

the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

October 2013



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Linking:

**Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham Methodist Church
Cobham United Reformed Church
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church**

The Methodist Church



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The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

I recently returned from a wedding which I had been looking forward to for all sorts of reasons. Set in Newquay, Cornwall, I knew it would be an emotional time as I remember the days when I used to sing my Godson Mark to sleep as a baby while his mum went off to shop. Mark's mum was my best friend who went on to marry my ex-fiancée. I was delighted when my best friend at the time announced they had begun to see each other and even more thrilled when they announced they would marry. So here we were part of an intimate group of 30 celebrating their son Mark's wedding celebrations.

It was a civil ceremony at the Watergate Bay Hotel which overlooked the beach. The weather was awful, wet and windy but it was insignificant amongst the joy of seeing old friends and family members and being part of the beautifully crafted celebrations. The setting was stunning, the food gorgeous and the ceremony surprisingly moving.

This of course was a civil ceremony so God was not mentioned, yet he was not absent. God was part of the love that was being poured out in this new union between husband and wife and also from those gathered who were offering to support them and love them through this new journey they would make together. Part of that journey would involve Mark (who serves in the armed forces in Germany) going on tour to Afghanistan early next year, and the memories we were making today would undoubtedly keep Anie warm and comforted on those days when she would feel Mark's absence more deeply.

Although prayers were not said in the ceremony they were not absent from those of us who attended the ceremony and who were devout Christians. I have always believed that prayers said for me are responsible for the position I find myself in today, those prayers had held me and nurtured me for so many years and I was not aware of them,

continued on the next page

but my godmother prayed for me every day. Our prayers were standing in the gap holding both Mark and Anie before God for his blessing.

Although a civil ceremony may serve to remove God from its liturgy, it strikes me that in the very act of declaring love for one another, there God will be found. In the hearts of those who attend, there God will be found. Where there is love, God will be found.

With every blessing, Kim

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Dear Friends,

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their very warm welcome over these past few weeks. John and I have been very touched by all your good wishes. My Welcome Service was a real high point, with so many of you there, and a great spread provided as well. A huge thanks to all who were involved in any way. My friends who came from my former church in East Peckham left saying that they were confident I was in the right place and happy that they were leaving me in good hands!

Since then I have been thinking about new beginnings. As I begin my ministry here, so there is a sense in which we all begin anew. Although I'm called to serve in the Dorking & Horsham Circuit, specifically at LMC and Christ Church, I don't exercise my ministry alone, but serve here alongside all of you as John Hellyer reminded us at my Welcome Service - not only within the Church but in the wider community.

This is an exciting time. Our God specialises in new beginnings - both on a personal and collaborative level. Lamentations 3: 22-23 tells us that God's faithful love and mercies never cease - they are new every morning. We know too that we can come to God again every day and start afresh in the knowledge that the old is past and the new awaits us.

How much more is this true of us as Church together? Building on what has gone before, we walk forward together into the future that God has for us. The next step for us is to receive the report from CPL (the Architects) which is now due at the end of October, slightly delayed in order to take into account some changes taking place in the town. I'm excited to find out what God has in store for us - I hope you are too!

Blessings, Lynda

Truth and Lies about Poverty

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

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

The Link is publishing all six myths one by one to help us reflect on the issues. In the September edition we looked at the myth: *'They' have an easy life*. In this edition we look at the sixth and last myth:

6. 'They' caused the deficit.

The proportion of our tax bills spent on welfare has remained stable for the last 20 years. It is ridiculous to argue, as some have, that increasing welfare spending is responsible for the current deficit. Public debt is a problem but why is it being laid at the feet of the poorest?

The full report is available on-line at:

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

Mission Aviation Fellowship

MAF is a Christian aviation charity operating more than 130 light aircraft in around 25 developing countries, bringing help and healing to the most remote communities. What do they do?

- They perform medical emergency airlifts, as well as fly in doctors and medicines.
- They bring food and aid workers to the most remote communities.
- They fly missionaries and work to show God's love through all they do.

MAF says "With MAF, what was once a 3-day walk suddenly becomes an 11 minute flight. Throughout the world, isolation persists and so do we, but we need your help." Hence the postcards collected throughout the country and sold to collectors. One postcard last year sold for £100, and was bid in competition by two collectors. So, many thanks for all of you who are now saving your postcards and maybe albums also. Do let me have them - happy to collect. Please don't take the stamps off them, it's the whole postcard or album that's required.

Many thanks

Gill Walker

01372 457987



Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary -

October



Wed	2nd	9.30am	Stewards & Elders Retreat at Ladywell Convent (Meet URC 9.30am)
Thurs	3rd	7.30pm	Meeting of leaders of CMC and CCC
Sun	6th	10.30am	James Cameron
Tues	8th	2.30pm	Church Council
Fri	11th	4.30pm	CYC at the URC (to 6.30pm)
Sat	12th	10.00am	Time 4 You (to noon)
		2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	13th	10.30am	Jon Fisher
Sun	20th	<u>11.00am</u>	Rev. Kim Plumpton - Harvest Festival Service, united with TGCM and CCC "Harvest in the Philippines" followed by lunch
Tues	22nd	7.30pm	House Fellowship at the Manse
Thurs	24th	3.30pm	Messy Church at the URC (to 5.30pm)
Fri	25th	4.30pm	CYC at the URC (to 6.30pm)
Sun	27th	10.30am	Bob Boyce
<u>November</u>			
Sun	3rd	10.30am	Angie Choat





Fund Raising in aid of Harrison's Fund:
2nd November from 10.00am to 12noon
at Cobham Methodist Church,
Cedar Road, Cobham

Harrison is a boy of 7 years old who lives in Cobham and has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). There is no cure for this disease!!!

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

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

In particular, donations for the cake stall, tombola, bric-a-brac and raffle will be very welcome.

Raffle

Tombola

Guess the Weight

How many in ?

Café

Mulled Wine

Hot Chocolate

Coffee/Tea

Bric-a-brac

Bacon Rolls

Cakes/pancakes

Lucky Dip

Cake stall

Chocolates

Bread

Jams/Marmalades

Chutneys

Thank you.

Rhonda



Fresh

Creative Expression Afternoon

Are you free on Mondays,
a carer, a busy mum, retired,
working part-time or just feel
you need some 'ME TIME' ?

Then **FRESH** could be the place for you - Friendly,
Refreshing, Expressive, Stimulating, Holistic.

All Materials, inspiration and help provided.
OR you can bring your own projects to work on
OR you can just come, have a coffee & chat.
No experience needed, Afternoons are free,
donations towards materials appreciated.

www.cobhamcommunitychurch.org/fresh

DATES

Mon 2 September
Mon 16 September
Mon 7 October
Mon 21 October
Mon 4 November
Mon 18 November
Mon 2 December

All at 130-330 pm

In Small Hall on right
Cobham Methodist Church
Cedar Rd, Cobham
KT11 2AA

Everyone welcome
- just turn up -



Next "Time 4 You"

Saturday
12th October
10.00am - 12noon
Cobham Methodist Church

"Why not stop and rest awhile, recharge your batteries, find the space for you to enjoy a chat and a free cup of coffee".



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary - October



Sun	6th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Thelma Roberts
Sun	13th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun	20th	10.30am	Rev. Iain Stewart
Sun	27th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton
<u>November</u>			
Sun	3rd	10.30am	Sydney Shore



Prayers at the Manse
at 9.30am on
Wednesdays: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th October



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

The course begins on **4th October at 7.00pm at Cobham URC** and then continues for the following three weeks - 11th, 18th and 25th October, all at 7.00pm.

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

Cobham URC Events - October

Tues	1st	9.45am	Church Walk
Wed	2nd	9.30am	Stewards & Elders Retreat at Ladywell Convent
Thurs	3rd	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at the Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, KT11 1BW
Fri	4th	7.00pm	Marriage Course (to 9.00pm) (<i>see page 10</i>)
Sun	6th	3.00pm	Special Needs Group (to 6.00pm)
Tues	8th	8.00pm	Elders' Meeting
Thurs	10th	7.30pm	Evening House Group @ Isobel Foster's
Fri	11th	4.30pm 7.00pm	CYC meets at Cobham URC (to 6.30pm) Marriage Course (to 9.00pm) (<i>see page 10</i>)
Fri	18th	7.00pm	Marriage Course (to 9.00pm) (<i>see page 10</i>)
Thurs	24th	3.30pm	Messy Church at the URC (to 5.30pm)
Fri	25th	3.00pm 4.30pm 7.00pm	T @ 3 at Church CYC meets at Cobham URC (to 6.30pm) Marriage Course (to 9.00pm) (<i>see page 10</i>)

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



Date:

**Thursday
24th October**

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

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

All are welcome



Effingham

Methodist Church

Effingham Methodist Diary - October



Tues	1st	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	2nd	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sat	5th	10.00am	<i>Saturday Morning Live</i> - Café Church on "Who is our Neighbour?" at KGV Hall (to 11.00am)
Sun	6th	10.00am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - Harvest Festival with Holy Communion
Thurs	10th	12.30pm	Lunch and Bible Study Group with Kim (to 3.00pm)
Sun	13th	10.00am	Beth Little
Tues	15th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	16th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun	20th	10.00am	Freddie Jenkins
Sun	27th	10.00am	David Cappitt
Tues	29th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall
Wed	30th	8.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
November			
Sat	2nd	10.00am	Café Church at KGV Hall (to 11.00am)

Prayer Group

Prayer meetings take place at Freddie Jenkins' home
every Friday at 9.15am.

Is being a Christian compatible with being a scientist?

A strange question you might think given that some of our greatest scientists like Galileo, Newton and Mendel were also people of faith – even Einstein and Darwin were interested in religion from the sidelines. However, in recent times the two areas have seemed increasingly in conflict – with New Atheists like Richard Dawkins attacking people of faith as credulous and unscientific and some fundamentalist Christians attacking conventional science as a devilish plot.

At ***Saturday Morning Live*** – the monthly café-church meeting in Effingham - we are keen to explore the challenging points of our faith – for example how Christians relate to Muslims, Holocaust Survivors, Gay issues, Women in positions of power in the church and so on. Therefore we looked for someone who was both a respected scientist and an active Christian and invited him to our September meeting to explain to us how the two areas of thought and belief could be brought together.

Professor Scott Elias of Royal Holloway, University of London is a Professor of Quaternary Science. That means that he researches the last of the four great geological eras, which extended from 2.5 billion years ago to the present, and includes the time that life appeared on Earth. His specialist area is early insect fossils. Professor Elias is also an active Christian. Born in the USA, he was not brought up in an actively religious household, but he embraced his faith as a young man and has never looked back – he is an active member of his University Christian community.

Professor Elias did not let us down. He looked at the Bible from its first book – Genesis – to its last, Revelation. He told us how he believed the Bible started with a vision of how the Earth was created and was not intended to be a scientific text – it was written for a Jewish culture, which then had no need of a scientific treatise. Rather its purpose was to show them that there was a God who was active in their world, who made moral choices and who was dynamically creative. Its purpose was not to say that the world was made in six days, or that it was only 6000 years old, or to take the place of modern scientific exploration. Rather it was to introduce the idea of God being there from the start, making us in his image – creative creatures with the ability to make choices. And then, Professor Elias said, after a period of real history, telling us about the early Jewish people, the life of Jesus and the early church, the Bible ends with another book of visions – Revelation - that tries to sum up the near infinite future that lies before it.

Professor Elias was an excellent speaker, as befits a leading academic. He spoke with humour, intelligence and respect for all points of view. A particularly arresting moment was when his personal feelings showed,

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when he described his hurt when faced with fundamentalist Christians who denied his beliefs because he accepted the scientific view of the universe. If his prepared speech was good, his response to the questions was even better. "How do you explain the existence of evil?" he was asked. "What about atomic-string theory?" "Are there multiple universes?" "Why is the cosmos so large?" "What happens when we die?" None of these questions fazed him – all were answered thoughtfully and intelligently, but also with humility.

Being café church the event was opened by our resident band, who performed a song about the spirituality of chemistry. Once Professor Elias had finished and received our traditional gift of an olive tree, they had a follow-up hymn about creation specially written for the occasion. Then the session was wrapped up by a very thoughtful meditation.

Having solved the problems of the cosmos, we will be going on to other issues on the first Saturday of each month. Our next meeting (5th October, KGV Centre, 10.00am) explores the question "Who is our neighbour?" We hope to see you there! For more detail see:

www.cafe-church.com

Chris Butler, Saturday Morning Live

Teach me to be laid aside for thee...

Sometimes we meet special people who have a kind of "Jesus" quality. Such a one is Rev. Don Eadie. I got to know Don when he was a minister in Notting Hill and we were in the Amersham Circuit. We formed strong links between our two churches, and Don brought down groups of his West Indian families each year and we gave them a holiday in the lovely Buckinghamshire countryside. Then a group of us white middle class Methodists would visit Notting Hill and be entertained to a meal of curried goat and other West Indian delicacies and an impromptu concert, because West Indians are never sure what and when things are going to happen!

Don and I were both members of a number of seminars for people from the caring professions in Paddington, discussing psycho-therapy and people were always deferring to Don, not knowing that he was a minister. Then Don became Chair of the Birmingham District, but sadly a few years later he developed severe back problems leading to his having to retire and now he is spending his time in his room in a special chair at home. He is at present writing a series of Reflections in the Methodist Recorder in the first of which he talks about the mystery which lies within "bread on the edge", and in the second about "learning to love myself through a time when self-image was badly bruised and broken".

Although confined to one room he has many visitors who need his spiritual direction. I feel that the present Chair of the District, our own Ian Howarth, will be one of them.

Freddie Jenkins



Dates to celebrate this month

Happy Birthday to Jean Macmillan on 8th and Margaret Warner on 27th

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



Dates for your Diaries

This year our **Harvest Festival** service on 6th October is also going to be part of the **Big Welcome**, a nationwide **Methodist & Baptist initiative** asking all churchgoers to invite a friend to a service, and what better service when the Chapel will be looking its best. OK, it's just **Back to Church Sunday** with a more user-friendly name, but it's still an excellent opportunity to try a service for the first time, or return to church and sing rousing hymns. So let's be fishers of people this year.

Did you know that Christmas is in DANGER of being lost to Secularism?



See frightening statistics on:
www.christmastartswithchrist.com
...and let's help to Save Christmas and keep it CHRISTIAN. Join the campaign and sign up today.

Chair based Yoga

Regulars of the Tuesday Teas Group recently experienced a session of chair based yoga, which they thoroughly enjoyed and felt better for. The Yoga teacher could come on a regular basis on a Friday morning at 10.30am if we can get enough people. 12 are needed in total and it is proposed to hold this in the Methodist Hall. The price is likely to be £5 a session. If anyone is interested in joining this group please contact me.

Gill Walker on 01372 457987

Bible Sunday is on Sunday 27th October 2013,

so celebrate being able to own and read your own Bible on Bible Sunday or any Sunday you choose – and help those in China receive God’s Word. Join with other churches throughout the country and encounter the Bible’s message of freedom. Even **Richard Dawkins** has recently acknowledged the importance of reading the Bible. Download free resources from the **Bible Society website** including an origami dove.



Angels not Pumpkins?

Is Halloween too creepy? Does it frighten your kids? Let’s reclaim **All Hallows** and shine Angel light rather than a pumpkin on 31st October, or wrap a few sweets or treats and attach a gift-tag downloadable from www.silentlights.co.uk



Valuing our Heritage?

Many thanks to everyone who helped us over our **“Heritage weekend”** WOW! Heritage is not just about recognising and treasuring our past but using it for Mission too. It was exhausting but exhilarating too.

It’s our 5th year and the weather was awful, so visitor numbers were down but plenty of our members came to help with refreshments and looking after the **Ride & Stride cyclists**, and grabbed the chance to sit and chat over coffee and cake. More kids came, and enjoyed Dave’s “Handle a Rock from Space” display. Now we need to start planning for next year, when we celebrate our **160th Chapel Anniversary**, and **170th** for our Society. So as **Circuit Archivist**, I was delighted when a very excited friend from the local history group brought me a copy of an email yesterday, from a lady whose great, great, grandparents were married in our Chapel in 1887. She wondered why it was apparently the first wedding since 1854? There’s even a Bible as proof, and a photo of the chapel in 1877, much earlier than any we have found so far. **Methodist Heritage** launched a new website at the **“Who do YOU think you are”** show in February, tapping into the enormous interest in genealogy, to help people find their Methodist roots.

Ange Putland

Tuesday Teas and A Day in Southsea

Tuesday Teas is available fortnightly for anyone who would like to drop in for tea, cake and a chat every other Tuesday, 2.30pm – 4pm in the Catholic Church Hall. Donation of £1 suggested for tea. Meetings are often accompanied by Eileen, our resident pianist. Other occasional activities include trips, speakers and special events. We recently visited “The Medicine Garden” in Cobham for tea, we had a seaside visit to Southsea and in November we will be having a visit from the Phoenix Singers.

Southsea won the vote for this year’s annual trip to the South Coast. Sixteen of us set off, some in the Horsley Community bus borrowed for the trip, driven by Chris Tailby, plus one car driven by my other half Keith. The weather turned really fine for us on 16th July and a truly splendid day ensued.

Arriving for coffee was what everyone was ready for and a pleasant outside café near the sea overlooking a lake with pedaloes to watch was the venue. Some of us visited the little Natural History museum just nearby which contained a butterfly park with numerous chrysalises (is that the plural?) waiting to emerge as well as those already testing their flight.

Time for lunch, so we headed for “Rocksby’s” situated right on the front for the seaside air and to watch the ferries come in from the Isle of Wight and a larger one heading off for France. Most decided on fish and chips which was very good and one person decided to tackle an enormous knickerbocker glory for dessert – they shall be nameless!

Along from the café, shelters had been strategically placed overlooking the sea providing shelter from sun or rain, where you could simply sit and stare and “people watch”. Ice creams were also available from the café on the seaside and were excellent.

A couple of local residents, older ladies, informed me they came there regularly and how much they enjoyed it. One lady said “it’s the reason I am as old as I am coming here regularly to sit and enjoy the sea.”

Time for home came at 4o’clock after a sun filled day. Yours truly had also managed a quick dip in the sea which was as warm as the Mediterranean, yes really, even if the beach was a bit stony.

Contact Gill Walker – Churches Together - for more information on 01372 457987.

Leatherhead Pages

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

A Heart for Children

The Leatherhead Uniting Churches support Leatherhead Trinity School, a building opened in November 2009. Extra support is given by means of a Prayer Group called Tripod and members are involved with school assemblies and volunteering as requested.

There is now an additional way that volunteers can be involved within the school:- TLG Early Intervention. This Christian based Educational Charity which began in Bradford has recently received a reward from the bank who provided a loan, for its impact on the community.

If you are wanting to make an impact to reduce in the long term the number of school exclusions and related behavioural problems, then perhaps you could consider becoming a volunteer. This would involve an initial training day, when you would learn about safeguarding, what the role of mentor would involve, a great deal of helpful project materials free to take away, and the support available. No qualifications are needed other than church affiliation and dedication with the right attitude.

In practical terms, the work would involve mentoring one primary child chosen by the school with the consent and involvement of the parent or guardian, for an hour at the same time each week during term time for a year. Six mentors are commencing this scheme now, but more are needed and could become ready to start in January.

If you feel this ministry might be your calling, then contact our Youth Worker, Jay Bristow, who will supply further information.

Pam Barton

Jay's e-mail address: jay@leatherheadyouthproject.com

Ian Howarth's Induction

I was asked if I would write a few words of my impressions of the Induction of Ian as Chair of The Birmingham Methodist District on Saturday 31st August, so here goes.

As someone who is not personally closely involved in Methodist activities (although not far away from what goes on) it was my first experience of a large scale Methodist event. The group of some 35 from both Churches met for the Coach at Therfield School where parking had been arranged for cars to be left. Organisation for the journeys was excellent. After little more than two hours we arrived at the Coventry Central Hall. We were early and waited outside whilst the stream of people attending arrived. I am not sure of the collective word for a number of Ministers (not a murmuring, perhaps a union) (* see note at the end of the article - Ed.), but there were a lot of them, many of whom were known by those waiting - in fact almost a reunion.

The Service was held in the main hall which was very full with people, also in the 'Gallery'. A musical group were positioned on the platform although personally I would have preferred them down below, with the Speakers on the platform itself. The organ played (I believe it originally came from a stately home). All the hymns in the first part were modern with the last two being more traditional.

The Sermon was given by the former President of Conference (Rev Dr Mark Wakelin) who endeavoured to put some light humour into things and various other readings etc. took place. The official part of the proceedings was led by the General Secretary (Rev Dr Martyn Atkins) with Ian undertaking to do the job well. Ian replied and in fact his voice was perhaps the strongest of the afternoon although he did not speak for very long. The impression from those who spoke was that Ian was already immersed in local matters and accepted.

Unfortunately the main memory of the occasion for most will not be the Service but the refreshments - or rather the lack of them. The crowd made their way downstairs to be refreshed but they were limited in the main to a meagre offering of cakes and drinks which did not really satisfy many - not up to Methodist catering standards I believe. In fact one person arriving for the coach home bewailed the fact that they had not had a cup of tea as it had run out!

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Never mind, on the homeward journey a stop was made at Oxford Services where many stocked up with sandwiches which were eaten on the way whilst also in many cases busy with their e-books, laptops or similar.

Leatherhead, both Churches, had been well represented and Ian had moved on.

Denis Plant

Editor's note: Our grateful thanks to Denis for submitting this article.

** On the question of a collective noun for a number of Ministers, any ideas? I would be very pleased to hear your thoughts.*

Ian & Barbara Howarth's New Address

Ian and Barbara's new address in Birmingham is:

36 Amesbury Road,
Birmingham, B13 8LE



Men's

(Doors open 8.00am.)

Sat 26th October at the Methodist Church Hall

Sat 23rd November at Christ Church Hall

Breakfasts



Next Messy Church:

Thursday 17th October
3.30pm to 5.30pm at



Christ Church Leatherhead & Leatherhead Methodist Church - Steering Group

This Group was set up to direct and liaise with CPL who are preparing the report on the future options for joint church buildings.

In May this year the group started work on a discussion paper to set out a shared vision for the two churches. Here is a summary of the resulting Christ Church and Leatherhead Methodist Church Mission Statement; the full version is on Church Notice boards.

Christ Church and Leatherhead Methodist Church Mission Statement (summary)

‘A hub for the community with God at the centre’

The Christian community based in the new building, bound together and enabled by the Holy Spirit, will seek to develop:

- A place of hospitality for building relationships
- A place for developing partnerships through which the church community will support and work with like minded groups
- Opportunities for people to engage with God at a time and level suitable to them.
- A community committed to finding ways to introduce people to Christ and help each other grow as his disciples.
- A community committed to responding to those in need
- A wider awareness of our place in God’s world and our responsibilities within it.

'Colour My Story' – a Writers' Workshop with Goldenford Publishers Ltd

Saturday 5th October, 10.30am – 1.30pm

*at Leatherhead Methodist Church,
Church Road, Leatherhead KT22 8AY*

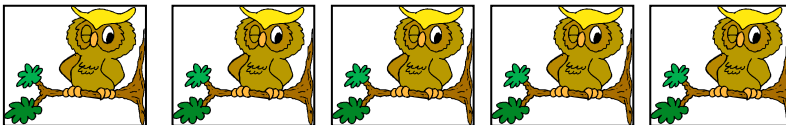
Ever thought how colours influence the way a story develops? Take cowboy films; the 'baddies' wore black hats and the 'goodies' wore white. Has this changed? Why?

In this workshop we'll take the rainbow colours and encourage participants to think about the use of colours to, literally, colour their writing.

Admission: £12, Concessions £10 – includes refreshments – Disabled access.

Box Office: 01372 456778
or frances.craddock@btinternet.com





AUTUMN FAYRE

Saturday 5th October, 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Parish Church Hall, Church Rd, Leatherhead KT22 8BD

Find treasures and bargains at these stalls ~ Auntie's Attic ~
Books ~ Bake Sale ~ Linens ~ Jewellery ~ China and Glass ~
Beading ~ Bottle Stall ~ Beauty and fragrance ~ Gifts ~
Handmade ~ Promises ~ Raffle
Have a go at Hook-a-duck ~ Tin can alley ~ Pick-a-card ~
Lucky Dip

12noon: BBQ outside

12.30pm: All Aloud Community Choir

Tea and cake in the Café. Contact 362544

The Effect of Poverty on Health Conference

2 Linden Court, Leatherhead, KT22 7JG

Dear Link Readers,

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

Hilary Porter



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

LMC

Diary - October



Thurs 3rd	12.30pm 8.00pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 21</i>) Leadership Team meeting in the Lower Hall
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea (ends 4.30pm) (<i>see page 27</i>)
Sun 6th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell Rhys Frost
Wed 9th	2.30pm	Pastoral Visitors' Meeting in the Lower Hall
Thurs 10th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 21</i>)
Sun 13th	10.30am 6.30pm	John Oborn Rev. Lynda Russell
Tues 15th	<u>7.30pm</u>	Church Council
Wed 16th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 21</i>)
Thurs 17th	3.30pm	Messy Church (<i>to 5.30pm</i>)
Sun 20th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Thurs 24th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 21</i>)
Sat 26th	8.00am	CTiL Men's Breakfast at LMC
Sun 27th	10.30am 6.30pm	Martin Ellis New Fire
Thurs 31st	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 21</i>)
<u>November</u>		
Fri 1st	2.30pm	Time for Tea (ends 4.30pm) (<i>see page 27</i>)
Sun 3rd	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell John Oborn

The following article was submitted by Bob Greenfield and the stories are from Feba's Annual Review 2011. It is printed here with permission. Feba Radio is a broadcasting network. It is driven by Christian values rather than by government or commercial aims. It was established in 1959 as the Far Eastern Broadcasting Associates (FEBA), later known as Feba Radio.

Editor

The Story of Naji

Naji, who is disabled and lives in the Feba office, handles audience engagement for the long-running daily programme *Along with Life*. Though he was born in Pakistan to a Christian family, Naji didn't have much interest in God. He read the Bible just enough to indulge his favourite hobby: arguing with the real Christians he knew! On 13 January 1966, Naji had an accident that would change his life. When boarding a train, Naji fell between the train and the platform, crushing his legs. His injuries were so severe, life-threatening, that he had a double amputation. As time went on, Naji became extremely depressed to the point of suicide. One night, fast asleep, he heard someone say: "I am the true vine". He woke up thinking: "This must be the voice of God!...but why would he speak to me?" So he kept this to himself, ignoring God.

A few years later he came to know a committed Christian, Mrs Monica. Anticipating a good argument, he told her that he had rejected God. But Mrs Monica prayerfully knew not to argue. One day she asked: "Naji, have you ever heard the voice of God?" He eventually told her yes. She said: "If you don't believe it was from God, why are you hiding it? Who else would claim to be the true vine?" Then she added, "Well, forget about all that, and let's see what God has to show you today." She took the Bible, and opened it at random to: "I am the true vine." "That broke me" says Naji. "On that day I accepted the Lord. It was all by the grace of God!"

Naji joined Feba in 1994. Now in his 18th year; many Feba listeners recognise him through his scripts, programme voicing, and his handwriting from his faithful correspondence with them. He remembers the lesson learnt from Mrs Monica...(not to argue), sharing gently and prayerfully out of his own intimacy with God. "I feel deeply privileged to work for God's glory."

continued on the next page

Get to know Vijay - FM Project Co-ordinator in Nepal

Aafno FM (My Radio) in Okhaldhunga, Nepal, celebrated its 3rd anniversary at the end of January. Thanks to project coordinator Vijay in Kathmandu and his team of local Aafno FM radio producers. They are a living witness of God's love through radio, having a positive impact in their rural communities. Vijay keeps a very busy diary to find out people's needs, often visiting remote rural villages with the FM producers and supporting district-wide events.

He writes: "16-17 October 2011: Megharaj the station manager, Sushma from the BBC World Service, and I visited a village about 20km from the Aafno FM station in Dadeldhura to see some listeners and make recordings for our health programme. When we reached the village, they were cultivating their crops. Only old women and kids were home, even the pregnant women were out in the fields. We asked them how often they go to the health centre for a check-up. They said they didn't go regularly due to farming and caring for cattle. Radio is playing a very good role in educating those in remote villages. The health workers give advice on air, reaching many more than with personal visits."

Feba's website is www.feba.org.uk.

TIME FOR TEA Come for Tea and Company

From 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Fridays 4th October, 1st November...

...and every first Friday in the month at

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

EVERYONE WELCOME

If you need transport please contact:

Margaret Meynen on 372930 or Gill Harris on 458518

(Suggested donation £1)

Wednesday House Fellowship

During the winter months the Wednesday House Fellowship will meet on a Friday morning. Everyone very welcome. Please make a note of the dates in your diary:

Friday 18th October at 10.30 a.m. at the home of Ron and Norma Shaw

Friday 15th November at 10.30 a.m. at the home of Winifred and Arnold Ashbrook

For more information please contact Norma Shaw on 01372 274533 or email norma.shaw@talktalk.net

Monday House Group

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



Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead



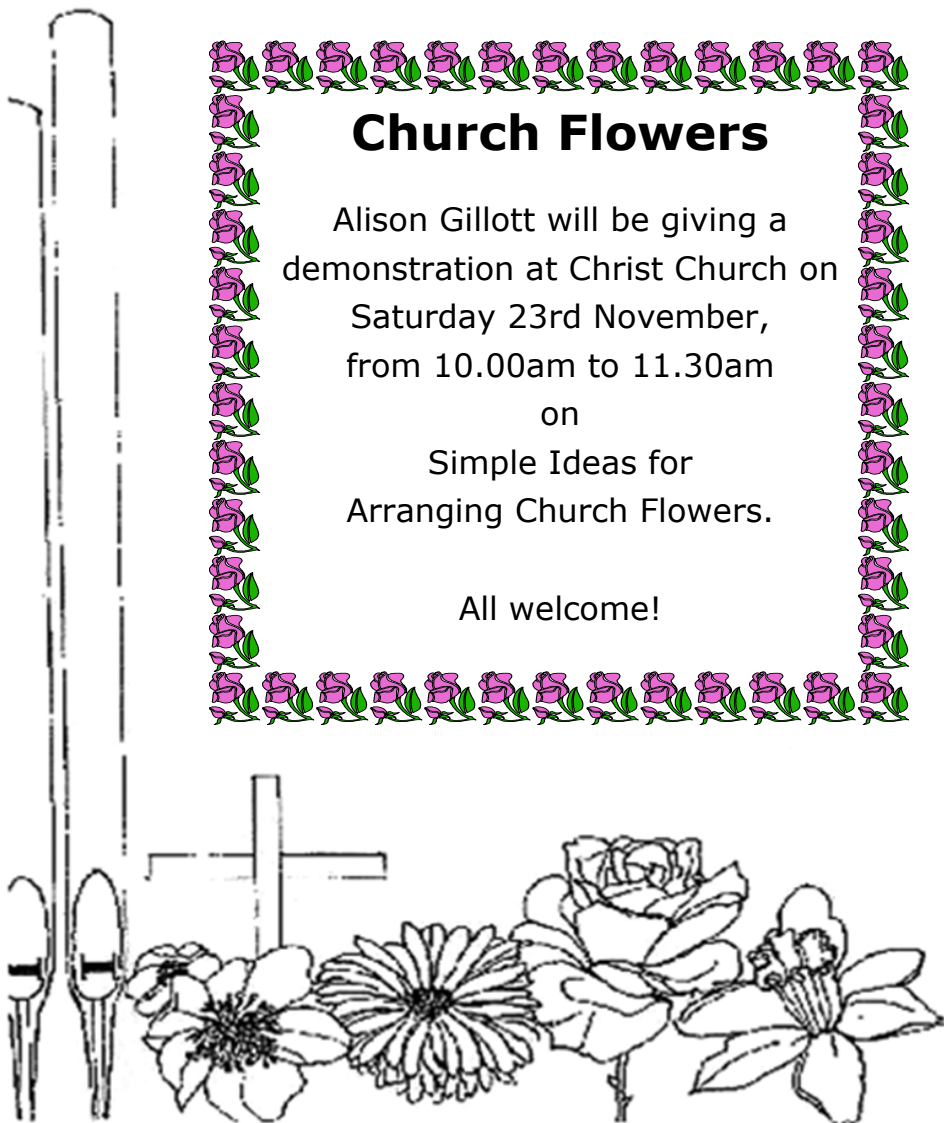
Church Flowers

Alison Gillott will be giving a demonstration at Christ Church on Saturday 23rd November, from 10.00am to 11.30am

on

Simple Ideas for Arranging Church Flowers.

All welcome!



Christ Church Diary - October



Tues 1st	7.30pm	Synod, Crawley
Thurs 3rd	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 21</i>)
Fri 4th	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC (<i>see page 27</i>)
Sun 6th	10.30am 6.30pm	The Elders, Mike Essex Evening Service at LMC - Rhys Frost
Thurs 10th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 21</i>)
Sun 13th	10.30am 6.30pm	Rev. Lynda Russell with Holy Communion Evening Service at LMC: Rev. Lynda Russell
Wed 16th	12.30pm	Organ Recital at Christ Church (<i>see page 21</i>)
Thurs 17th	3.30pm	Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30pm)
Sun 20th	10.30am 10.30am 3.00pm 6.30pm	Rev. Barbara Pearson Hospital Service AntiphoniA rehearsal Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion (Joint Service LMC/ChCh at LMC)
Thurs 24th	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 21</i>)
Sat 26th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at LMC
Sun 27th	10.30am 3.00pm	Rev. Lynda Russell AntiphoniA rehearsal
Thurs 31st	12.30pm	Music on Thursdays at LMC (<i>see page 21</i>)
<u>November</u>		
Fri 1st	2.30pm	Time for Tea at LMC (<i>see page 27</i>)
Sat 2nd	10.00am	The Effect of Poverty on Health (<i>see page 24</i>)
Sun 3rd	10.30pm	Mrs Linda Richards with Holy Communion

Christ Church Family News



We are concerned that both Florence and Bert Gower are unwell at the moment and are in need of our prayers.

We are very glad that Carol Hazell is much better and back in church again.

Here is good news of Sue Huxtable's daughters. Helen (Turner) has just taken up her new position as Head of Music at Rosebery School and we wish her every success in her new role. Catherine and her partner Jon have just moved into their first house in Woking and we wish them good luck for their future.

We are sorry to report that Dr Jim Phillips, a member of Christ Church for many years, passed away on 18th August at the age of 99. We send our sincere condolences to his family.

We remember in our prayers all these friends, and those who are unwell, bereaved or unable to attend church.

Anne Cairns



Pastorate Details

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

Leatherhead Methodist Church:

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

**Christ Church (United Reformed)
Leatherhead:**

www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Local Church Leader -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:

www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Dave Putland 01372 454850

Cobham United Reformed Church:

www.cobhamurc.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

Cobham Methodist Church:

www.cobhammethodistchurch.com
Contact: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



United Pastorate Ministers

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KT22 8AY

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01372 362145 (office)

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Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road
Cobham
KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

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kimp_822@hotmail.com