ is alive.

May God bless you richly this Easter with divine revelation.

Every blessing Kim, Colin and family.

From the Editor

Last month some of you received your Link printed in colour. The day after I sent it to the printer I had an email from him to say that he'd made a mistake and started the print run printing in colour. If yours was in colour you were one of the lucky ones. It caused quite a stir and I was asked if we could have more colour-printed issues, so I asked the printer what the price difference would be. The answer was: quite a lot. For a 40 page issue it costs us 55p per copy in black and white. The same printed in colour would cost £2.49 per copy. So unless somebody would like to provide substantial sponsorship, I'm afraid it will be back to black-and-white for the foreseeable future.
DC



Easter in Cobham



You are invited to join us for 'One Woman's Story'. We will begin by sharing a simple Maundy Thursday supper followed by a musical drama.

Some years ago I put pen to paper and wrote several songs. They have been brought together for this story where we will travel a journey with one woman, who shares her experiences of encountering and following Christ as he teaches and preaches. Communion will form part of the presentation.



We remember the last words that Jesus shared with us:
"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do"
"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
To his mother he said: "Woman, this is your son."
Then he said to the disciple: "This is your mother."
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
"I thirst."
"It is finished;"
"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

There will be a seven stations around the church that will invite you to reflect upon those last words, their significance, as we consider the impact of Good Friday.



Our service will be held at Cobham Methodist Church where will share in the joy of Easter morning . There will of course be the traditional Easter egg hunt during the service.

All are welcome

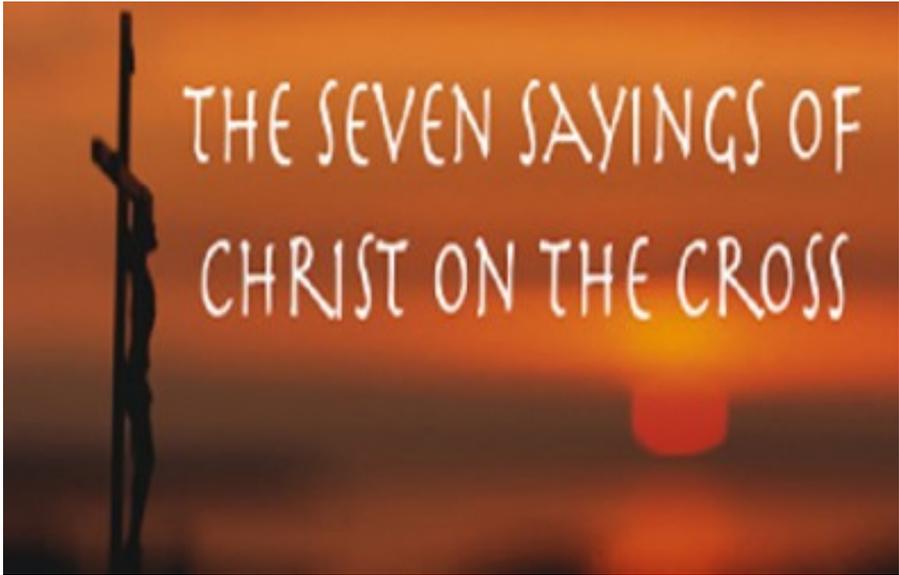
One woman's story



Maundy Thursday 13th April
7pm
Cobham United Reformed Church

The evening will begin with Maundy Thursday supper followed by a performance sharing one woman's story.

©All words and music written by Revd Kim Plumpton



GOOD FRIDAY
14th April 10am
Cobham United Reformed Church

**Please join us as we reflect upon the very last words
that Jesus shares with us from the cross.**

Christian Witness in Cobham



As in previous years, there will be a cross in the Hollyhedge pedestrian area on Good Friday morning.

You are invited to stand round the cross in silent vigil for five minutes, ten minutes, half an hour or more, as a witness that what has become a busy commercial shopping day is still very special for Christians.



Cobham Methodist Worship Diary



April

Sun 2nd 10.30am David Cappitt

No Platinum Service this month (see below)

**Sun 9th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton (Joint Service at URC)
Followed by Pot-Luck Lunch; speaker:
John Payne**

**Thur 13th 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Meal and Reflection
incorporating Holy Communion (at URC)**

Fri 14th 10.00am Good Friday Service (at URC)

**Sun 16th Easter Day
10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton (Holy Communion)
(Joint Service)**

Sun 23rd 10.30am John Oborn

Sun 30th 10.30am Andrew Gibb (Joint Service at URC)

May

Sun 7th 10.30am David Cappitt

Platinum Spring Party
for the over 50s
With tea and entertainment

Sat 1st April, 2.30—4.30
Cobham Village Hall





Cobham

United Reformed Church

Worship Diary

April

- Sun 2nd 9.00am Early Bird Service**
10.30am Thelma Roberts
- Sun 9th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton (Joint Service)**
Service followed by Pot Luck Lunch with John Payne
- Thur 13th 7.00pm Maundy Thursday meal and reflection**
With Holy Communion (see p6)
- Fri 14th 10.00am Good Friday Service (see p7)**
- Sun 16th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton: United Easter**
Communion at CMC
- Sun 23rd 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton**
- Sun 30th 10.30am Andrew Gibb (Joint Service)**
Service followed by Church Meeting (AGM)

May

- Sun 7th 9.00am Early Bird Service**
10.30am Iain Stewart

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

House Groups

The next House Group will be on Thursday 20th April at 7.30pm, venue to be arranged. The study book is "Mark" by Tom Wright. For further details contact Brian Manners.

Cobham Events in April

Sun	2nd	3.00pm	Play and Chat (to 6.00 pm)
Tues	4th	9.45am	Church Walk
		10.30am	Lent Bible Study @ the manse
		8.00pm	Elders' Meeting (URC)
Thur	6th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship (<i>The Yeoman Harvester, Old Woking Rd, West Byfleet</i>)
		7.30pm	Lent Bible Study @ Helen Pattison's
Thur	20th	7.30pm	House Group
Thur	27th	3.45pm	Messy Church (to 5.45pm)
Fri	28th	7.30pm	Joint Leadership Meeting at URC

Fundraiser



Saturday 6th May 6:30pm
Cobham United Reformed Church

Come and join us for what should be a fun evening.

Refreshments will be served

Fundraising events



11th March 7pm
Sing-A-Long

6th May 6:30pm
Quiz Night



2nd July 12:15pm
Barbecue



23rd Sept 7:30pm
Harvest Supper

For information: contact Kim on
01932586988 or kimp_822@hotmail.com



Cobham Area Foodbank - Report to PCCs February 2017

The Foodbank is an independent charity, registered in England and Wales no 1154217, founded in 2013 by Churches Together in Cobham, Oxshott, Stoke D'Abernon and Surrounding Areas.

The Foodbank subscribes to the national network of over 400 food banks co-ordinated and advised by the Trussell Trust, a Christian charity in Salisbury. Trussell has devised, and Cobham Area Foodbank follows, a system whereby people who find themselves without the wherewithal to buy food, for whatever reason, can obtain a food voucher from a voucher issuer, who may be a school welfare officer, a Jobcentre, a housing benefit officer, a minister of religion or other professional, who will be able to verify the need expressed. The voucher details the number and ages of people to receive food, and records the reason why their need has arisen. These details are fed into a national Trussell Trust database.

The Foodbank has collection bins in all the local churches and some other premises including Waitrose, Starbucks and Sainsbury's, and it invites donations of non-perishable food, which are collected in the Foodbank van (pictured below) and taken to the Foodbank warehouse at Brook Willow Farm, Leatherhead, where it is weighed and sorted by types and best-before dates. The Foodbank does not distribute fresh or out-of-date food.

Every Friday morning the van collects sufficient food for the week's distribution, which takes place in the Foodbank's 'pop-up café' at Cobham Methodist Church, open from midday to 1.30pm. In the last year we have distributed on average 1/3 tonne of food per week, providing food for 960 adults and 732 children - an average of 32 people per week. We are noticing an increase in numbers - around Christmas there were weeks where we provided food for between 60 and 70 people, and distributed over 1/2 tonne of food.

All the clients live locally, in Cobham, Oxshott, Stoke D'Abernon, or Downside. The area served by the Foodbank has been extended in the last year also to include East and West Horsley, Ockham and Effingham. St Martin's, East Horsley, Horsley Evangelical Church, Effingham Methodist Church, and Posh Wash dry cleaners are all now collecting food.

Where people for whatever reason cannot come to our distribution centre, we deliver their food at home. The volunteers who serve in the distribution centre and those who do home deliveries all undergo special training in order that they treat clients appropriately, warmly and with respect.

The governing principles are 'there but for the grace of God go I', and Jesus' great second commandment, to love thy neighbour as thyself.

The Foodbank does not judge or advise its clients in any way, save only that there is a display of 'signposts' to various forms of advice and assistance.

The Foodbank does not impose any limit to the number of food parcels any client can receive. The only criterion is need. Particularly where many clients are working, but in low-paid and uncertain jobs, living in privately rented accommodation where rents rise but housing benefits have been cut or capped, (or are otherwise harmed by government austerity, as graphically shown by the recent award-winning film 'I, Daniel Blake'), the Foodbank trustees consider that ideas of reducing 'dependency' are usually cruel and to be avoided. Most Foodbank clients have no chance of getting themselves out of poverty.



There are around 60 active volunteers working in the Foodbank, in transport (drivers and mates), warehouse and the distribution centre. There are no paid employees. The Foodbank is administered by a General Manager, Hugh Bryant, who also manages transport and is assisted by a volunteer coordinator and distribution manager, Christina Van Roest, and a warehouse

manager, Jane Olsen. Hugh reports to a board of trustees chaired by Revd Godfrey Hilliard, including Hugh, Christina, Peter Wall and the treasurer, Claire Smith.

The Foodbank is most grateful for the support it receives financially from the churches, from various grants and generous individuals. It needs around £15,000 per year in order to meet its costs for warehouse rental, hire purchase and depreciation of the van, insurances and periodic needs to purchase food, where donations have not provided items needed in order to provide nutritionally-balanced food parcels. Bank details and a Gift Aid form may be found on the website www.cobhamarea.foodbank.org.uk.

Hugh D. Bryant
9th February 2017



Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates to celebrate this month:



Two of our ladies celebrate birthdays this month :
Rachel Reed on 5th & Rosemary Roberts on 19th

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



Gracie & Dennis Wickham celebrated their **Golden Wedding** with a service at **Effingham Chapel**
on
Saturday 4th March.



"Connect" a group for carers and partners with dementia

***Come for refreshment, friendship, activities and fun.
You don't have to live in Effingham!***

We meet in St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, KT24 5LX in Effingham from 10am to 12noon on alternate Thursdays and also arrange monthly outings.

In March the group welcomed Mike Davies, who came with his guitar, and sang a variety of songs from the 60s, which most of us could join in with. Dave and Angela Putland also came to talk about "Trips and Falls". Monthly outings are also arranged; the next will be to Sunbury Embroidery Gallery and Walled Garden. We hope for a fine day.

We are happy to welcome more couples so if you know anyone for whom this sounds of possible interest and benefit, please let us know. Next dates fortnightly , April 13th and 27th.

For more info. contact Gill on 01372 457987

email GillianMWalker@gmail.com

or Kim on 01932 586988

Your invitation to:



Messy Church met in March, focusing in two parts on the Lord's Prayer. Some 20 children burst through our doors with a parent hotly behind. We gave an Easter Egg and a poster with the Easter story to colour in to each parent or carer for Easter — we wonder if it will last that long. We hope the story will though.

We shall not meet in April, so the next **Messy Church** will be on **May 10th, 3.30pm to 5.30pm in St Lawrence Church Hall.**

For more information contact Gill on 01372 45787

or email gillianmwalker@gmail.com

Women's World Day of Prayer in Effingham

The service was written by the Christian women of the Philippines, entitled "Am I being Unfair to You?"

The evening service this year was held at Effingham Methodist Church, where we welcomed 34 people from various churches round and about. Our chapel lends itself well to "stage", shifting our chairs and communion table laden with fruits, scales of justice, and fish, all representing the Philippines. The hymns and songs spoke of justice for all who go hungry, for those who are homeless and powerless. We sang "Let justice begin through me."

Thanks to David Putland for his reading contribution as well as projecting scenes from the Philippines. The main focus of the service was a powerful painting depicting two sides of life in the Philippines: one of fruitful harvests, lush vegetation and beautiful beaches, the other showing the changing face of industry, forlorn faces, and uneven distribution of food. Our offering goes to support women's work worldwide.

Thanks to Jane Keepen who played the organ for all the singing, and of course to our minister Kim Plumpton who read the bible reading from Matthew 20 vv 1-16.



Effingham Methodist Diary



April

- Sun 2nd 10.00am Rev Kim Plumpton with Sacrament**
Sun 9th 10.00am Rev Kath Jones
Tues 11th 2.30pm Tuesday Teas in the RC Hall
Thur 13th 7-11am Free Hot X buns at station & shops
2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church
Fri 14th 5.00pm Good Friday Devotional Walk starts at All Saints
6.00pm Service at the Foot of the Cross
Sat 15th 3.00pm Living Easter Story starts from Haig pub
Sun 16th 9.00am Easter Sunday with Rev. Kim Plumpton
Thur 20th 12.30pm Oasis Bible Lunch group in the hall (to 3.00pm)
Sun 23rd 10.00am David Cappitt
Tues 25th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall
Thur 27th 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church
Sun 30th 10.00am Joint Service at All Saints with Kim

May

- Sun 7th 10.00am Rev. Gavin Hancocks with Sacrament**

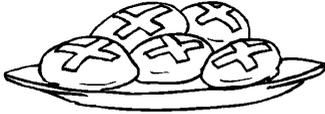
Prayer meetings are held at the Chapel every Friday at 9.30 am



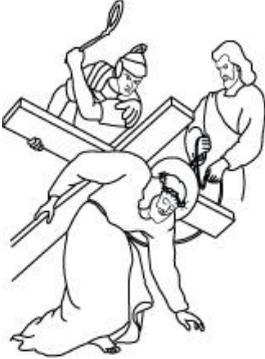
**St. George's Day
Collection @ Effingham on
Sunday 23rd April**
Buy a cake In aid of **World Mission**
and **Habitat for Humanity**

Sorry no lunch this year as 23rd is a
Sunday !

Easter in Effingham



Once again **Churches together** have organised for free hot-cross buns to be distributed locally on **Maundy Thursday**. Kim and helpers will be at **Effingham's shops**, and Mandy, our rector, will be at **Effingham Junction** station to catch early bird commuters.



Good Friday Walk of Witness

Join us at **All Saints Church** at 5pm for a devotional walk around the village followed by a Service **At the Foot of The Cross** at **Effingham Chapel** followed by tea.



Living Easter !

Come and join another ambitious Christian drama, acted out around our churches, starting at the Haig pub at 3pm on **Easter Saturday, 15th April**. Wear an Easter Bonnet or dress in biblical style !

Or Volunteer your help as a **Safety Marshal**.
Talk to Ange or Dave.



Join us for Effingham's Amazing:

'Living Easter' –

telling the story of the first Easter.



Easter Saturday @ 3pm.



Start and finish: The Douglas Haig Pub.

**Biblical-style costumes and Easter bonnets/hats
encouraged.**

Free refreshments on route and buffet at finish.



World Health Day



World Health Day is celebrated on **7th April** every year to mark the anniversary of the founding of the **World Health Organization**.

It's a unique opportunity to mobilize action around a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. The theme for 2017's campaign is **depression**.

Depression affects people of all ages, from all walks of life, in all countries. It causes mental anguish and impacts on people's ability to carry out even the simplest everyday tasks, with sometimes devastating consequences for relationships with family and friends and the ability to earn a living. At worst, depression can lead to suicide, now the second leading cause of death among 15-29-year olds.

Yet, depression can be prevented and treated. A better understanding of what depression is, and how it can be prevented and treated, will help reduce the stigma associated with the condition, and lead to more people seeking help.

Facebook, twitter and an app available for online campaign factsheets and videos and other resources are available on the World Health Organization's website <http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/2017/campaign-essentials/en/>

Meanwhile if you're affected by depression talk to your doctor or find help locally at **Epsom Safe Haven** which offers help and support to anyone going through an emotional or mental health crisis. It's an informal, safe space that supports each individual to take control of, and improve, their own mental health.



THY KINGDOM COME

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

The hope is that:

People will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;

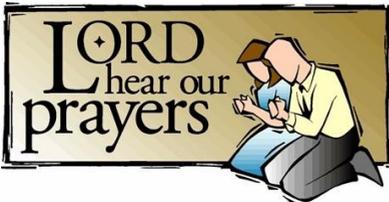
Churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world;

People will be empowered through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Join the global wave of prayer 25th May - 4th June

Pledge2pray online as a Church, family or individual

Check out the Extensive resources online at
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>



Including Messy Church ideas, and some help for families and young people to pray together, and ideas for Church events.

Leatherhead Pages

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



A SPECIALITY COFFEE SHOP AND SANDWICH COMPANY

Open Mon-Sat, 8am-3pm

OPEN TO ALL

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

All Saints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT



Next Sisters' Get-Together

Saturday 8th April
8.30am – 10.00am

Parish Church Hall, Church Rd,
Leatherhead

“Lesley’s Time in Prison”. Breakfast provided - donations to cover cost.
We welcome all women/girls across the Churches in Leatherhead, together with any friends, family and neighbours.



**MUSIC
on
THURSDAYS
at LMC**



**WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH**

musiconthursdays.org

Music on Thursdays at LMC

Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road,
please use multi-storey or Church Street car parks

12.30 lunchtime • Thursday 6th April

sung excerpts from the Will Todd & Maggie Gottlieb family opera

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

with principal singers from March 2017

production at the London College of Music

Music on Thursdays at LMC

Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road,
please use multi-storey or Church Street car parks

12.30 lunchtime • Thursday 13th April

Trio Opal: violin, cello, piano

Piano Trios by Haydn & Schumann

courtesy of the Royal Academy of Music

Wednesdays at Christ Church

Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
plenty of on-site parking

12.30 lunchtime Weds 19th April

David Oldfield, Director of Music, St Luke's
Whyteleafe • Director, Stag Montem Chorem

Music on Thursdays at LMC

Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road,
please use multi-storey or Church Street car parks

12.30 lunchtime • Thursday 27th April

Ellis Ensemble: clarinet, bassoon, piano

12.30 lunchtime concerts take place weekly from April to the
end of November. *These concerts are free to enter with a
retiring collection to cover costs. Programme may change.*

Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society Regd Charity 1166764

AP17

**Churches Together in Leatherhead -
Good Friday 14th April**

Stations of the Cross - at the Catholic Church at 9.15am...

followed by

Walk of Reflection - we will have a walk in silent prayer and reflection, starting with prayer at Christ Church URC at 10.00am, walking into town, down the High Street, up Church Street past the Theatre, and ending at the Leatherhead Methodist Church for refreshments. All are welcome!

NEW FIRE

Don't forget to plan to come along to the contemporary New Fire service at 6.30pm on the fourth Sunday evening each month at LMC. Stay afterwards for coffee and a chat.

Next New Fire - 23rd April



Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:

Thursday 20th April
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



Men's Breakfasts

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

22nd April Catholic Church Hall

27th May Christ Church

...then on the fourth Saturday each month.

All men of any denomination or none are welcome. A suggested donation of £4 would be appreciated to cover costs; any surplus is donated to the speaker's preferred charity.

Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

from 2.30pm to 4.30pm
on the first Friday every month at

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

Next "Time for Tea" - Friday 7th April

This month we are to be entertained by the Effingham Methodist Recorder Group. We shall also be having a Bring and Buy stall so do please come and support us. Proceeds will go to a Mental Health Charity.

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)



An update from LYP

A new year is here and as always, LYP is full of excitement. In the last year, we have grown considerably, and are reaching even more young people.

As you may know, Martin Fuller took over from Jay Bristow in 2015 with the running of Triumph and Cell Group, our ecumenical faith projects, and these groups have both seen an increase in size in that time. We're really pleased with the progress of the young people, who seem to have fun and enjoy the sessions, and who have formed a really positive community together.



You may not know that LYP is now a team of 8 staff, having launched our One to One counselling and mentoring scheme in 2015 which is a partnership initiative with Surrey County Council, offering early help to the most vulnerable young people to ensure they are supported before things reach breaking point. This project extends across all of Mole Valley, and allows our team to work alongside young people within all five secondary schools in the district and other locations to provide much needed emotional support. Our One to One team is made up of Jude Crome, Alex Ball and Aura Cole.

More recently, in September 2016, we launched the new Bookham Youth Project, which is being headed up by our experienced youth worker Oli Bell. Similarly to our beginnings in 2005 in Leatherhead, three Bookham Churches worked together last year to identify a need for faith and community youth projects in Bookham, which had its open-access community youth work withdrawn by Surrey County Council in 2015. Part of this work will involve revitalising the Bookham Youth Centre and making sure there are high quality evening youth club sessions for local young people, as well as working within Churches and Schools. This is an exciting step for LYP; we're proud that our work has been recognised and valued enough to be replicated in Bookham, and we welcome the opportunity to reach more young people.

To replace Oli in Leatherhead, we've recruited Mikey Dicken, a long time volunteer with us at LYP, and Martyina Harnden, who completed her youth work degree in 2016 on the same university course as Martin at Oasis College. Both bring new skills and experience to our team, and provide much needed energy for the 45-50 young people we currently have through the doors each day at BFree.

We will continue writing regular updates in the magazine, and if you have any questions about our work you are always most welcome to pop into All Saints for a coffee.

Joe Crome, General Manager of LYP

HRH The Earl of Wessex visits local charities - Leatherhead Youth Project and Community Foundation for Surrey

Leatherhead, Surrey, Thursday 23rd February 2017 - On 23rd February 2017, HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO visited local charities Leatherhead Youth Project and the Community Foundation for Surrey. This was an opportunity for The Earl to hear more about the important work undertaken by both organisations. Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP) hosted the event at All Saints Church in Leatherhead, which the group transformed into their state of the art youth facility in 2005. The Community Foundation hosted His Royal Highness during a previous visit made to coincide with its five-year anniversary in 2011.

On this special visit, HRH met staff, trustees, donors and groups supported by the Community Foundation for Surrey. By working with donors who want to give back to their local communities, the Community Foundation awards grants to disadvantaged individuals and voluntary groups that provide vital services for people in need. Thanks to the generous and continuing support of their donors, the total figure awarded in grants across Surrey has increased each year with over £1million being distributed to local communities in 2015/16 alone.

The Earl then met young people and staff associated with Leatherhead Youth Project. This included young people who attend the BFree after-school drop-in project, a hub that is open every day for young people aged 11-17. It also included those who benefit from One to One counselling provided by LYP. During his visit, the Earl was served by the AllSaints Coffee Shop team, a group of young apprentices who run the LYP on-site social enterprise. Before departing, HRH unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the visit.

The two charities have partnered together for over 10 years, having both formed in 2005. During this time, the Community Foundation has made various strategic grants to support the growth of LYP. This includes supporting the launch of AllSaints Coffee Shop, in 2014.

Joe Crome, General Manager of Leatherhead Youth Project commented: "We were delighted to host The Earl of Wessex and to share this special event for both organisations. This visit was

very special for our young people, and something they will always remember.

It has been a chance for them to share what they have gained from their involvement with our youth work programmes and celebrate the personal progress they have made with LYP. It was also a fantastic occasion for our staff and volunteers who very much deserve the recognition they receive for the work they do to help local young people."

Wendy Varcoe, Executive Director of the Community Foundation for Surrey echoed his comments: "We are grateful that the Earl of Wessex has returned to see how much we have developed since his last visit. Building stronger communities is at the heart of what we do and over the past decade, we have built a strong relationship with Leatherhead Youth Project. We were glad to share this opportunity with LYP to celebrate what both organisations have achieved with the invaluable help of those around us."



Photo: © Mark Lewis (mark@marklewisphotography.co.uk).



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

West Hill School Community Café...

...is held at LMC every Friday morning at 10.30am, except during school holidays.

West Hill School in Leatherhead is an outstanding special school for pupils aged from 11 to 16 with learning difficulties and autism. The café is providing learners with opportunities to develop work-related skills as well as social and communications skills. Please come along on Friday mornings to support this very worthwhile enterprise.

Prayer Breakfasts

Prayer breakfasts are held on the third Sunday each month at 9.00am. It's a bring and share (non-cooked) breakfast with a short time of prayer fellowship before the morning service. All very welcome. *(No Prayer Breakfast in April as it coincides with Easter. Next Prayer Breakfast is on 20th May).*

LMC House Groups

LMC has three House Groups where Church members or friends can meet together on a regular basis. These groups usually meet in someone's home, and are informal ways to get to know each other better, to share joys, concerns, and prayer requests if desired, and to discuss various subjects, either from the Bible or from other relevant Christian books. Everyone is very welcome to join a group.



Please contact the church office if you are interested.

LMC Family News



Welcome to...

... Alison and Andrew Foster who have been worshipping with us recently.

We remember ...

... members, relatives and friends who are in hospital, in nursing care or at home and those who care for them day by day.

Pastoral Visitors...

Pastoral Visitors' Prayer meetings are held at 2.30pm on the 4th Tuesday every month at LMC. All pastoral visitors, Stewards and Christ Church Elders are welcome to attend.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 25th April** in the Vestry.



LMC Diary



April

Sun 2nd 10.30am Rev. John Hellyer (District Chair) with Holy Communion

Thurs 6th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays

Fri 7th 2.30pm Time for Tea with Effingham Methodist Recorder Group. Also a Bring and Buy stall.

Sat 8th 8.30am Sisters' Get-Together at the Parish Church Hall

Sun 9th 10.30am Robert Pitt
12 noon General Church Meeting
6.30pm See weekly notices - Holy Communion

Thurs 13th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays

Easter:

Friday 14th 9.15am Stations of the Cross at the Catholic Church
10.00am Walk of Reflection from Christ Church

Sun 16th 10.30am United Easter Service at Christ Church- see weekly notices

Wed 19th 12.30pm Organ Concert at Christ Church

Thurs 20th 3.30pm Messy Church (to 5.30pm)

Fri 21st 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC

Sat 22nd 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall

Sun 23rd 10.30am Rev. Darlene McCarley
6.30pm New Fire

Tues 25th 2.30pm Pastoral Visitors' prayer meeting

Thurs 27th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays
6.00pm Revive Youth Club (to 7.30pm)

Fri 28th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC

Sun 30th 10.30am Jay Dunning

May

Tues 2nd 8.00pm Leadership Team meeting

Thurs 4th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays

Fri 5th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC
2.30pm Time for Tea

Sun 7th 10.30am See weekly notices

Home from Home?

Not quite! At the beginning of March I spent six days in St Helier Hospital. Such a grim building from the outside but everything you expect in care, kindness and consideration once inside the doors.

For three and a bit days I was in captivity in the Surgical Assessment Unit and watched the World and his wife go about their business with cheerfulness and efficiency. I say 'captivity' as I was on an intravenous drip of antibiotics in one arm. Wearing a hospital gown which fitted where it touched and moving around wheeling the drip support in one hand and with my stick in the other, I was never quite sure I was decent from behind! Mind boggling!

'People watching' is a great occupation! Little Nurse Annie never seemed to stop, whether wiping, tidying or bed making. You name it, Annie did it! Nurse Claudia, the blackest lady I have ever seen, danced as she worked, wiggling her quite substantial bottom, waving her arms singing all the time under her breath. Happiness in motion! And the young Greek nurse, newly arrived just two months ago, patiently feeding a patient, encouraging her quietly with 'just one more mouthful'. Very humbling. I couldn't do it. She told me she was here for job security, enabling her to send money home to her family to help better their lives. Poverty in Greece, she said, was harsh.

Patients were just as diverse. There was the tiniest little Japanese lady who spoke not a word of English, but sat in her bed smiling all the time and shaking hands with whoever stopped by. One evening a terrified lady was admitted. She didn't know her name and didn't know who she was. She resisted anyone who tried to touch her. The patience and tolerance of those attending her was unbelievable - hours and hours! Gracious me, they need our prayers in bundles!

On Sunday night there was an emergency in A&E so, at one o'clock in the morning, I was trundled through a labyrinth of corridors and up to the 4th floor to a bed in the Day Surgery Unit. Just about asleep again, I was woken at 4 o'clock for a BP check. It hardly seemed worth trying to sleep again before ward rounds began soon after six!

You certainly need a great deal of stamina to survive a stay in hospital. I'm a bit weak but at home, enjoying the peace and quiet.

Jean Plant

REVIVE YOUTH CLUB



Come join us for fun and games, craft and activities,
singing and dancing, Bible stories and teaching,
tuck shop and new friends!

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Leatherhead Methodist Church

2nd and 4th Thursday

6pm-7:30pm

Ages 7-11

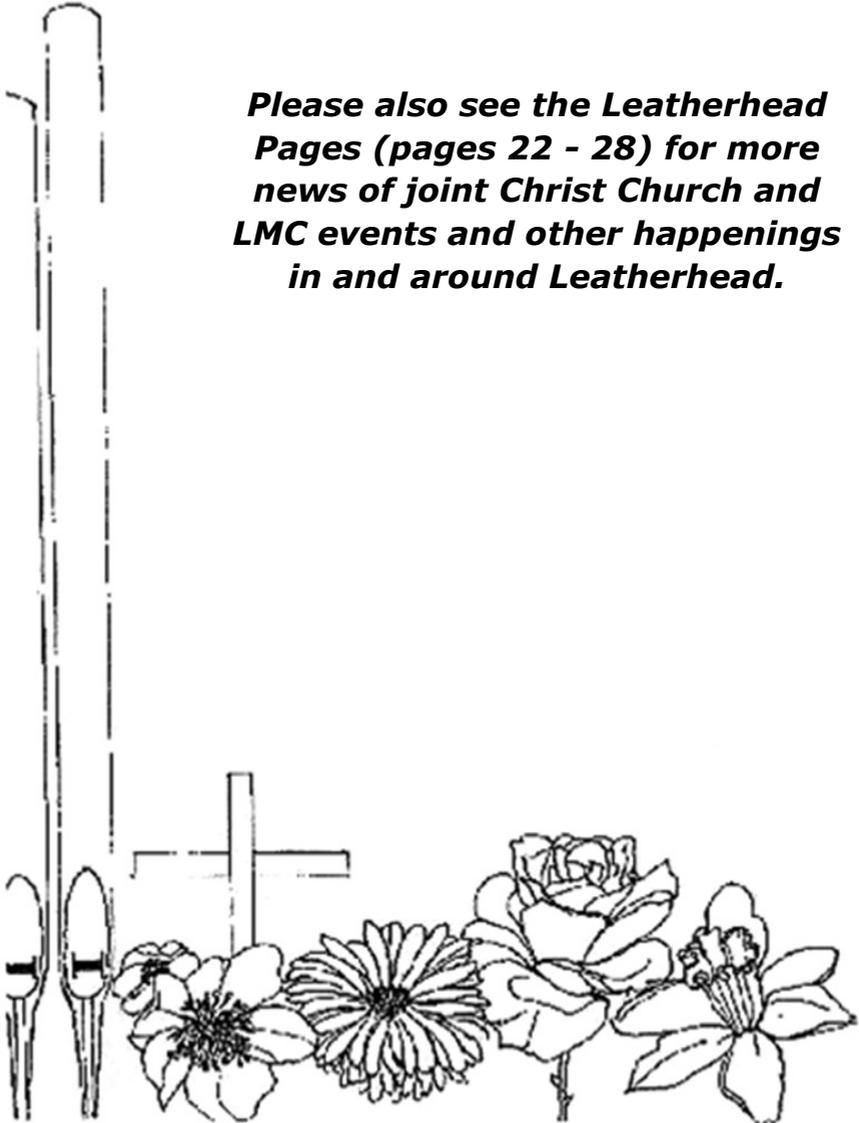
Cost £1

Email hannahleatherheadfcw@gmail.com

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

***Please also see the Leatherhead
Pages (pages 22 - 28) for more
news of joint Christ Church and
LMC events and other happenings
in and around Leatherhead.***



Christ Church Diary



April

Sun 2nd 10.30am Rev Robert Blows

Thur 6th 12.30pm Excerpts from "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Will Todd (LMC) (see p 23)

Fri 7th 2.30pm Time for Tea (LMC)

7.00pm

Still Reforming: German Christ Church, Montpelier Place "Things we really care about. Tracing the German Protestant Heritage."

Sun 9th 10.30am Palm Sunday: Musical Service. The Elders

Thur 13th 12.30pm Recital at LMC (see p23)

Sun 16th 10.30am Easter: Joint Communion Service

Rev Darlene McCarley

Wed 19th 12.30pm Organ Recital (see p23)

Thur 20th 3.30pm Messy Church (at LMC)(to 5.30pm)

Sun 23rd 10.30am Mrs Heather Ward

6.30pm

New Fire Service at LMC

Thur 27th 12.30pm Recital at LMC (see p23)

Sat 29th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Hall.

Sun 30th 10.30am Rev Gavin Hancocks

May

Thur 4th 12.30pm Recital at LMC (see p23)

Fri 5th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (see p25)

Sun 7th 10.30am Mrs Vivien Gerhold

3.00pm

Still Reforming: Dutch Church, Austin Friars: a Bach Cantata.

Wed 10th 2.00pm Elders Meeting

EASTER



Christ Church Family News



Belated congratulations and warmest good wishes to John Bell, Alison Gillott's father, who celebrated his 90th birthday on 9th February with a family party. We have been pleased to welcome him to lead our worship on many occasions. Here is a delightful photo of him with his grandchildren Carol and David.



We are sad to report the death of Dr Tim (Norman) Lewis on 26th February at the age of 91. He became a member of Christ Church in 1974 with his wife Lorna. He was a well-loved and much respected GP in Leatherhead for 35 years, as well as serving as medical officer at Headley Court. A first class tennis player, he appeared at Wimbledon many times in the 40s and 50s, as well as representing Great Britain in the Davis Cup in 1949. We send our sincere condolences to his daughters Sara, Jane and Jenny and their families.

We are sad to report that Beryl Turner died on 24th February, having just reached the wonderful age of 100 on 2nd February, though in hospital at the time. She passed away peacefully in a care home near her daughter Janet. Beryl, with husband Len, joined Christ Church in 1957 and has been a constant and faithful member until the last few months. In earlier times she was active in the Young Wives Group and helped with members from the Royal School for the Blind who attended our church regularly. We give thanks for her friendship and long and active life. She is greatly missed by us all. We send our deep sympathy to John and Janet and their families.

Greetings to several friends who become octogenarians this spring, namely Brian Treharne, Hilary Porter and Robert Blows (and myself).

We remember these friends in our prayers and all those who need our prayers, thinking especially of friends who have undergone operations, those waiting for operations and treatment, the lonely and the bereaved.

Anne Cairns

Lay Preacher Commissioning

Mrs Heather Ward, an elder at Christ Church, was commissioned as a lay preacher of the United Reformed Church at a service at Christ Church on Sunday 26th February. The service was conducted by Rev Brian Treharne, a previous minister, and Heather was commissioned by Rev Jennie Snashall, representing the synod.



This is the culmination of a long and gruelling training, and we congratulate Heather on her great achievement.



The real message of Easter

'When you die, that's it. Nothing. Out like a light.' That's what the man in the pub said, and his mates all nodded, though the one whose mother had died the week before wasn't really quite so certain.

Still, it seemed to make sense. After all, we know what 'dead' means: dead leaves, dead batteries, dead fish, dead pets . . . and dead people, to be honest. While we recognise that it's all too easy to go from alive to dead, we've got serious doubts about the possibility of any return journeys.

Which is why Christians have an uphill task at Easter. Jesus was a great man, and people want to remember how He died. Fair enough. But it starts getting complicated when Christians insist that Jesus died but *didn't stay dead* - in fact, that He's alive now. That 'return journey' has happened, they say.

That's the problem about Easter. Christians persisting in what sounds like a ridiculous belief. If they just dropped the resurrection bit, and concentrated on the wonderful teaching of Jesus and His example of generosity, compassion and love then everybody would find Christianity much more believable. Wouldn't that make sense? And wouldn't that fill the churches again?

Well it might (or, more likely, it might not). But in any case, the trouble is that it wouldn't be Christianity at all. The faith of Christians actually depends on the resurrection of Jesus, and always has done, right from the earliest days. After the crucifixion the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross by some of His friends and put in a rock tomb with a heavy stone. But after His death, His followers claimed that they had met Him, seen Him, talked with Him.

So certain was their belief that nothing could make them recant it. Not ridicule, not torture, not even death itself. They couldn't do it because they were absolutely convinced that it had happened. Plenty of clever and powerful people at the time had a vested interest in proving them wrong. It shouldn't have been difficult to prove that a dead man had stayed dead, especially when you have at your disposal the resources of the greatest empire in history. Yet they didn't do it, because it couldn't be done.

Still today millions of people all over the world believe that Jesus did in fact rise from the dead. They include brilliant scientists and philosophers as well as plenty of 'ordinary' men and women of all ages. They believe it because they respect the witness of those first Christians, and because in many cases their own lives have been transformed by a relationship with Jesus - that wouldn't make sense if He were dead!

Christians don't put their faith in a dead hero from the past, but in Someone who is alive and active in their own lives and in the world. That, in a nutshell, is the real message of Easter.

Jonathon Green - Parish Pump



Passion of Jesus In Trafalgar Square

Good Friday, 14th April 2017

Free performances 12 noon and 3.15pm

Outdoor Easter performances of the story of Jesus

All welcome

These performances contain a realistic interpretation of the crucifixion;
parental guidance is advised

For more details see www.wintershall-estate.com

Pastorate Details

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

Leatherhead Methodist Church:
Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY
www.leatherheadmethodist.org
Contact: Administrator -
Carol Stoves 01372 377125; Office 362145

Christ Church (United Reformed):
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Local Church Leader -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:
Chapel Hill, Effingham, KT24 5NB
www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Dave Putland 01372 454850

Cobham United Reformed Church:
38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD
www.cobhamurc.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

Cobham Methodist Church:
Cedar Road, Cobham, KT11 2AA
www.cobhammethodistchurch.com
Contact: Administrator -
David Cappitt 01932 862661



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