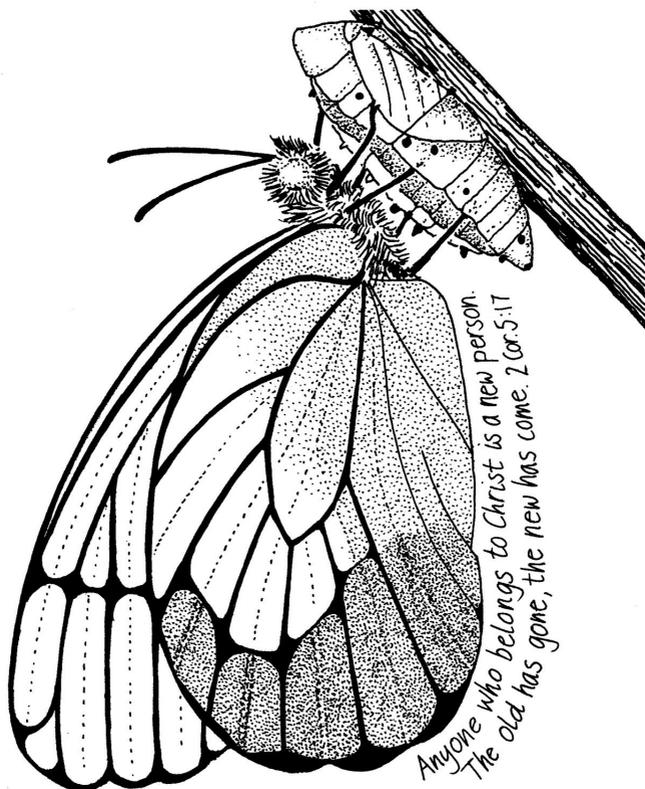


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

June 2015



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



CONTENTS:

Ministers' Letters	3 - 5
Cobham Methodist Church	6
Cobham United Reformed Church	7 - 8
Effingham Methodist Church	9 - 15
Leatherhead Pages	16 - 18 & 23 - 27
Dorking & Horsham Circuit Newsletter	19 - 22
Leatherhead Methodist Church	28 - 33
Christ Church (United Reformed)	34 - 39
Pastorate Details	40

Congratulations...

To Kim and Colin's Son, Sam, who has secured a work placement at the UN offices in Geneva, as he is interested in Human Rights as a degree.

Sam needs funds to support himself while there, and any residual funds he'll use on a possible subsequent trip to work at an HIV clinic in Ghana next year.

Please see page 7 for details of an Evening of Fundraising Fun at Cobham URC which Sam is organising.

It would be good to see folk from around the Pastorate supporting Sam in his venture.

Editor

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All copy for the July/August issue to the editor by 15th June



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

Last Thursday I set off for Derbyshire to attend Mission Council. It was a pleasant enough journey and I stopped over in Birmingham with our son Krisstion. My hope, to arrive feeling relatively refreshed and ready to engage with the three day meeting. Mission Council which works on behalf of General Assembly has its equivalent in the Methodist Church as the Methodist Council, which undertakes ongoing work on behalf of Conference. Four representatives from each Synod attend, which include the moderator and clerk as well as two others who are nominated for a three year period. A number of church house staff as well as Fury (Fellowship of United Reformed Youth) representatives constitute the governing body. You have reams of documents to read and I knew that we had a number of issues that would require careful thought and consideration, marriage of same sex couples as well as conversations on restructuring and membership.

I was astonished to find that the person I had the most conversations with during the weekend turned out to be Rev. Ruth Gee, last year's Methodist President of Conference. Ruth was there as an ecumenical observer. We chatted about a number of issues and it was very helpful from my perspective to listen and to learn about the inner workings of the Methodist Church in relation to the URC. It was also helpful to ask questions regarding ecumenical partnerships.

I was fascinated to learn that in the URC the General Secretary Rev. John Proctor is being enabled by three deputy general secretaries responsible for mission, discipleship, admin and resources. The URC has 50 committees with 500 members on the central bodies. I was humbled by the gracious gift that many offer the church in terms of their time and their skills, but I was also very aware of the little thought that is given to such committees in the local church. I for one had little idea about all these committees and the work they did. How easily we take for granted the many who sit and ponder on the difficult issues, who take the time to reflect in the hope that

continued on the next page

they will discern God's will for the church to help the church to grow, not to hinder its progress. I was overwhelmed by the worshipful manner in which the discussion was held and the careful consideration given to every aspect. I realised that what seemed so simple on the first reading was far more complex than I first appreciated, but through the gift of discussion and discernment the pathway became clearer.

"⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. ⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

At every level of the church, whether it is fabric and finance or leadership teams amongst the many, we entrust much into the hands of those who offer their services to the church. There is often little glory in doing so, they can sometimes be criticised for the decisions they make and the hours may well be long. But churches cannot operate without the extraordinary effort made by many individuals. In the URC we talk a lot about the 'priesthood of all believers', that decisions are made together not in isolation. It should never feel like 'us' and 'them'. Let us celebrate the coming of the Spirit by encouraging those committees that meet on our behalf, in our churches as well as those who meet in the wider church, by remembering them in our prayers, to offer them our support and encouragement. That they may be given the gift of wisdom, that they may hear clearly the whispers of the Spirit as well as the obvious vibrancy that exudes from open discussion.

Every blessing,

Kim

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Dear Friends,

"Because we're worth it!" So ends all the TV adverts of a well-known brand of make-up and beauty products (I shan't add to their advertising by naming them!). I'm sure that most of you will have seen the adverts which use different celebrities. The brand's aim is to persuade us that we are worth enough to spend money on ourselves and therefore, to buy their products.

Why did their advertising agency choose this slogan I wonder? Most, if not all, their products are aimed at women, and so they seem to think that we women need convincing that we're worth enough to spend money on. It's true that we do sometimes struggle with our self-esteem and wonder if we're 'worth it', and that doesn't necessarily only apply to women. Often in what seems like a youth obsessed culture, older people can feel lacking in value, or as if they have nothing to offer society.

In our newspapers we are appalled to read stories of care homes that are not as caring as they should be, and reports of how the Government and care organisations need to tackle the "situation" of our ageing population before the system breaks down completely. Of course not all homes are like that. I was amazed and pleased but perhaps not too surprised the other day to see that the care home where I used to hold regular Communion Services in the village where I lived previously, has received the first CQC (Care Quality Commission) "Outstanding" grade in Kent. And certainly MHA homes are nothing like the uncaring care homes either.

On the first Sunday in June at LMC we are celebrating Methodist Homes Sunday, and we have the privilege of welcoming Revd Anne Rusbridge, a former MHA Chaplain to lead our service. Methodist Homes are amazing places where all are treated as individuals with dignity and love. One of their themes to celebrate is "Because they're worth it!" We rejoice that all of us are of immense value to God whatever age we are, that none of us, young or old, are a "situation", but individuals, dearly loved and of infinite worth to God. Jesus told us that God even cares about a sparrow that falls, so how much more must he love us? We're worth so much to God that he knows everything about us and still loves us completely. Jesus died and rose again for us, because we were worth it.

In a society that determines value and worth by what we have, or earn, or by what we do or can contribute, let us stand up for God's values and be different, and declare that we too value all people for who they are. Because God says each one of us is worth it.

Every Blessing,

Lynda





Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary

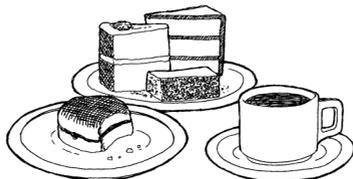


June

Sun	7th	10.30am	Rob Pitt
Wed	11th	11.00am	Church Council meeting
Sat	13th	10.00am	Time 4 You (<i>until 12 noon</i>)
		2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	14th	10.30am	Bob Boyce
Sat	20th	10.00am	LMMR Meeting at Cobham URC (<i>to 1.00pm</i>)
Sun	21st	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion
Thurs	25th	3.45pm	Messy Church at the URC (<i>to 5.45pm</i>)
Sun	28th	10.30am	Rhys Frost

July

Sat	4th	7.30pm	Fundraising Concert by Sam Plumpton at Cobham URC
Sun	5th	10.30am	tba



Next "Time 4 You"

Saturday 13th June,
10.00am - 12 noon

Cobham Methodist Church



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary



June			
Sun	7th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Vivien Gerhold
Sun	14th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
Sun	21st	10.30am	Rev. Bruce Stewart
Sun	28th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
July			
Sun	5th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Thelma Roberts

Prayers at the Cobham URC Manse
at 9.30am on Wednesdays:
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June

An Evening of Fun...

... including singing, dancing, refreshments, a raffle.

7.30pm on Saturday 4th July at Cobham URC

This is a fundraising event to support Sam Plumpton's work placement at the UN offices in Geneva.

See page 2 for the background to this. All Welcome.

Cobham URC Events

June

Tues	2nd	9.45am	Church Walk
Thurs	4th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship
Sun	7th	3.00pm	Play and Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i>
Thurs	11th	8.00pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat	13th	10.00am	Coffee Morning <i>(to 12noon)</i>
Tues	23rd	11.00am	Coffee for Carers
Thurs	25th	3.45pm	Messy Church <i>(to 5.45pm)</i>
Fri	26th	3.00pm	T @ 3

July

Sat	4th	7.30pm	Fundraising Concert by Sam Plumpton
Sun	5th	3.00pm	Play and Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i>

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



Thursday 25th June
3:45pm - 5:45pm

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

All are welcome



Coffee Morning
Saturday 13th June
10.00am to 12noon



Tea at Three:
Friday 26th June



Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Date to celebrate this month:



Mary Verrinder on 27th

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

Prayer Meetings...

...are held in the Chapel every Friday at 9.15am.

Date for your diary:

Effingham & Little Bookham Churches Together's new group, CONNECT for Dementia sufferers and their carers starts on Thursday 11th June from 10.30am - 12noon. (See page 14).



Saturday Morning Live

Our monthly Café Church offers coffee, croissants & food for thought at St. Lawrence church hall from **10.00am - 11.00am** on **Saturdays**.

On 6th June our speaker will be **Hilary Austin** from **Guildford's Street Angels**.

The topic for **4th July** is **B@titude** in Leatherhead.

There's no meeting in August.

Street Angels make a difference!



On Saturday 6th June the speaker at *Saturday Morning Live*, Effingham's monthly Café Church, will be from the **Guildford Street Angels**, who work with support from Surrey Police and the Safer Guildford Partnership. They're on duty Friday, Saturday and occasional weekday nights from around 10.30pm until around 4.00am when all the bars and clubs are closed.

Street Angels (and similar programmes such as Street Pastors) have been springing up across the UK over the last few years. There's one in Dorking now. They make a really positive impact on crime and anti-social behaviour in town centres, particularly near late-night bars and clubs, by providing a calming presence on the streets late at night. They can provide flip-flops for those who've lost their shoes, and practical advice! They're run by volunteers who believe that people deserve care and love in their time of need. They deal with the homeless, drunks, drug abuse, victims of assault, anyone suffering personal distress, whoever they are and whatever their situation, by listening, caring, offering practical help or by referring people to other (specialist) agencies who can help them. Street Angels operate with local churches with volunteers of different faiths and none. Volunteers are over 18, DBS checked, interviewed and trained.

Street Angels, is one of 130 local projects set up nationally by **Christian Nightlife Initiatives (CNI)**, winners of a *Big Society Award* who have seen violent crime, anti-social behaviour and sexual assaults reduced, and have contributed to a change in the 'Booze Britain' culture. Other projects include Club Angels, NightLight, Festival Angels, Town Pastors, Street Chaplains, safe place drop-in's, mobile support units, lap-dancing bar chaplains and Youth Angels. Volunteers have invested millions of hours into communities within the night-time economy. CNI have used their expertise in alcohol and drug related issues to become an award-winning model for church and community involvement across the UK and Europe.



Don't forget Effingham's Village Day!

27th June at KGV Playing Fields from 1.00pm to 5.30pm.

All the fun of the fair, and CAKE!!

Lots and lots of CAKE!!!

"The Great Effingham Bake Off"

But are we up for a challenge ?

READY? GET SET! BAKE!!



Perhaps YOU could help us on the stall?

Be a Village Day Volunteer - signing sheet in the hall !



**St. Lawrence Church Hall
in Brown's Lane**

Wednesday 10th June - 3.30 - 5.30pm

The theme for June is **Jesus's Miracles** - Raising Lazarus - Healing the blind man - Calming the Storm - Feeding the 5000. It's quite a challenge for our helpers to create with card, colouring pens and glitter! So your prayers for our own small miracle please!

Child Safety Week

I can be poisoned if I
drink cleaning things



Coffee Morning

Wednesday 3rd June

10.00—12.00

Lots of safety advice

leaflets available

At Effingham Methodist Church

The Fossil Fuel Dilemma

The Methodist Church is disinvesting in fossil fuels. The new policy “**Climate Change: Ethical Implications of Different Fuels**” was outlined in last week’s *Methodist Recorder* (8th May). The Central Finance Board Chief Executive said: “We are committed to engaging proactively with companies to influence their involvement in fossil fuel extraction. Ultimately, as a last resort, we have the option of disinvesting from a company if it continues to base its business model on the assumption that emissions targets need not be met”.

However a very interesting letter in the same paper (p6) reminding us that “The issue of using fossil fuels to generate electricity is not simplistic”.

Quoting from a newspaper article which “convincingly argued that mass migration from Africa is driven by a shortage of electrical power to provide employment: Nearly 700M Africans use wood and dung for cooking and heating and 600M have no electric light to read by... Tragedies affecting the lives of millions are happening now, as opposed to the distant threat of global warming. Temperatures in rural Africa are no higher than in the 1930s. Even in this country the lights would go out if we relied entirely on renewables”. (Link: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/fossil-fuels-will-save-the-world-really-1426282420>)

Here in Europe the **World Bank** is under fire for agreeing to help fund a coal-fired plant in Kosovo, one of the poorest countries. Yet the country’s energy deficit is crippling the country’s economic growth.

The U.N’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC latest report did not give a “best estimate” of sensitivity and lowered its estimate of near-term warming as some of the scientific models on which research is based may have as much as a 40% error factor.

What a dilemma!

Ange Putland



**A new fortnightly group for carers
and partners living with dementia**
At St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, Effingham

Starts Thursday June 11th

10.30 - 12.00noon



'Connect'

**Come for refreshments,
friendship, chat
and activities**

For more information contact
Kim Plumpton on 01932 586988

Gill Walker on 01372 457987
GillianMWalker@gmail.com

Effingham Methodist Diary



June

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|
| Wed | 3rd | 10.00am | Child Safety Week coffee morning in Hall
(to 12noon - see page 12) |
| Sat | 6th | 10.00am | Café Church at St. Lawrence's Hall
(to 11.00am - see page 9) |
| Sun | 7th | 10.00am | Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion |
| Tues | 9th | 12noon
2.30pm | Churches Together prayer lunch in the Hall
Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall |
| Wed | 10th | 3.30pm | Messy Church - St. Lawrence Church Hall |
| Thurs | 11th | 10.30am

2.30pm | Connect Dementia Group meet in
St. Lawrence's hall (to 12noon)
Christian Meditation in the Church |
| Fri | 12th | 12noon | 'I'm Here to Listen' - Rev. Kim Plumpton
(to 1.30pm) |
| Sun | 14th | 10.00am | Alex Cloke |
| Thurs | 18th | 12.30pm | Oasis Bible Lunch Group in the Hall |
| Sun | 21st | 10.00am | John Lamont |
| Tues | 24th | 2.30pm | Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall |
| Thurs | 26th | 2.30pm | Christian Meditation in the Church |
| Sun | 28th | 10.00am | Jay Dunning |
| July | | | |
| Sat | 4th | 10.00am | Café Church at St. Lawrence's Hall |
| Sun | 5th | 10.00am | Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion |

The Chapel will be open from
12 - 1:30pm on *Friday 12th June*

'I'm Here to Listen'

Rev. Kim Plumpton

Leatherhead Pages

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

Super Summer Sale and Coffee Morning

In aid of
Heart for Romania



... at Leatherhead Methodist Church
on Saturday 6th June from
10.30am to 1.00pm.

Good quality clothes, books, gifts and bric-a-brac. Light refreshments available. Please come along and support this event.

Any donations of suitable items for sale would be very welcome. Contact Maureen Prescott - 07766 684940.

Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:



Thursday 18th June
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



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 with an inspirational testimony and also worship led by Jay and the band. Stay afterwards for coffee and a chat. **Next New Fire service: Sunday 28th June.**



Men's Breakfasts

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

- 27th June Christ Church hall: Speaker - John Henderson on Leatherhead United Charities.
- 25th July Anglican Church hall: Speaker - Tim Poole on Heart for Romania.

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.

Leatherhead Community Association

There is a really busy and interesting Summer programme of visits, talks and walks planned by the LCA over the Summer months. How about going to the Physic Gardens and Saatchi Gallery on 25th June? Or there is a Day at the Races at Lingfield Race Course on 8th July, a visit to houses connected with the Bloomsbury Group on 15th August or even Buckingham Palace State Rooms and Gardens on 8th September.

Looking ahead, there are recorded music afternoons at 2.15, on 17th June, 15th July and 19th August, no booking necessary, and tickets have already been reserved for the Frank Sinatra Tribute Concert on 12 December.

The Tea and Talks subject on 12th June is 'Life on a Lighthouse' by Peter Smith who grew up in a lighthouse - not many people have done that!

Peter Humphreys has planned a very varied programme of short and longer walks and strolls which include Teazle Wood, Ham - Twickenham riverside, and the Leith Hill Rhododendron Dell.

Full details of all these events can be found at the Letherhead Institute, why not call in at 67 High Street Leatherhead, or contact Sarah on 01372 360508 every day between 9.00am and 12noon. Also, please click on to the website to find out more - <http://www.leatherheadca.org.uk> or email us on:

lca2@btconnect.com

Frances Presley



Leatherhead Pages continue on page 23

Dorking and Horsham Circuit
NEWSLETTER

**June
July & August
2015**

Dear Friends,

I am writing this two days before the General Election. So I can't comment on whatever you, the reader, now knows the outcome to be. But I can comment on an unfortunate trend: more and more people seem to regard voting as a waste of time.

Some think that all political parties are basically the same (by which they mean all as bad as each other). So there's not much point in helping decide who runs the country. You can't do anything about it. You just have to put up with the fact that politics exist and get on with trying to live your daily life as best as you can.

Some think that the winner in their constituency is a foregone conclusion so there is no point in voting. Either your preferred candidate will already have enough support to win without you, or he/she stands no chance of winning so your vote would be wasted.

I don't agree with either of these viewpoints. There are good and bad ways to run a country. There are right and wrong principles on which to base your policies. It makes a difference who is in charge. As a democracy we have the privilege of helping to shape our own future as a nation.

As for whether it is worth voting in a completely 'safe' seat, the answer is yes. It is still important to register our support, whether it is to bolster the confidence of the winner, or to encourage a candidate who we know can't actually win. Every vote sends a signal to the eventual winner about the concerns of his/her constituents. And who knows what impact our support may have on a losing candidate? Don't we want to encourage people with good ideas to press on, maybe standing for local government instead, or promoting their policies in future elections?

It's too late for me to influence your vote on the government of the United Kingdom, but I do want to encourage you to play your part in the future of the Kingdom of God. Too many people think that there is nothing we can do to influence God's Kingdom. It's not a democracy, they say. God's in charge. He'll do what's good and right without any input from us.

But God actually invites us to participate in his Kingdom. Consider, for example, John 15:7 in which Jesus says "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you." We are not just invited, but expected to help shape God's plans for the world we live in.

(continued on the back page)

The **Methodist Church**



LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

At London Road we are preparing for our outdoor parade service at the Colgate campsite on 14th June, starting at 10.30am. There will be activities for all ages around the site which will be followed by an informal act of worship and a picnic (drinks provided, bring your own food!). The weekend marks the 25th anniversary of our church-sponsored scout group and many of the group and their families will be taking part in a celebratory camp at Colgate.

Over one hundred young people come onto our premises every week to take part in activities run by the uniformed groups and we are currently exploring ways of strengthening the links between the groups and the Church. One idea is to get members of the congregation to share their talents and experiences with the young people at the week night meetings.

By the time you read this, our new group JIGSAW (Jesus in Games, Snacks and Worship) will be underway. Meeting monthly in the Church on a Sunday afternoon, this exciting new venture is aimed primarily at those children who have grown out of Messy Church.

Please pray for all the young people that the Church comes into contact with and especially for Zunara and Mira Haq, received into membership in May.

Carolyn King

st martin's DORKING

Holy Week and Easter were duly marked and celebrated in church and by Churches Together. We have had to say goodbye to Matthew Beetschen, our Director of Music, as family circumstances have meant he has had to return to Scotland.

We are glad to report that the Food Bank, which has been planned with much vigour by Churches Together, should soon open and that our Centre has been able to offer facilities to support this.

That Centre, with its hard-working Chaplain and Managers, continues to be a busy place and has extended its listening service as part of its offer to the community. A recent plant and cake sale raised about £500, and it hoped that a major refurbishment of the kitchen will soon be under way. The Chaplain has reinstated monthly Prayer Walks in the town.

Deadline for the next issue:
Thursday August 6
j.oborn671@btinternet.com

REVD VAL OGDEN

Val has heard from her supervisor: *"At long last we have received the examiners' report on your resubmitted thesis, and they are now recommending that you be awarded the PhD – many congratulations! They affirm that the thesis is 'well-researched and original' and 'presents a full, insightful and coherent account of Morris's varied ministry and the forces that have shaped it'. The process since your resubmission has taken longer than I would have liked or expected – for reasons I am not entirely clear about. I regret that you have had to wait so long but I hope you are encouraged that the end is indeed now in sight!"*

Val writes: I now await the University of Wales' official proof in the form of some certificate or other, so no-one should get carried away by the 'Dr' business quite yet. In fact, to be frank, no-one needs to get carried away by it at all! But I do thank so many across the Circuit for your kind interest in the Colin Morris research, and all the encouragement and prayers. I'm committed to making it bear fruit in practical ways, so watch this space. To God be the glory.

EFFINGHAM

The Chapel is still awaiting work on the roof, but we hope to be under scaffolding soon. Meanwhile **Churches together** have organised a **Pentecost service** at our Chapel on 24th May at 6pm. **Café Church** will have a speaker from Guildford Street Angels, and **Messy Church** is still going from strength to strength.

“**Connect**”, the new Dementia support group in Effingham is due to run fortnightly from June. Volunteers have been recruited to help provide refreshments and activities such as snooker, dominoes, arts and crafts for those with dementia, and an opportunity for carers to meet and talk and share experiences.

Further to the **Emergency First Aid @ Work** course for the Circuit at London Road in May, **Dave and Ange Putland** will be running a short first aid course at Effingham, training everyone helping with **Tuesday Teas** and **Connect**, and doing first aid for children sessions for everyone who helps with **Messy Church** events.

Once again the Chapel will be taking part in **Heritage Open Days Weekend** on 11th, 12th and 13th September. There will be an exhibition about local history, our Methodist roots, and local heroes Lord Howard of Armada fame, and Sir Barnes Wallis, inventor, aircraft designer, but perhaps most famous for the bouncing bomb. We’re also giving talks on Baryonyx, the Surrey Dinosaur, and there’s a fossil dig and a chance to handle meteorites !!

As **Circuit Archivist** I’d like to draw your attention to the **Methodist Heritage newsletter**, which has an interesting invitation to anyone with information about women’s movements within the Methodist church to share their memories. A researcher, who will be based at Epworth Old Rectory, has just been appointed by **Methodist Women in Britain, formerly Women’s Network**. (See website).

Ange Putland

COBHAM

“How are things in Cobham?” I get asked as I go around the circuit. “Fine,” I say. So here let me put some flesh on that bone. We are a small and predominantly elderly congregation – some of the time. At other times we are a much larger congregation, mixed in age and ethnicity. Our services are quite traditional built round well-known hymns from *Singing the Faith* – or we have a more modern style of worship led by a music group – possibly including dance. This is because we may be two or three or even four congregations worshipping together. On alternate fifth Sundays we are joined by Cobham United Reformed Church (on the other fifth Sundays we go to them). On some special Sundays we are joined by Cobham Community Church (who usually worship in our hall while we are in the church). And roughly four times a year we are also joined by The Great Commission Ministry, a mainly Filipino congregation whose home church is in Shepherd’s Bush and who usually worship in our church after we have finished on a Sunday. Whatever the pattern of worship we worship God with heart and soul and voice.

We also make a contribution out of proportion to our numbers to the community in which we live. Our church and hall are in use by local groups on most mornings and afternoons and some evenings. In particular we continue to be the Distribution Centre for Cobham Area Foodbank – every Friday, including Boxing Day and Good Friday – where the hungry are fed. Work has just started, by a group associated with CCC, on a patch of land next to the church, which belongs to the council, is leased to Care UK, but is unused by anybody, to turn this into a community garden.

Our next big (4-way) united service is for our Church Anniversary on May 31st, when our preacher will be the Assistant Chair of the District, Revd Conrad Hicks. Everything at Cobham is buzzing.

David Cappitt

(continued from front page)

An even stronger promise was made to Peter: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom ... whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1-4 urges prayer for those in authority. And prayer changes things.

In Genesis 18 Abraham persuades God to change his policy over the conditions under which Sodom could be saved from destruction. In Jonah 3, the residents of Nineveh convince God to reverse his decision about destroying their city.

It's a cop-out if we think our prayers make no difference so we may as well sit back and let God get on with doing whatever he wants with our world. God invites us to pray earnestly, to tell him of our hopes and desires, to make our own contribution in shaping a future of justice and peace.

And one consequence of this is that whatever the outcome of the General Election, our responsibilities do not end with casting our vote. They continue as we work with and pray
Paul

LEATHERHEAD

LMC is facing up to the ongoing challenge of its mission in Leatherhead.

One focus has been the support of young people. A large smart screen has been installed in the Lower Hall to take advantage of modern educational resources. Messy Church is huge with about 50 families having easy access to a church and hearing about the teachings of Jesus. The Tiddlywinks (toddlers' group) has recently been re-established.

A pattern of Sunday worship has been established which adds a monthly combined service with Christchurch URC. The monthly ecumenical "New Fire" service, with its praise band led by Jay Bristow, regularly attracts 50 people. Once a month a prayer breakfast precedes Sunday morning worship. The organ has stopped working, and perhaps is not repairable, but worship is helped with a piano-keyboard.

James Wild has set out on the road to be an accredited Local Preacher. Norma Shaw has recently taken over from Carol Stoves as Senior Steward. A third house group has been established. Together with our friends at Christchurch we are giving serious support to the charity "Heart for Romania". The parable of the talents has been invoked with everybody being offered £10 from church funds and challenged to make it work to increase its value. A half-marathon has been run and a packed house for a bridge drive is among other highlights supporting this outreach activity.

Norma Shaw
22

PARTRIDGE GREEN

During the summer months we will continue to hold our activities for the young families in the village. We will be hosting two "Messy Church" mornings, one at the end of May and the following one at the start of the school summer holidays. We greatly appreciate the wonderful help we receive from our London Road friends on these busy mornings.

Our "Open Door" club on alternate Tuesday afternoons continues to offer a good variety of entertainment and outings for the more senior members of the community.

On the second Thursday afternoon of each month we have our Village Café held in our church hall, and this is now a very enjoyable ecumenical occasion. Ladies from St Michael's Church and the Weald Community Church oversee the running, with support from our members and also the Parish Church. A great number of villagers from young to elderly enjoy this afternoon, giving all the chance to embrace the friendships within our church communities.

Our Church Anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday June 7th, with Revd Tony Trevithick from Worthing to take our service. Everyone most welcome.

Alison James

Book Review

“When Faith Gets Shaken”
by Patrick Regan and Liza Hoeksma,
Lion Hudson, £7.99

What do you do when life falls apart, and it feels as if God has left you? How do you keep going when your faith is rocked to the core? Sometimes things get so hard we’re not sure where God is – or what he’s up to. For Patrick there was pain, illness, and loss in his family and community. Then a series of excruciating operations took him to the brink physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Writing during his journey of recovery, Patrick explores how we find God in times of suffering. He wrestles with how we can know God’s peace when life is anything but peaceful, what the true nature of courage is, how we allow ourselves the grace to rest when we’re running on empty, and how we can stay fully present in the moment – all so we can ultimately grasp the love of God at a deeper level.

Parish Pump



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

MUSIC
ON
THURSDAYS
at LMC



WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH

12.30 lunchtime concerts **each week this summer**

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

Thursday 28 May at LMC
Andrews Massey Duo
Emily Andrews, flute
David Massey, guitar

Thursday 4 June at LMC
Leyla Cemiloglu, piano
from Yehudi Menuhin School

Thursday 11 June at LMC
Liza van der Peijl, contralto®
Roberta Terchi Nocentini, piano®

We reserve the right to amend this programme

More info: www.musiconthursdays.org

Wednesday 17 June
Wednesdays at Christ Church
Graham Davies,
Asst Director of Music
Pinner Parish Church

Thursday 25 June at LMC
Duo Vastedt
Irma Vastakaite, violin®
Greta Astedt, piano®

Thursday 2nd July at LMC
Jacqueline Phillips, cello

A concert each week until November

Concert Admission Free, with a retiring collection to cover costs

Leatherhead Methodist Church
Church Road
Leatherhead KT22 8AY



Christ Church United Reformed
Epsom Road
Leatherhead KT22 8ST

Supported by Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society ♦ HMRC Charities RefEW02213

LMC's New Schiedmayer Piano ***(and new piano stool)***

Thursday April 30th saw LMC's new piano star in its first solo concert. Greek pianist Marios Panteliadis is a student of the Royal Academy of Music. Despite their age, these post-graduate students who play for us are very experienced musicians. A quick look at Marios's CV showed he had already played Sydney Opera House, and several other internationally famous venues.

He seemed the right person to give us a performer's appraisal of the piano. Well, the piano passed - although some noticed it walking away from him in particularly active moments. That's easily solved by turning the wheels once the piano is in position. But he did suggest we acquire an adjustable piano stool. We always invite pianists to choose "any seat in the house". Marios had stacked two of the metal-framed chairs to find the ideal height. They did rather grind together each time he stood up or sat down!

So the next morning I put a request onto local website "streetlife". Sunday evening I had a phone call from a lady offering an adjustable stool. Tuesday morning I went to see her, and came back to LMC with the stool. It was perfect. It looks brand new. Such a fine gift to music-making at LMC.

As for the lunchtime concerts, the first three have gone very well, with audiences of 61, 37 and 46. These are audience figures many city churches never reach - despite the thousands of people in the offices around them. We appealed for tea and coffee hosts. It looks as though this too is covered, and we will be able to linger over a cuppa after each concert.

And the first musician to use the new piano stool... not a pianist, it was in fact Francisco Correa, the Colombian guitarist!

Peter Steadman
Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society
Music on Thursdays at LMC
Wednesdays at Christ Church

Peter Horsfield wrote a poem about the amazing piano concert by Marios Panteliadis and this is reproduced on the next page. Having attended the concert, I can say that the poem gives a real feel for the performance.

Editor

Tested to Destruction

On two stacked chairs he bounces precariously -
Schiedmayer piano visibly shakes on the carpet,
while brooding, percussive crescendos
cascade, ever more intense,
then die to a melancholic tranquillo
outpouring of emotion.

Surrounding silence hugs his dark-suited form,
absorbed in the flowing moment;
with total focus he holds his audience.
Renewed stormy rhythmic agitation
fills the instrument's compass,
explores its limits –
in thundering savagery
his fingers assail the keys;
yet maintain controlled precision,
every complicated
melodic progression in its place,
every dissonant chord and crashing octave
perfectly executed.

By primitive, primeval dance
of Hungarian Liszt and Bartok,
he is possessed; and we with him.
Not wanting the concert to end,
I am abruptly jolted from my reverie.
The piano has survived well –
its forerunner might not have been so fortunate;
in the mind's eye
exploding wooden splinters strew the stage,
mirroring the music's passion.

Peter Horsfield 30/4/2015

*Inspired by the lunchtime piano recital given at
Leatherhead Methodist Church on
30th April 2015 by Marios Panteliadis.*

Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

From 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Friday 5th June...

*(Edward Warren will be speaking on :
"Researching your Family History")*

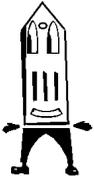
...and then every first Friday in the month at

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)





Leatherhead

Methodist Church

***Please see the Leatherhead Pages
(pages 16-18 & 23-27) for more news***

West Hill School Community Café...

...is held at LMC every Tuesday 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 Tuesday mornings to support this very worthwhile enterprise.



LMC Housegroups

The **Friday House Group** meets on the third Friday each month. Please contact Norma Shaw for further details.

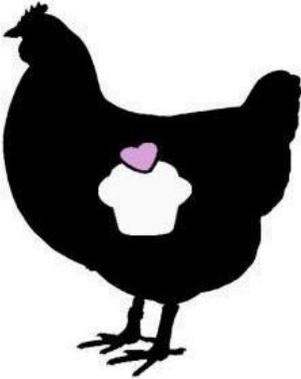
The **Monday House Group** meets on alternate Mondays. Contact Carol Stoves - 01372 377125 - for details.

The **Friday Afternoon House Group** is led by John Russell and meets from 1.30pm to 3.15pm on the

second and fourth Friday in the month. Contact Sue Friend - 01372 813464 - for details.



Chickens and Cakes!



Hi everyone!

I've just started my own local cake decorating business in Leatherhead and just wanted to spread the news of what I've been up to and how you could take a look (and spread the word to any friends/potential customers!).

I started my business just after Christmas and the whole aim is around selling the freshest cakes possible made with freshly laid eggs from my own chickens! The aim of this is to promote the charity ***The British Hen Welfare Trust***, who specialise in rescuing battery hens from across the country and re-homing them to people willing to take them in and help them recover. It's a fantastic charity, and I cannot emphasise enough what a joy and adventure it's been owning my little girls.

Anyway, back to the cakes. I make cakes for all occasions, from novelty carved birthday cakes to wedding and christening cakes.

Please do browse my website for further details on cakes and my chickens at www.stablecottagecakes.com

Thanks for your time,

Lucy Howard





Diary



June

Tues	2nd	10.30am	West Hill Café at LMC - all welcome
Thurs	4th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 24</i>)
Fri	5th	2.30pm	Time for Tea (<i>to 4.30pm</i>)
Sat	6th	10.30am	Super Summer Sale (<i>to 1.00pm - see page 16</i>)
Sun	7th	10.30am	Rev Lynda Russell & Rev. Anne Rusbridge - Methodist Homes Sunday
Tues	9th	10.30am	West Hill Café at LMC - all welcome
Thurs	11th	12.30pm 7.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 24</i>) Church Council
Sun	14th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion (Joint) Rev. Lynda Russell
Tues	16th	10.30am 2.30pm	West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome Service at The Beeches Nursing Home
Wed	17th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 24</i>)
Thurs	18th	3.30pm	Messy Church (<i>to 5.30pm</i>)
Sun	21st	9.00am 10.30am	Bring and Share Prayer Breakfast John Oborn
Tues	23rd	10.30am 2.30pm	West Hill Café at LMC - all welcome Pastoral Visitors' & Elders' Prayer Meeting
Thurs	25th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 24</i>)
Sat	27th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at Christ Church (<i>see page 17</i>)
Sun	28th	10.30am 6.30pm	David Cappitt New Fire
Tues	30th	10.30am	West Hill Café at LMC - all welcome

July

Thurs	2nd	12.30pm 7.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 24</i>) Leadership Team
Fri	3rd	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC (<i>to 4.30pm</i>)
Sun	5th	10.30am	Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion (tbc)

LMC Family News



Congratulations and best wishes to...

...Dreda Kitchen who celebrated her 80th birthday in May.

...Harry Robinson who celebrated his 90th birthday in May.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with...

...Gill Harris, seriously ill at home, and Meurig.

also with...

...other members and friends being looked after in nursing care or at home, and with all those who care for them day by day.

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.



Remembering VE Day

Early in May, hearing, seeing and reading so much about VE Day, brought back memories for me. Of the war itself, I remember very little. There was no television, only radio (the 'wireless') and newspapers were limited. News was not 'instant'. It was not normal for reporters to be everywhere, either at home or on the war front. Young men and women had been called up to serve their country. Those not fighting were employed in 'war work' in factories or on the land to help feed the nation. Food from abroad was extremely limited. Shipping goods around the world was fraught with danger.

The news that war had ended in Europe meant great celebrations. I remember a great street party just down from us in the curve of the road. Food appeared in abundance and was laid out on tables covered with starched white cloths. Where the ingredients came from to make the cakes and other goodies, I just don't know. I do know my mother kept a store of 'hard to get' food in the base of the hallstand, but it would have been almost depleted after six years and certainly would not have contained much to make cakes! Black market springs to mind, but nobody admitted to such dealings.

Apart from food and much talking and laughter, there were races of all kinds along the straight bit of road outside our house. Everybody was encouraged to run or skip or hop, to bowl hoops - which never went straight! - or join in silly dressing up races. It was exhausting but such fun. In the evening there was an impromptu concert highlighting hidden talent - juggling, conjuring, comedy (some a little doubtful that children did not understand but adults applauded heartily) and singing. All the wartime favourites were belted out with gusto! My mother sang a solo, and joined a quartet singing contralto and adding her voice to a scratch choir singing 'Land of hope and glory' and 'Jerusalem'. Neighbours joined together to celebrate.

The street party was not on 'the day' itself, but possibly a few days later. On 8th May, my father, my older sister and I cycled into London, a journey of about fifteen miles. Our cycles, nothing grand but all black, no shiny bits at all, had been presents waiting for us when we returned home from evacuation. We were used to cycling everywhere so it was no hardship. Just after Tooting we stopped at a British Restaurant for a drink. British Restaurants were Government controlled eating places serving very basic food to help eke out rations. A main meal and pud would cost the equivalent of under 10p in today's money.

Refreshed, we continued into the heart of London. I cannot remember such crowds, all going towards Buckingham Palace. Strangers greeted each other as old friends and my sister and I had sixpences (tanners - a lot of money then!) and threepenny bits thrust at us, often with smacking kisses. At eleven I found it a bit frightening. My father found a length of rope and tied my arm to his. We had left the bicycles somewhere near Vauxhall because we couldn't ride them in the crowds and they were too cumbersome to push. We knew they would still be there for our return.

It was a one-off experience of noise, people, cheering and singing and we were part of it. We were out a long time and tired legs meant the journey home took much longer.

Jean Plant

MHA Sunday, 7th June

The theme for this year is "Who is my older neighbour?", focusing on the often "invisible" presence of older people in the community.



We look forward to our morning service which will be led by Rev. Lynda Russell, and her friend Rev. Anne Rusbridge who has recently retired.

Anne grew up at LMC, her maiden name is Digby. Some of our members remember her family. Her mother Maud is now living at The Beeches Care Home.

Lynda met Anne when she did a year's placement with her in the Croydon Circuit at South Norwood. Subsequently Anne worked for some years as an MHA Chaplain in Surrey, and will be able to share with us some of her many interesting experiences during that ministry.

Gift envelopes will be on the chairs from 31st May and can be returned in the Church collection bags. These gifts help increase facilities in the Homes, such as Chaplaincy and Music Therapy, and help provide community support networks for older people living independently at home. Please be generous.

All friends are reminded that MHA boxes are due for opening this month.

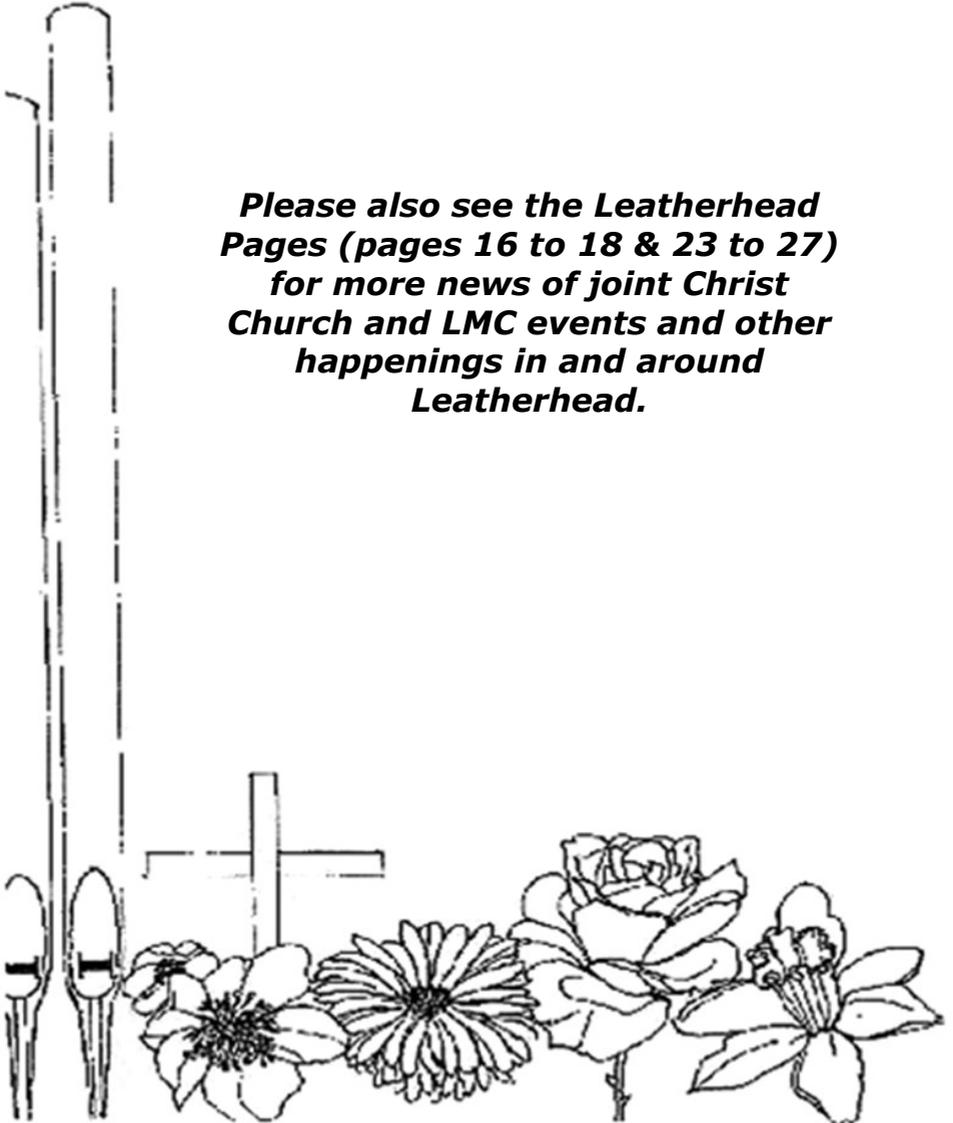
Thankyou!

Freda Walker

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

*Please also see the Leatherhead
Pages (pages 16 to 18 & 23 to 27)
for more news of joint Christ
Church and LMC events and other
happenings in and around
Leatherhead.*



Christ Church Diary



June

- Thurs 4th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 24)
- Fri 5th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (to 4.30pm)
- Sat 6th 1.30pm Wedding of Catherine Huxtable & Jonathan Raven
- Sun 7th 10.30am The Elders**
- Thurs 11th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 24)
- Sun 14th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell - Joint Service at LMC with Holy Communion**
6.30pm Rev. Lynda Russell - at LMC
- Tues 16th 2.30pm Service at The Beeches Nursing Home
- Wed 17th 12.30pm Organ Recital (see page 24)
- Thurs 18th 3.30pm Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm)
- Sun 21st 10.30am Rev. Donald Finnan**
- Tues 23rd 2.30pm Pastoral Visitors' & Elders' Prayer Meeting at LMC
- Thurs 25th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 24)
- Sat 27th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at Christ Church (see page 17)
- Sun 28th 10.30am John Oborn (Methodist Local Preacher)**
6.30pm New Fire at LMC

July

- Thurs 2nd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (see page 24)
- Fri 3rd 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (to 4.30pm)
- Sun 5th 10.30am Mrs Linda Richards**

Christ Church Family News



Two more birthdays to celebrate this month. Congratulations and very best wishes to **Nan Kemp**, who will be 95 on the 17th, and to **Mike Essex** who turns 80 on the 19th.

Ivan Haslam has moved to 51 Broadmead, The Marld, Ashtead KT21 1RT. Tel: 01372 602346. We wish him every happiness in his new home.

We send congratulations and good wishes for the future to **Catherine Huxtable** (younger daughter of Sue) and **Jonathan Raven** for their wedding on 6th June at Christ Church.

We are glad that **Hilary Porter** is feeling much better now and is able to move about more freely.

We remember these friends, John Rayner and others in care homes, and all those who need our support and prayers.

Anne Cairns



The Joy of Living and Caring

First my grateful thanks to all those who have supported me over the past months, with "lifts" and encouragement, transport, visits, cards, flowers, thoughts and prayers. When you do not realise how ill you are and NHS staff say "do you realise you could have died?", I am delighted to be back singing with friends on earth and nowhere else.

I have always been a carer. I started as the oldest in kindergarten, then I had the experience of being a boarder when my parents could not look after me. I also cared for a young companion who had lost both parents in the Blitz. I never wanted to be anything else when I grew up, but to be a nurse.

In my second year of nursing, I first lost some of my hearing with a chronic infection. (Nurses now still go on working when they are unwell). On change of wards I was greeted by the strictest Sister with "However ill you may feel, you always give your best to the patients". So I tried to, reported sick, was given penicillin and returned to duty. I ended up with a nervous breakdown having lost 3 stone in weight over a period of five months and so I lost my career. I returned home to recuperate and look after two handicapped parents, who had managed with an au-pair.

I subsequently trained as a Youth Worker. With two children of my own, sometimes I have had just two to care for, sometimes as many as over 100 teenagers five evenings a week. My teenage daughter would bring me home "lost sheep" from the local minicab office; and then I woke up one morning with 13 in the house. The Vicar returned two to the local children's home, but I decided enough was enough and put the house on the market and moved to Leatherhead.

Children who are carers, almost always put others first. Often, their education suffers (mine did not) they do not speak up for themselves and they are bullied at school. I had the good fortune to move from a bullying situation to a small private school which specialised in confidence building. Having been taught at home not to speak or play the piano when my father was at home because of his head injuries, acting, singing, piano playing, going to opera, concerts, and Sunday School opened a locked cage. But you would always find me doing the washing up or keeping the accounts for the Youth Club and not speaking unless someone asked me a question or I had to pass on information.

continued on the next page

Now with three and a half weeks in hospital, after warnings that I needed to make more "Time for Me", I found myself telling one or two of the nurses, who gave me the greatest care, that you cannot give your best if you exhaust yourself, particularly when you have a carer role at home as well as at work.

Now I am fighting for the Leatherhead Hospital, where 24 hours a day carers used to be able to find respite beds, so that they could have a week's holiday. But I have had to find others who could go to the consultation meetings. I represent those of 50+ in our community, particularly those who have disability, mental health or access problems, and I have a voice on their behalf at meetings of the Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Patients Advisory Group. I certainly talk now, when I can, both for myself as well as for others.

My father, in spite of his physical and mental handicaps, worked until he was 67 caring for his employees. His family motto was "Grace me Guide" and he was christened Neale after Rev'd Neale who married into the Dalton family. My favourite hymn is Amazing Grace, my Father's was "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord, he is tramping out the vineyard where the grapes of wrath are stored".

The next Tea and Talk at LMC will have a speaker about Family Trees and genealogy. My family tree includes Blackwell of Crosse and Blackwell in mine, with MPs, Clergy, Teachers and Nurses, and like most families a few black sheep, who were protected in the fold of the family.

Hilary Porter



Notes from Christ Church Annual Meeting

This took place on 23rd April 2015, 7.30pm with the minister, Revd Lynda Russell in the chair and 22 members present. The following reports were received:

John Henderson, Treasurer, presented the Accounts and reported that collections had reduced mainly because of our smaller membership but income from hall use had increased due to it being Pitstop's temporary home. Our main outgoings were to the URC Ministry and Mission Fund and Property Maintenance Health and Safety matters.

Revd Lynda Russell summarised the work at Christ Church using the URC Southern Synod Mission Criteria headings. Lynda and representatives from Christ Church and LMC are meeting to discuss with the Transform Leatherhead planning group to discuss the possibility of a church in the town centre.

Mike Essex, Lay Leader, thanked Lynda and the Elders for their efforts during the year particularly Anne Cairns for keeping in touch with our older and sick members while we await movement towards union.

Heather Ward reported on the children's and youth work associated with the church and thanked those who prepare each Sunday in case any children come. Brownies and Scouts continue to thrive. Heather is in her third year of the URC Training for Learning and Serving Course, which is focussed on leading worship and preaching.

Jeanette Chamberlain, Secretary, reported on the reduction in membership and those attending Sunday Services. A new Church Secretary and Pulpit Supply Secretary will be needed in 2016. Steve Neal was thanked for dealing with the hall bookings and ensuring that the premises were heated each week. The Independent Examiner, Nigel Gillott, was appointed and Church Appointments were affirmed.

Other business included:

A contribution of £2,500 for three years towards the cost of funding a Children's and Families Worker was offered.

The Link Contribution was agreed, as were the points in the Link Review.

Volunteers are needed to organise the Ride & Stride event in September.

Jeanette Chamberlain

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: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



<u>United Pastorate Ministers</u>	
<u>Rev. Lynda Russell</u> 10 Church Road Leatherhead KT22 8AY Tel: 01372 372743 (home) 01372 362145 (office) E-mail: lynda.russell@methodist.org.uk	<u>Rev. Kim Plumpton</u> 38 Stoke Road Cobham KT11 3BD Tel: 01932 586988 E-mail: kimp_822@hotmail.com