

The United Pastorate of

Leatherhead Cobham Effingham

June 2014





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 July/August issue to the editor by 15th June



From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear friends,

Time away at Spring Minister School this week was an interesting experience. Considered to be a time of refreshment as well as learning, we focused on 'Renewing Preaching'. Each morning we were blessed with worship and within it three very different styles of preaching: Rev Dr Janet Wootton, Director of Studies for the Congregational Federation; Rev Dr David Firth, lecturer in Old Testament St John's College, Nottingham; Rev Dr Lance Stone, former Director of Pastoral Studies at Westminster College and now minister of Emmanuel URC Cambridge. We are told that a good sermon presents old truths in new ways; it may even welcome personal testimony but it will always involve the invitation to enter into the biblical narrative. Each of our preachers did so with great passion and enthusiasm.

"Settle in your mind, that no sermon is worth much in which the Lord is not the principal speaker. There may be poetry, refinement, historic truth, moral truth, pathos, and all the charms of rhetoric; but all will be lost, for the purposes of preaching, if the word of the Lord is not the staple of the discourse." - John Hall

Workshops on 'Preaching as Performance' as well as 'The place of Preaching in the Reformed Tradition' gave us insights into the impact of preaching from our roots right the way through to our offering today. We even asked the question, "in this visually expectant world, is there still a place for preaching in the 21st century?" Many believe that there still is, although the use of technology may well play a larger part in its delivery. Clearly there are things we can do to improve the content of our sermons as well as the way we present them. We can even make sure we don't exhibit any distracting habits while preaching but I think it's very easy to forget what an enormous responsibility many hold in offering to preach week after week. Hours of contemplation and study will go into its preparation. The preacher is vulnerable, sharing their deepest thoughts, hoping to offer us insights into the spiritual realm. They may make us feel uncomfortable, challenge us, but hopefully they will also encourage us, take us on a journey to a place we never knew existed.

Even though it may be easy to be critical of the preacher or leader of worship, we need to be hospitable and gracious in embracing their offering because God is not absent in our worship together.

"Preaching is effective as long as the preacher expects something to happen - not because of the sermon, not even because of the preacher, but because of God."

As we seek to welcome the Holy Spirit at Pentecost may we always be open to welcoming God's presence in worship in whatever way He chooses to meet with us.

With every blessing,

Kim

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Many of you will know that I was away over the Bank Holiday weekend. We went up to Scarborough to attend the 'ECG' event, which is the successor to 'Easter People' (or something like 'Spring Harvest') albeit on a much smaller scale. It's led by NXT Ministries, based at Burslem Methodist Church, Stoke on Trent. It usually takes place during the week after Easter, but of course this year Easter was so late that the schools went back straight away; hence the Bank Holiday weekend.

Many people ask what ECG means, because of course they mainly associate it with a heart rate test. Well that was where the idea came from:

ECG – A Heart for the Nations: Equipping, Calling, Going.

Equipping today's generations to bring in God's Kingdom;

Calling Christians to discover and renew God's unique vision and purpose for their lives;

Going to serve, love and lead into discipleship those who don't yet know Jesus Christ.

In short it is an event which sets out to equip the church for its mission in the world and its local context, through teaching and worship, with adult, children and youth programmes. Many people go along for the week, and come back to their home churches refreshed and renewed, but also with new ideas and even skills to put into practice. The worship is uplifting, and the Bible teaching is outstanding. The theme this year was HEROES. (You may hear mention of this occasionally!)

Of course you can go to as many or as few of the sessions as you want – there's always the seaside at Scarborough to enjoy for those who aren't keen to join in the event.

So why am I telling you all this? It's my hope that next year we can go with a group from LMC and Christ Church. You can stay in a hotel, a self-catering flat, a caravan, or a 'kibbutz' (i.e. in a church!). It's your choice. But wherever you stay – we get together during the day and have a great time. The theme for 2015 is TOGETHER, quite apt for where we are now.

Save the dates in your diary now: Tues 7th – Sun 12th April. I would love as many as possible to join us. I'm looking forward to it already. When the promotional video is issued, I'll show it one Sunday.

Do ask me for more details.

Lynda

PS I've already booked in for next year!



Good Deed Feed...

...for me this week was a little girl, maybe two years old dressed in a pink floral coat and pink welly boots totally engrossed in the sheer joy of splashing in lots of little puddles, jumping from one to the other. Her Mum had hands on hips watching, patiently holding the empty buggy awaiting her daughter's arrival.

We've all been there, but what a delight to observe! It did my heart good.

Gill Walker

...and for me was when I visited Effingham Methodist Chapel for their World Mission Coffee Morning/Bring & Buy Sale at the end of March. It was in aid of World Mission and MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship). I was chatting to Gill Walker - I usually drop in postcards collected for MAF at LMC to Gill when I deliver the Link to Effingham - when we were joined by Dave Greenwood from St Andrews at Cobham. It transpired that the postcards Gill collects all go to Dave for onward delivery to MAF, and I also discovered that Dave attends *New Fire* at LMC and is in the band. So, I thought we could short-circuit the delivery path of the LMC postcards, and now Dave picks them up directly from our box when he's at *New Fire*. Thanks for all you do for MAF and for *New Fire*, Dave, and I suspect a lot more besides.

Editor



1914: One Man

Nigel Beeton contemplates that fateful murder 100 years ago this month, when Gavrilo Princip, a Bosnian Serb, assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife Sophie, Duchess of Hohenberg, on 28th June 1914. Nigel writes: 'What I hadn't realised until recently was that Franz Ferdinand had decided to visit Sarajevo on a day special to the Serbs. He was possibly being foolish, but more probably being deliberately inflammatory. Well, he got his inflammation, though quite what Princip expected to achieve is debateable. And then, of course, we had the foolish Kaiser Wilhelm pouring fuel onto the fire...:

One man and his wife Went out to take a ride But then he lost his life And countless others died.

One man and his gun, Went out to cause a crime One victim – only one! Yet millions over time.

One man's Teutonic pride A spark became a flame The fire spread worldwide A deadly, pointless game.

However could it be That these misguided men Could cause such misery? Could it only happen then?

For the vic'try of such ill One thing along required That good folk just keep still And keep their tongues retired.

By Nigel Beeton

(from "Parish Pump")





Cobham Methodist Diary -June

| Sun | 1st | 11.45am | Bob Boyce Annual Church Meeting Circuit Easter Offering Dedication at Leatherhead |
|-------|------|---------------------------|---|
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am | Rhys Frost |
| Sat | 14th | 10.00am 2.30pm | Time 4 You (to 12 noon) Platinum Service |
| Sun | 15th | 10.30am | Rev. Kim Plumpton - Communion Service |
| Thurs | 19th | 10.45am | Church Council |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am 12 noon | John Oborn Lunch at Cobham URC with speaker Stephanie Jacometti of Transition Cobham |
| Wed | 25th | 7.30pm | House Fellowship at the Manse |
| Thurs | 26th | 3.45pm | Messy Church at the URC (to 5.45pm) |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am 5.00pm | United Service at Cobham Methodist Church - Rev. Norman Edsall Pastorate Service at Cobham URC followed by tea |
| July | | | |
| Sun | 6th | 10.30am | tba |



Cobham Page

Information, news, events and happenings in and around Cobham including joint URC/Methodist events



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



Date: Thurs 26th June Time: 3:45pm - 5:45pm

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

All are welcome

Prayers at the Cobham URC Manse

at 9.30am on

Wednesdays: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th June



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary: June



| Sun | 1st | 9.00am 10.30am | Early Bird Service Thelma Roberts |
|--------------------|------|-------------------|---|
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am | Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion |
| Sun | 15th | 10.30am | Rev. Roy Bones |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am | Rev. Kim Plumpton (followed by a `pot luck' lunch and speaker Stephanie Jacometti from Transition Cobham) |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am 5.00pm | United Service at Cobham Methodist Church - Rev. Norman Edsall Pastorate Service at Cobham URC followed by tea |
| July Sun | 6th | 10.30am | John Stewart |

Cobham URC Events - June

| Sun | 1st | 3.00pm | Play and chat (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 |
| Tues | 24th | 11.00am | Coffee for Carers (now once a month) |
| Thurs | | 3.45pm | Messy Church (to 5.45pm) |
| Fri | 27th | 3.00pm | T@3 at Church |



Effingham Methodist Church

Dates to celebrate this month

Happy Birthday to Mary Verrinder on 27th.

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

Saturday Morning Live



Our monthly Café Church offers coffee, croissants and food for thought at St. Lawrence Church Hall from **10.00am** to **11.00am** on **Saturday 7th June** when we'll be discussing **Pentecost.**

The topic for 5th July is still being arranged and there's no meeting planned for August so we can all have a holiday.

Effingham Village Day



Effingham Village Day will be held on **Saturday 28th June** at King George V Playing Field, Browns Lane, Effingham **from 1.00pm to 5.30pm.** It will be a fun day out for all the family and the organisers are currently busy securing as many events from last year as they can.

See www.effinghamvillageday.co.uk for the latest news.

Effingham Methodist Diary - June



| Sun | | | Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion Circuit Easter Offering Service at LMC |
|-------|------|-------------------|--|
| Sat | 7th | 10.00am | Café Church at St Lawrence Church Hall (to 11.00am) <i>(see page 11)</i> |
| Sun | 8th | 10.00am 6.00pm | Tina Andrews Ecumenical Pentecost Service at All Saints |
| Tues | 10th | 2.30pm | Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall |
| Wed | 11th | 8.00pm | Christian Meditation in the Church |
| Thurs | 12th | 2.15pm | Bible Study Group in the Hall |
| Sun | 15th | 10.00am | John Oborn |
| Wed | 18th | 8.00pm | Christian Meditation in the Church |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.00am | Rev. Frank Smith |
| Tues | 24th | 2.30pm | Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall |
| Sun | 29th | 10.00am 5.00pm | Ecumenical Service at All Saints Pastorate Service at Cobham URC followed by tea |
| July | | | |
| Sat | 5th | 10.00am | Café Church at St Lawrence Church Hall (to 11.00am) |
| Sun | 6th | 10.00am | Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion |

Prayer Meetings...

... are held at the home of Freddie Jenkins every Friday at 9.15am.

"Methodism Is For Me"

For several weeks the Methodist Recorder has urged us to have our photos taken holding a poster displaying these words! This has got me thinking about why I have been a Methodist for 70 years. I was brought up a Presbyterian and in my teens at some point I felt I would like to preach a sermon, so I approached the minister. "We don't have lay preachers in our church", he said.

Many years later, having trained for full time youth work and been appointed to a job as girls club leader at a seven night a week club for about 200 boys and girls at Greenwich Central Hall, I decided to become a Methodist. The minister, Rev. Leslie Wollen, suggested that I might consider going in for local preaching. So I began my training sessions, going each week on the back of a young man's motor bike to a minister in Welling. This young man sadly fell victim to polio, was in an iron lung, emerged paralysed from the waist down but still continued to preach from his wheel chair.

I continued my training in the Isle of Man and was received into full connection just before leaving the Island, now seven months pregnant. Since then I have been involved with Methodist Churches large and small, in villages, towns, suburbs and cities, and feel that for me its strengths are:

- 1. The local preacher system so ordinary Christians can develop and share their faith.
- 2. The circuit system so that ministers have colleagues to share their problems with.
- 3. The House Group system which enables every member to explore and develop their faith, now adopted by most other denominations.

Yes, after all this time, Methodism is definitely for me!

Freddie Jenkins

Easter In Effingham



Kim and Ange Putland distributing hot cross buns to passers-by on Maundy Thursday morning outside the village shops in Effingham - much to the surprise of those offered the delightfully warm buns free in a special printed napkin with the Christian message of Easter.

We have a Gospel to proclaim



As committed followers of Jesus we have a gospel to proclaim and that story is the effect that Jesus has made on our lives. Encountering Jesus may have changed us completely like it changed the blind man who was healed by Jesus or our experience may be like that of Zacheaus where his meeting with Jesus just turned his life and thinking around.

Most of us in our churches will have recently heard the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. What an amazing story that was! Men on a hot, dusty road in the depths of depression and still not believing or understanding what they had been through in the last few weeks, and also wondering what was the purpose of the years that they had spent with the man from Galilee. Then they meet with Jesus and fail to recognise him because of the bewilderment and confusion that had filled their lives since his trial and death; and finally through the breaking of bread Jesus makes his presence and reality known to them. All that Jesus said and was, was true, and his friends were gobsmacked!

They had just made the journey from Jerusalem, and a hard slog it had been because of the heavy hearts they carried, but now they were prepared to go back to tell the others what they had experienced. But the journey would not be a struggle as their hearts were now no longer sad but full of joy. The journey back would be unlike any other they had ever made! Doubt was gone and they were ready to race home to tell their friends of their meeting with the Lord. Their lives would never be the same again.

OK, so let's be reasonable, things like this don't happen to us do they? But stories in the Bible show us that amazing things did happen amongst his early followers and I believe, continue to happen today. Last month we celebrated Aldersgate Sunday when John Wesley had his 'warmed heart' experience and we know what happened after that. Lives are changed by a meeting with Jesus so let folk know about your journey and encounters and see what happens!

Dave Putland

Allegedly... a public disgrace?



So many questions?

How could it have happened?

Now at last the former Methodist minister and chairman of a troubled Bank has pleaded guilty to possessing drugs including cocaine and methamphetamine.

Court case over and a Methodist spokesperson has said "Now that he has admitted guilt and been sentenced, our disciplinary process can move ahead.

It is a confidential process so that all involved can speak freely, and it is independent of the Church leadership. We cannot give a deadline by which this work will be completed, but we would expect it to be before the summer."

But he's resigned hasn't he? So that's all right then!!! Not our problem any longer? Such a flawed man! Perhaps it can all be swept under a nice, convenient carpet!

But there are still important questions to be answered. This very public disgrace has created a lot of negative publicity and possibly damaged the Methodist Church. Why did no-one spot the signs of stress, drug-abuse and a life out of control?

Surely this is ultimately a SAFEGUARDING ISSUE?

There must have been signs!

A few people who suspected something was badly wrong? Perhaps early intervention could have prevented this situation? Saved him from himself and trial by tabloid! Turning a blind eye wasn't an option!

Ange Putland



Leatherhead including news of joint Christ Church/LMC events





Christ Church Elders/LMC Leadership Team Meeting 23rd April 2014 *Our Future Together*

We began by sharing what both our congregations had thought at their recent meetings about the various ideas for our churches coming together. Everyone agreed the need for a clear Mission Plan before we can go forward with any development plans. We need to determine what God wants for our churches in Leatherhead. Once our mission is clear, our plans could take a few years to achieve. We must look at how we are going to serve the people best in the decades ahead and provide a lasting heritage for Leatherhead.

We felt it was disappointing that the CPL report had not shown up any neutral sites in Leatherhead for development. Our only option is to redevelop one of our two current church sites together. Both our sites have their own pros and cons. LMC is nearer the centre of town but Christ Church has a lot more space to offer.

Many showed enthusiasm about wanting to do something exciting for Leatherhead. Some thought the plans were too large scale and thought smaller scale/refurbishments plans, would be better. We agreed that we want a church centre that is a hub of the community, with a modern worship space.

Three joint groups will meet: -

- Mission Plan,
- Merging Congregations,
- Review of Finance and CPL Report.

These groups will produce their own brief and an interim report for 23rd July at the next joint Leaders/Elders Meeting and will bring their recommendations to a further joint meeting in October as far as possible.

We agreed that we would continue with joint services once a month and try to make these services inclusive to all.

Leatherhead Pages continue on page 23

Dorking and Horsham Circuit NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this in the week leading up to my sabbatical. For three months (May, June, July) I will not be taking part in the normal activities of a circuit minister. I will be involved in a range of other useful, relaxing, inspiring and worthwhile pursuits, but these will be outside the regular business of ministering to a local church or circuit.

First I need to ensure that other people are around to cover all the important responsibilities which I will be temporarily relinquishing. In doing so I have discovered that other people are also taking time off – for long holidays, or for visiting family, or to recover from a patch of ill health. In putting together the circuit plan there is a slight shortage of available preachers, so one Sunday in the summer each church will have to cope with 'local arrangements' in order to ensure that an act of worship takes place.

All this leads me to reflect on the extent of our responsibility to the church. On the one hand we need people to hold office. We need circuit stewards and church stewards and treasurers and property officers and preachers and communion stewards and pastoral visitors and cleaners and people willing to bake cakes and serve drinks. Without people to do these things the church could not function as it does.

On the other hand, no-one is indispensable. The future of the church does not rest on any one person's shoulders. This can be demonstrated by the fact that when a person does leave a role, whether through choice or as a result of unavoidable circumstances, the church does not immediately roll over and die. God's work goes on. Others step into the breach. (Though admittedly sometimes only after considerable anguish and arm-twisting.) Or the work changes and we realise some roles are no longer needed.

I think all our churches struggle to find the right people (or indeed any people at all) to fill the various roles which we see as important. Maybe we should take our cue from Jesus. Matthew 9:37-38 reads: Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Interestingly Jesus did not tell his disciples to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in. He told them to pray for God to send more workers. I like this approach for two reasons.

(continued on the back page)

June

July & August

2014

The **Methodist** Church

Methodist Women in Britain. An Area Day is planned for Saturday June 14, 10 am-4 pm, at Wokingham Methodist Church. 'Come on board' and join like-minded women for a day of fun, food and fellowship. More information directly to churches when available. *Jean Plant*

MARTIN ELLIS

Saturday 14 June, 7.00pm: RCO 150 - my final Organ Recital in Dorking in aid of the Royal College of Organists' 150th Anniversary appeal.

Saturday 12 July, 7.00 pm: "Farewell to Dorking" Concert. I am gathering together singers and instrumentalists whom I have taught or worked with over a period of 50 years.

CIRCUIT STEWARDS

The March Circuit Meeting appointed Rhonda Frost from Cobham to join the team with immediate effect. Shirley Gardner and Teresa Thomson will take up office in September when Tina Andrews and Martin Ellis retire.

EASTER OFFERING

A Circuit service to dedicate your gifts from all the Churches will take place at Leatherhead at 6.30 pm on **Sunday June 1**. Please give it your support.

i lease give it your support.

Deadline for the next issue: Friday August 8

SOUTHWATER

Once again we have celebrated Easter in true SCMC fashion. On Good Friday, blessed with sunny weather, we held a family walk around the village, followed by tea and cake and short but powerful service of reflection.

On Easter Saturday a small group of us were in Lintot Square giving out Easter eggs and balloons to the shoppers and passing on the goods news of Easter. Our Easter Sunday celebration was well attended and Kath shared some of the traditions from the Orthodox Easter which she experienced during her sabbatical.

We now look forward to Pentecost, and the thoughts of SCMC are on evangelism and celebration. We are running Alpha this year, which will begin with an Alpha supper on Tuesday 6th May and continue until 15th July. We have been blessed not only in being supported in this by the new Elim church in the village, but also in being able to build an excellent relationship with the new managers of Southwater Country Park Cafe. The managers of the Cafe have generously offered the Cafe free of charge and are also willing to cater for some of the Alpha sessions. In addition we are reliant on willing volunteers to run, cook and lead the sessions. We would therefore appreciate the prayers of the Circuit as we seek to step out in faith and spread the gospel ever wider in our village.

In addition to this, Revd Kath Jones celebrates ten years of ministry this year and we are hoping to celebrate all that she has done for us at SCMC. As she reflects on her ministry and looks forward to what the future holds, we too reflect on how God is calling us on to greater faith and work in the village. *Shirley Gardner*

LONDON MARATHON

Revd Malcolm Rothwell, a former Superintendent here, ran in the London Marathon. "Many thanks to all who supported me with their prayers and donations for my run in the London Marathon. I actually managed to complete the course. Miracles still happen! So far over £3000 has been raised for 'Help the Hospices' and the figure is still rising."

EFFINGHAM

Even here in Surrey the recession has hit hard. Food banks have opened in both Leatherhead and Cobham in the last year, and debt is rife. So May's Café Church speaker was very aptly from *Christians Against Poverty (CAP)*, a national charity, working across the UK to lift people out of debt and poverty, by offering free debt counselling through a network of 252 debt centres based in local churches. By partnering with CAP, churches can help to bring hope and salvation to those living in debt and poverty on their own doorstep. At our next Church Council meeting, we will be seriously considering how / if we can become involved in this life changing work.

Meanwhile we're researching our early history for an exhibition on Methodist roots in the village, and the stories of two members of our congregation in WW1. The chapel will be open for the Heritage Open Days Weekend on September 12 /13 from 10.00 - 5.00 pm, and our 160th Chapel Anniversary will be celebrated on October 4/5 when we will be holding a Barn Dance, exhibition and flower festival and of course a Special Sunday Service. Dave & Ange Putland

LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

Our Lent and Easter services were very thought provoking with a modern theme of dressing the Cross. On Easter Sunday the Cross was transformed and decorated by flowers brought by the congregation. It was then put on the steps outside the church, and within minutes a passer-by had taken his mobile out to capture the beauty of it.

JC@LR (Junior Church), having planned and designed the theme of a new mosaic, they are making are now starting the actual mosaic. Everyone looks forward to seeing it completed and in situ on the outside wall of the church opposite the entrance to Wesley Hall.

Finally we wish Paul a good sabbatical. Lorna Manwaring

st martin's dorking

The Methodist and Anglican congregations have been sharing worship, which has inevitably meant changes in the style of worship for both congregations. The situation is not easy as some Methodists are finding this hard to accept, whilst it is also proving a testing time for some of the Anglicans. Others have embraced the changes and are getting used to the new worship pattern. As a result there has sadly been a loss of some members who feel they cannot continue. We are also losing some members who are moving nearer to their families for health reasons, and there have been three deaths over the last year.

A long-standing couple, whose leaving is also imminent and whose departure will make a noticeable hole, is Miriam and Martin Ellis. Martin has been Director of Music for 28 years and has been instrumental in developing and maintaining a high standard of music within the Church. Just recently the choir and orchestra gave a polished and meaningful rendition of the "Messiah". Martin has so inspired many young choristers that they have gone on to study music at university, and he set up the William Cole Music Trust which has provided scholarships for talented young organists and choral scholars over the years. There have been many outstanding concerts masterminded and directed by Martin, and his final concert will be on Saturday July 12.

A six-week course called *Pilgrim* is planned, which it is hoped will inspire and nurture us spiritually.

The Centre continues to be busy, although the cook having a foot operation made us realise how valuable our volunteers are in emergencies. Our Chaplain Juliet continues to do an excellent job, quietly making her presence felt among the many visitors coming through our doors. The ladies toilets have been so beautifully refurbished that here is a need to raise money so that the gentlemen don't feel left out! Sue Jamieson

(continued from front page)

One. It saves us from thinking that everything depends on our own personal efforts. Over the centuries God has called many people to do the work of the Kingdom. One of the most effective things we can do to address any shortage of workers is to pray for God to stir up and equip people to take on the important tasks. After all, it's God's harvest not ours.

Two. If we are consistently praying for God to send people to help, and if we are honest and sincere about that prayer, we can't help but reflect on whether the task is something we could be tackling ourselves. When we pray earnestly for God to do something we must always keep our ears open for his voice telling us this particular job is ours.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

As part of our Easter preparations this year at London Road we hosted а CHRISTIAN PASSOVER CELEBRATION and as usual we were joined by members of the local URC and Baptist congregations. We met together in Wesley Hall, sitting in small groups around tables which were laid with a candle, flowers, wine glasses invitingly (Shloer, in case you thought otherwise!) salted water, parsley, celeriac, unleavened bread and a bowl of haroseth (a sauce made from different fruits and nuts).

Leading the celebration meal and explaining the significance of the different foods and the symbolism of the accompanying actions, were a family who sat at the head table. The 'Father' and 'Mother' (URC members) were asked questions throughout the meal by the youngest person present in the room. After the explanation everyone took part following the actions of the parents. Scripture readings were incorporated and the elements of the Jewish Passover and the Christian Communion service were combined together in a very moving celebration led by the Baptist and URC ministers. We were reminded of the new meaning that Jesus gave to the shared bread and the cup of wine.

Sandra Artes

Paul

PARTRIDGE GREEN

Our traditional Good Friday ramble took us through some of our local countryside, to enjoy the magnificent blue carpet of bluebells - a vision to delight us all, after such a long wet winter.

We continue with our successful "Messy Church" mornings, which are now a well established feature in the church calendar. These will be at the end of May, and end of July. The Village Café continues to be a popular event on the second Thursday afternoon of each month. This ecumenical project works well, giving people from all the churches a chance to meet socially. Profits made from the café afternoons have been donated to various village organisations, which have been most welcome.

A garden seat has now been secured in our church garden for all to enjoy. This gift was made by the family of Alec Moore, who passed away in May 2013 after a long illness, and it is a fitting tribute to Alec, who was a church member and steward for many years, remaining actively interested in all aspects of church life for as long as he was able.

Sadly, we also report the death of Mrs Barbara Berry, who suddenly died in March this year. Despite being housebound for the past few years, she enjoyed receiving our recorded services each week, and remained a constant support within our church, by publishing our regular church newsletters, and being involved in the compiling of our Circuit directory in previous years. Her positive attitude to life, and her cheerfulness, was just so amazing, despite her ongoing struggle with constant poor health, and the need to rely on her husband and carers on a daily basis. A truly remarkable lady, who will be very sadly missed by all who knew her.

Alison James

Leatherhead Pages continued from page 18











to m, et's personal.

Free Workshop Alzheimer's and Other Dementias Tuesday 3rd June from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm



WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT

ALZHEIMERS AND OTHER DEMENTIAS?

If so, please join us for a 2 hour FREE Educational Workshop The workshop will cover:

- Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias an overview
 - What is dementia
 - Greatest risk factors
 - Statistics
 - Medication
- Stages of Alzheimer's
- Typical behaviours and techniques to manage behaviours
- Activities to encourage engagement

LOCation: Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY.

RSVP: Carol Stoves - 01372 362145.

Leatherhead's Third Year of 12.30 lunchtime concerts

MUSIC ON THURSDAYS at LMC



WEDNESDAYS at

CHRIST

CHURCH

Weekly until November 2014

featuring students of the Royal Academy of Music ® former students of London's music colleges and talented local musicians

Concert Admission Free, with a retiring collection to cover costs

Thursday 5th June - LMC Atéa Wind Trio led by Anna Hashimoto, clarinet

Thursday 12th June - LMC Amici Trio - violin & cello, with Lynda Chang, piano play Haydn - Bridge - Dvorak

Wednesday 18 June - Christ Church Emily Andrews, flute Graham Davies, organ

Leatherhead Methodist Church Church Road Leatherhead KT22 8AY Thursday 26th June - LMC lanthe Ensemble - Yuka Ishizuka®, violin, Anna Douglas®, horn, Maria Canyigueral®, piano

Thursday 3rd July - LMC Andrews Massey Duo Emily Andrews, flute, David Massey, guitar

> Sandwiches prepared by Rialto Lounge Wine Restaurant are on sale in the churches after each concert

Christ Church United Reformed Epsom Road Leatherhead KT22 8ST

Supported by Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society + HMRC Charities Ref EW02213





An ecumenical service of contemporary and fresh expressions of worship.

'New Fire' is at 6.30pm at Leatherhead Methodist Church on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Next service is on Sunday 22nd June. All are welcome.



Men's Breakfasts

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

- 31st May Anglican Church Hall Bill Peetz, "A journey"
- 28th June Methodist Church Hall (to be notified)
- 26th July Catholic Church Meeting Room (to be notified)
- August No meeting
- 27th Sept URC Church Hall (to be notified)
- 25th Oct Anglican Church Hall (to be notified)
- 29th Nov Catholic Church Meeting Room (to be notified)

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

Leatherhead District Local History Society

On Wednesday 4th June between 10.00am and 12.30pm there will be a coffee morning in the Letherhead Institute Library for people interested in viewing the Leatherhead District Local History Society (LDLHS) library. It is free, but 50p for refreshments. Feel free to pop in and find out about the library and the society.

Anne Fraser



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

MWiB Conference 'Why Bother...?'

Four of us from LMC 'bothered' to attend, four among well over 200 other women from around the country. On offer was a programme packed with so much - prayer and praise, food, fun and fellowship, as well as opportunities to sing, talk, listen and learn. With eleven different workshops focussing on personal faith, world, church and social issues, choosing was difficult. Between the four of us, we were encouraged to be 'bothered' about world mission, our personal faith and dementia.

Jane, Tracy and Sue have thoughts about the weekend, each very different:

What will I remember from the weekend? Over two hundred laughing, smiling faces. Yes, many of them were surrounded by grey hairs... but anyway mine is not as brown as it was. And it was quite nice to be referred to repeatedly as "you young ones"!

There is a lot of life in this movement. Everywhere I looked, I could see enthusiastic faith and a love of sharing it together. So many stories were told about how God is alive and active, in our own communities and in situations of deepest need.

I was something of an imposter, having never shown much interest in the work of Network or Methodist Women in Britain up till now (sorry Jean!) But the MWiB stalwarts in my group were very forgiving and absolutely drew me to their hearts. The closing communion, where we shared bread and wine round our little table and blessed each other on our journeys, was an intimate and special moment that I will not forget. We had a spare seat in our group, and I'm sure it was occupied by a smiling Jesus, happy to share a table with his sisters.

Jane

I was very unsure about leaving my children for the weekend to go to Swanwick. It was a pleasant surprise to find out how refreshing it was to spend time with lots of other women sharing our thoughts, worshipping God and not having to worry about everyday tasks such as cooking meals. I came home feeling peaceful and calm. A feeling which is still there a week later and which I am sure my family appreciates!

Tracey

Women, God, fun, laughter, learning, prayer, singing, old friends and new, shopping, workshops, meals, puddings, fashion show, fairtrade, recycling, worship, sharing, talking, communion.

What will I remember and bring back to LMC? A workshop run by MHA about dementia. Attitudes are changing and we are being encouraged to reach out to dementia sufferers and to help to unlock the younger person that lies trapped inside the old person who does not 'seem at home' anymore. As visitors to dementia sufferers we need to help spark memories through tapping into their senses through music, smells, touch, photos and familiar objects that can help to stimulate talk, singing, laughter or get a smile. We should help sufferers to live for the moment and have enjoyment in each day. Swanwick 2014 has inspired me and given me a desire to try and make a difference to the elderly in Leatherhead, particularly those suffering from dementia.

Sue

For me, as an 'old hand' of more than 20 years, Swanwick is an excursion to meet again a special group of women, my Swanwick friends, who I rarely see anywhere else.

I went expecting good things and I was not disappointed. Rev. Barbara Glasson was the keynote speaker and a real inspiration. She spoke about being 'bothered' without the effort of doing so being a 'botheration'. She urged us to be 'Good botherers'. Bothering with faith is about the ensurance and conviction of something deep inside us, that takes us beyond the norm of our ability. Her sessions were mixed with fun and laughter, yet such deep faith, a real 'wow' time.

continued on the next page

The whole weekend was a wonderful time of sharing together our hopes and dreams about being Christians and living it out and making it show in our day to day lives. Our writings can only skim over the time at Swanwick. My advice is to experience it yourself and book in November for next year - 17th to 19th April 2015.

Jean Plant



YouTube Videos

In the last ten or twenty years life has changed beyond recognition because of the rise of the internet and social media. No longer do radio announcers say "Drop us a line" but "Drop us a tweet". YouTube has about one billion users.

So how should we in the church respond to this? Do we need to become cyber-savvy saints? Jesus said, "I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest." (John 4:35).

Social media represent a tremendous opportunity to proclaim the Christian message. Thousands of people could be reached in one go. The same is true of Christian radio as well, but whereas the cost of running a Christian radio station is enormously expensive, anyone with a laptop, internet connection and digital camera can upload a video to YouTube for nothing more than the cost of the camera batteries. Whether it be to lead people to the Lord for the first time or to help and encourage those who are already Christians, there is a great potential for ministry!

The great thing about it is also that one never needs to be afraid that you'll be forcing your ideas down someone's throat. No one will see your video unless they first type the relevant key-words into the YouTube search engine, and if anyone doesn't like your video, they can soon hit the back button or leave a comment saying why they disagree with it. It's NOT like grabbing someone by the scruff of the neck and saying "Brother are you saved?"!

It's also very good for people like me who are not very good at spontaneous conversation, but much better at speaking forth a prepared message. I'm not very good at deciding who to speak to, what to say and when to say it.

With all this in mind, I have recently uploaded four videos to YouTube. In case anyone is interested in watching them, the titles are as follows:-

- "Is it possible to prove Christianity is true?",
- "Arguments against evolution from a Christian point of view",
- "The obesity crisis and how to lose weight",
- "Road safety and bad driving practices".

I have also set up a simple website from which the YouTube videos can be accessed by clickable links. The URL of the website is http://vassabob.wix.com/bob-greenfield.

Since I'm new to making videos, I hope there won't be too much of a cringe factor! If anyone has any criticisms, suggestions or ideas for improvement, I would be quite happy to hear from you.

I have many other ideas for videos on biblical subjects, but since I'm working full-time I haven't got round to uploading any more yet. In any case, before I do, it is important to try and get more "views" of the existing videos - to attract more "traffic" to my website and the videos.





| Sun | 1st | 10.30am 6.30pm | Rev. Lynda Russell Circuit Easter Offering Service at LMC |
|-------|--------|-------------------|--|
| Tues | 3rd | 2.00pm 7.30pm | Working with Dementia <i>(to 4.00pm) (see p. 24)</i> Church Council |
| Thurs | s 5th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays (see page 25) |
| Fri | 6th | 2.30pm | Time for Tea (ends 4.30pm) (see page 17) |
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am | Uniting Churches Pentecost Service at LMC with Holy Communion - Rev. Lynda Russell; Preacher: Rev. Sue Loveday |
| Tues | 10th | 2.30pm | Pastoral Visitors meet for prayers in the Lower Hall |
| Thurs | s12th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays (see page 25) |
| Sun | 15th | 10.30am | Rev. Lynda Russell |
| Wed | 18th | 12.30pm | Organ Recital at Christ Church (see page 25) |
| Thurs | s 19th | 3.30pm | Messy Church (to 5.30pm) |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am 6.30pm | David Cappitt New Fire |
| Thurs | 25th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays <i>(see page 25)</i> |
| Sat | 28th | 8.00am | Men's Breakfast at LMC (see page 27) |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am 5.00pm | Clair Fisher Pastorate Service at Cobham URC followed by tea |
| July | | | |
| Thurs | s 3rd | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays <i>(see page 25)</i> |
| Fri | 4th | 2.30pm | Time for Tea <i>(ends 4.30pm)</i> |
| Sun | 6th | 10.30am | Rev. Lynda Russell |

Methodist Women in Britain



Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) is waking up in the Western Area of the South East District! (*That's us!*)

An Area Day is planned for Saturday 14th June, 10.00am to 4.00pm, at Wokingham Methodist Church.

'Come on board' and join like-minded women for a day of fun, food and fellowship. More information directly to churches when available.

Jean Plant



Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead



1st Leatherhead (Christ Church) Scout Group



RAISING FUNDS FOR EPSOM HOSPITAL NEO-NATAL UNIT

On Sunday, 13th April, the Scout Group opened its HQ to hold an afternoon of fun and games, as well as raffles, refreshments and nearly new stalls, of toys and clothes, to help one of our Leaders Chloe, and her husband James, to raise funds for the Neo-Natal Unit at Epsom Hospital. They wanted to do this as a 'Thank you' for all the help and assistance they received when their son, Ewan, was born 7 weeks premature, 18 months ago.

Chloe has worked very hard in the Scout Group, working her way up to Queen's Scout, which she was presented with last year at Windsor Castle, by the Duchess of Cambridge. This is despite the fact that she has battled with the debilitating disease, M.E., since she was 6! We, as a Group, were very proud to help her in her fundraising efforts, and when the final count came in, we were very pleased to find that we had ALL helped to raise in excess of £600.00!!

If you would like to see some photos of this event, please look at the Scout Board in the hall at Christ Church URC, where there are also photos of some of the other events that the Group has taken part in over the last year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Scout Group would like to invite all Church Members along to our forthcoming Fund Raising Events, to be held in the Lower Car Park, and Hall, of Christ Church URC, details of which are below.

- 1) PLANT SALE, to be held on SATURDAY, 7th JUNE, from 10.30am – 12.00 noon.
- 2) SUMMER FETE & (SHORT) AGM, to be held on SATURDAY, 5th JULY from 12.00 noon 2.30pm.

Further details of both of these events can be obtained from Jacqui Ball, (Christ Church URC) telephone: 01372 278593.

Jacqui Ball, Cub Scout Leader

Christ Church Annual Church Meeting

This review of the past year with approval of appointments for the coming year was held on 24th April with 26 members present and chaired by the Revd Lynda Russell.

John Henderson, Treasurer, reported that there had been a drop in income in the year due to the reduced membership, resulting in a small deficit. It was agreed to support a new Church Project from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016 jointly with LMC for the charity 'Heart for Romania'. Nigel Gillott was thanked for his work as Independent Examiner of the accounts. Hilary Porter was thanked as she retires as Gift Aid Steward and Michael Chamberlain will take over from her. The Sunday Offering Stewards were thanked. $\pounds1000$ is paid to LMC for the Administrator. The photocopier no longer functions and costs for printing will be included in the budget. The accounts were accepted and John was thanked.

Lynda Russell gave an account of her eight months at Christ Church and thanked the Elders. Mike Essex thanked Lynda and gave a report on The Cost of Ecumenism. Heather Ward reported on all the young people's work associated with the church, which included LYP, Messy Church, Holiday Club, Trinity School, Brownies and Guides and Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. Children's Church is organised each Sunday even though there may be no children in church. Heather was thanked for her extensive report. Heather also reported on the second year of her course, Training for Learning and Serving, and thanked the church for their support.

Jeanette Chamberlain gave a tribute to Dorothy Poulton, reported on the membership (59) and thanked all for their efforts to keep the church going week by week. In addition she briefly mentioned the LMC's concerns about our church resulting in a short discussion about the situation.

The Church Officers - John Henderson, Treasurer, Jeanette Chamberlain, Secretary, and Mike Essex, Lay Leader, were approved and all other church appointments were affirmed 'en masse'.

The meeting approved Christ Church Representatives to the 'Way Forward' Committees with LMC as follows:

Mission Plan:

Heather Ward, Michael and Jeanette Chamberlain

Finance and Plans:

Anthony Cairns, John Henderson and Nigel Gillott

Uniting Congregations:

Mike Essex Anne Cairns and Margaret Dodds-Ely

Heather Ward explained the Safeguarding Policy for children and it was accepted.

Other business included the church calendar, the approval of the new arrangement of church chairs and the appreciation of the Easter Floral Cross both inside and outside the church.

The next Church Meeting will take place after the morning service on 27th July.

Jeanette Chamberlain

Church Cleaning - Thank You!

We would like to express our great gratitude to those church members who have cleaned the church each week for many years, including Kim Coote and her parents, Dinah Essex, Phyllis and Bernard Fisher, Sue Huxtable, Jill and Richard Osmond and especially Anne Ray, who organised the rota as well. We are grateful to Michelle, our contract cleaner, who has now taken on this task.

Anne Cairns



Christ Church Diary -June



| Sun | 1st | 10.30am 6.30pm | Rev. Brian Treharne Easter Offering Service at LMC |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Tues | 3rd | 2.00pm | Working with Dementia at LMC (see p 24) |
| Tues Thurs | 55th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 25) |
| Fri | 6th | 2.30pm | Time for Tea at LMC <i>(see page 17)</i> |
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am | Uniting Churches Pentecost Service at LMC with Holy Communion - Rev. Lynda Russell; Preacher: Rev. Sue Loveday |
| Tues | 10th | 2.30pm | Pastoral Prayer Group at LMC |
| Thurs | s 12th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 25) |
| Sun | 15th | 10.30am | Rev. Barbara Pearson |
| Wed | 18th | 12.30pm | Organ Recital (see page 25) |
| Thurs | s 19th | 3.30pm | Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm) |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am 6.30pm | Rev. Lynda Russell New Fire at LMC |
| Tues | 24th | 7.30pm | Synod Area Meeting - Crawley |
| Thurs | 26th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 25) |
| Sat | 28th | 8.00am | Men's Breakfast at LMC (see page 27) |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am 5.00pm | Mrs Gail Partridge Pastorate Service at Cobham URC followed by tea |
| July Thurs | 3rd | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 25) |
| Fri Sun | 4th 6th | 2.30pm 10.30am | Time for Tea at LMC Mr John Bell |

Christ Church Family News



Congratulations and very best wishes to Steve and Freda Neal who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 2nd May. Also we wish Steve a successful operation to relieve his sciatica.

We send very best wishes to Monica Farnell as she undergoes heart surgery this month.

We wish Ivan Haslam a speedy recovery from painful gout in his right hand.

It was good to see Nan Kemp back at church after a bad cold and cough.

John and Jean Melrose are living at home with a full time carer. We wish them well.

John Rayner continues to recover at home after his fall. We send him our very best wishes.

It was lovely to see Margaret Worsfold with her daughter Linda (all the way from Broughty Ferry) in church on 11th May while visiting family and friends down south.

We remember all these friends in our prayers, also Jeanette Chamberlain and Anne and Derek Ray.

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:

Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY www.leatherheadmethodist.org Contact: Senior Steward -Carol Stoves 01372 377125

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: Senior Steward -Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Lynda Russell

10 Church Road Leatherhead KT22 8AY

Tel: 01372 372743 (home) 01372 362145 (office)

E-mail:

lynda.russell@methodist.org.uk or revlyndarussell@btinternet.com

Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road Cobham KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail:

kimp_822@hotmail.com