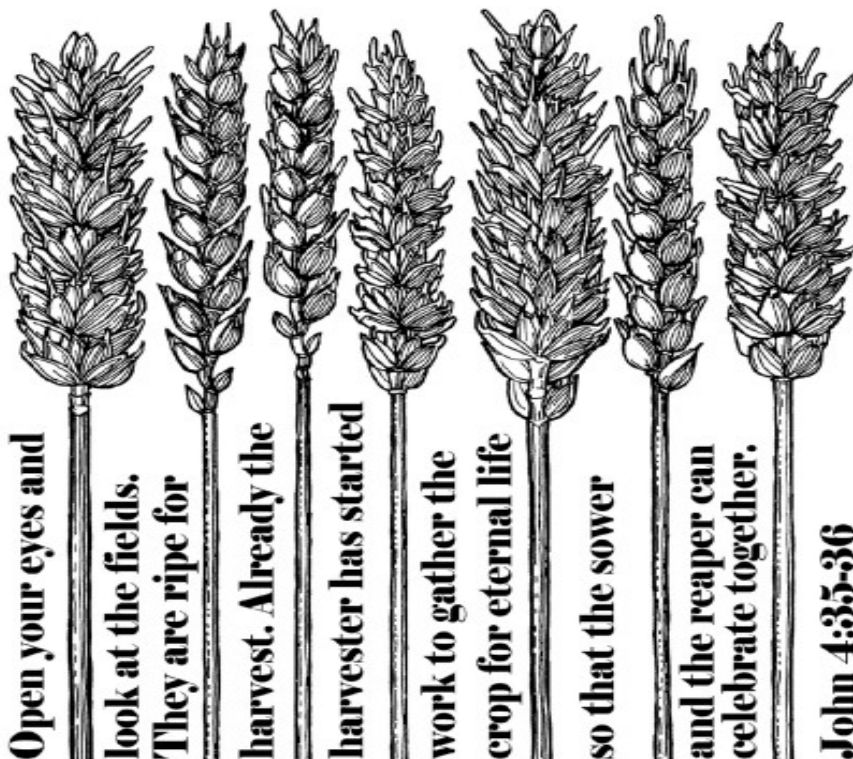


the Link

The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham

September 2017



The
United
Reformed
Church

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

The **Methodist** Church



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Sad news as we go to press of the death of Aileen Makey, wife of our former superintendent minister Rev John Makey. Our prayers and good wishes are with John and family.

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All copy for the October issue to the editor by September 13th



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Happy New Year! Well it is a new Methodist Year anyway – it always begins in September, since that’s when Ministers who have moved begin work in their new place.

For many of us September is a return to “normality”. The end of the school holidays and back to school or work – perhaps with no more holidays until Christmas (oh dear I’ve used the C word and it’s not even September yet!!). For those of us who no longer do either of these, it still has the memories of “La Rentrée”, as the French call this time when everything begins again.

As I write this we are in the middle of our Leatherhead Holiday Club. This is being led by our own wonderful and talented Family & Children’s worker, Hannah, along with lots of help from others: many of those helping are from the Methodist and URC churches (along with friends from the Parish Church of course). It is a fantastic work of God, and of inspiration by the Holy Spirit. Around 60 children are hearing the good news of the God who loves them unconditionally, and sent his Son so that we can know him.

We thank and praise God not only for this, but also for those who have given up a week (and more) to serve in this way. You are all amazing. I originally typed ‘volunteers’ in the above sentence – but this is wrong – we in the church of God are not volunteers. When we truly understand how God has loved us, and what God has done for us; when we truly comprehend the gospel imperative of sharing this love; when we begin to understand how we have been called to follow, then we become not volunteers in God’s work but **disciples**. Disciples who are living out our faith and our calling in whatever we do. We don’t “volunteer”, but rather serve the living God in the way that each of us have been called to do, to join in God’s work here in this place where God has put us.

So next time there is an ‘event’ or a Holiday Club, or when anything happens in the church, don’t ask yourself if you want, or have time, to volunteer; ask instead whether this is something to which God is calling you. There are many things in the work of God’s kingdom and we are all called as disciples to do what God requires of us. The good news is that when we follow God’s call, then we are given the time, the words, the love, and whatever personal resources we need.

Continued next page

As I finish now, I would like to pay tribute to and give thanks to and for those disciples who have given of themselves during the time I have been off. Everything you have done and said has made it so much easier for me, and I am extremely grateful. I am not yet back to full time working, but I am enjoying this time getting back in contact with you all.

May God bless particularly all the Holiday Club children, and all you his disciples.

With love,
Lynda

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

As I merrily set off one Sunday afternoon to visit the family in Birmingham, I was looking forward to some quality time with them, seeing the new house Lianne was moving into and buying some bits and pieces for George's 1st birthday (where has this last year gone!). As always, the journey took me on numerous motorways, and eventually, just when I thought I was home and dry, pulling off junction 7 of the M6, the clutch decided to let me know that it was no longer happy to continue. I staggered on to the slip road. Pulling over to the side of the road whilst desperately trying to find a gear, I was determined not to remain at the side of one of the busiest junctions in the UK. I resolved to try and get into 2nd gear (one of the few I could find), and attempt to drive the last 2 miles to my son's home. With hazard warning lights to warn my fellow drivers, I crawled the last few miles and prayed that I wouldn't lose the clutch entirely. I didn't, thankfully, and I arrived safely at my son's house, much to my relief.

The car was eventually brought home on the back of a recovery truck. The journey itself was far from uninteresting as I had the pleasure of not one driver but two, as the car had to be transferred to another vehicle along the way. I was challenged by the intensity of one driver's views, and uncomfortable at points with the lack of compassion for his fellow human beings. It became evident during the conversation that a damaged human being often reflects the treatment they themselves have received. It was clear that a mere conversation with me was not enough to make much of an impact, but hopefully my continued prayers to a God who seeks to heal the hurting will help a wounded soul.

I was grateful to return home and patted the car with thanks to God, for we had so many stories to tell, my car and me. Over 7 years we had travelled over 103,000 miles, I had trusted the car to get me everywhere I needed to go. It was indeed a precious gift when I bought the car and an answer to prayer, one I have always been eternally grateful for, especially as it enabled me to remain mobile these last 7 years. I'm sure once fixed there will still be many miles left to travel.

It was certainly not what I had expected from my day off but then life rarely is what you expect it to be. It is amongst this mix of uncertainty we grow and blossom, sometimes quite quickly and at other points we are happy to be the observer. Sometimes we like to know what tomorrow might bring, we find security in such places. For others the unpredictability of the day offers excitement, blown in numerous directions, unsure of who you might meet and where you might land. God touches us in every place we find ourselves, amongst the frenetic and the passive.

I was asked by one driver 'What drew you to God?' (once he realised I was a minister). I explained that amongst the shifting sands I could call my life, along the bittersweet journey I had made, the certainty of God's eternal love, the resolute nature of his faithfulness and the abounding grace received, was overwhelming. In grateful thanks, I followed him. He was curious and intrigued which led to further questions, not easy ones at points.

It seems to me that when all around is moving at such a pace and we are unsure of what tomorrow might bring us we can be certain of one thing. We can be certain that God is an abiding, faithful friend, who loves us beyond measure. Rest in him always for the journey is not always an easy one.

Every blessing Kim

A United Church: Cobham Methodist Church & Cobham United Reformed Church

As many of you know we began this journey in January 2016 where we agreed to explore becoming one church. Since that date there have been numerous meetings, and I have tried to place updates in the Link so that the pastorate is also informed of where we find ourselves.

Continued next page

I offer members of the pastorate a summary of the most recent conversations:

We held a joint meeting with both churches on the 23rd July. It was a fruitful meeting held openly and honestly. We explored a Vision and Mission Statement and some of the detail of a five year plan, as well as contemplating which site might be most suitable for a United Church.

The work done with regard to the potential Constitution and Sharing Agreement will be presented at a later date should we decide to proceed with a United Church.

With feedback from the meeting on the 23rd July amendments were made to the Vision and Mission Statement. Comments will also feed into the five year plan.

A resolution will be drafted for distribution in September with the amended Vision and Mission Statement prior to our meeting on the 28th October. The resolution will take everything into account and will offer a recommendation to both churches including the most appropriate site.

The Joint Leadership Team will present its findings to the members of both churches on the **28th October 10am at the URC.**

On the 29th October after each service in the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, there will be a meeting where members/Church Council representatives can cast their vote, either in favour of the resolution or against the resolution. An independent person will also oversee both sessions; Mrs Gill Walker secretary and member of the leadership team in Effingham has offered to assist us. Recall that decisions in the United Reformed Church are taken by the Church Meeting; in the Methodist Church by the Church Council. It needs to be noted that only those present may vote.

The churches would be very grateful for your continued support in prayer as we move towards these meetings, that we will continue to seek God's heart.

I would also like to thank the Joint Leadership Team for their tireless and committed work on behalf of both churches. You have all worked so hard, I hope the summer has provided you with some rest and relaxation.

Every blessing Kim.

Not another Birthday !!

Yes, I'm afraid so. **LUNCHBOX** reaches the age of two at the end of the month and Colin and I would like to thank everyone for all their support and prayers for this venture for the socially excluded. It would not have been possible for us to continue without the part you have played.

To be honest running the organisation week after week is a bit knackering but we have a regular team of around six helpers to run the kitchen and hall and meet and greet visitors, and with the help of other friends the sessions and lunches run well. We are so lucky that Leatherhead Methodist Church has given us a regular slot of Wednesday each week, because their premises are absolutely ideal. We apologise for the parking problems we occasionally cause Lynda!

When we started up in 2015 we did not realise the significance of being directly connected to a church building. We now regularly use it for times of prayers when folk just want to pray or would like us to talk with them in a quiet place. Some of the situations we encounter can be emotionally very challenging. We have recently arranged for CAB to visit on a regular basis beginning in October.

We have also been supporting needy families with food supplied by local shops which allows families to spend their money on other important things. This also provides an outlet for Supermarket food which otherwise would be thrown away because it has a short 'best before date'.

We are now preparing for another year. Please continue to support us with your prayers, donations of food, money and store cards so that we can continue this important work. It costs around £3500 per year to run **LUNCHBOX** and supply food parcels to over fifty people.

Dave & Colin

Empowering Small Group Leadership In Your Church



There are four sessions which include:

- How can you be a better group leader.
- Using the Bible creatively.
- Refreshing prayer and worship in your group.
- Your group can grow, looking at being intentional regarding growth

Led by Revd Andy Twilley

Training Officer for Southern Synod

Where: Cobham United Reformed Church,
38 Stoke Road, KT11 3BD

When: 15th Sept, 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec

Time: 10:30 am

To book a place please contact: Revd Kim Plumpton
01932 586988
or email Kimp_822@hotmail.com



Cobham Methodist Worship Diary



September

Sun	3rd	10.30am	Rev Kim Plumpton
Sat	9th	2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	10th	10.30am	Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion (Joint Service at URC)
Sun	17th	10.30am	Rob Pitt (Joint Service)
Sun	24th	10.30am	Rev Christine Millwood

October

Sun	1st	10.30am	David Cappitt - Harvest Festival
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The service on September 3rd will include renewal of vows by Rhys and Rhonda Frost, as they celebrate their Silver Wedding. May God bless them for many more years.





Cobham

United Reformed Church

Worship Diary

September

- Sun 3rd 9.30am Early Bird Service**
10.30am Heather Ward
- Sun 10th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion**
(Joint Service)
- Sun 17th 10.30am Rob Pitt - Joint Service at CMC**
- Sun 24th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton - Harvest Service**

October

- Sun 1st 9.30am Early Bird Service**
10.30am Rev Norman Edsall

Fundraising

23rd Sept 7:30pm

Harvest Supper

Cobham Events in September

Tues	5th	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting (URC)
Thur	7th	6.30pm	Men's Fellowship at The Fairmile, Portsmouth Road, Cobham
Sat	9th	All day	Cobham Heritage Day; Surrey Churches Ride and Stride
Fri	15th	10.30am	Small Group Leadership Training at CURC with Rev Andy Twilley (see p 8)
		7.30pm	Joint Leadership Team at CURC
Thur	21st	7.30pm	House Group (see below)
Sat	23rd	7.30pm	Harvest Supper at CURC
Thur	28th	3.45pm	Messy Church (at CURC) (to 5.45pm)

Note: Play and Chat has been suspended until further notice

Prayers at the Manse
Wednesdays at 9.30am
September: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

House Groups

The House Group will meet in September will be on Thursday 21st at 7.30pm, continuing the study of Matthew's gospel. For further details contact Brian Manners.



Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates to celebrate this month:



Happy Birthday to **Dougie Reed** on 17th
Remember we need your help to update our records of birthdays and important anniversaries.



. Methodist Prayer Handbook 2017/2018 Jesus the First and Last

now available at **£3.50 each**. The title is from a hymn by Charles Wesley, and the theme celebrates the Jesus of history, the Christ of faith and the different perceptions and experiences of Christ found within and across the Churches of the world. A 31 day prayer-cycle links Methodists around the World with classic, ancient and new prayers and a daily lectionary to guide you through the year.

Tuesday Teas

Fortnightly from 2.30pm to 4pm, for fellowship, chat, tea and cakes in St Alphege Hall, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Lower Road, Effingham (and occasional outings).

Next dates: September 12th and 26th.
Some car transport can be arranged.

We enjoyed another lovely day out in Worthing. We have been so lucky over the years with the weather. We started with coffee, then a walk along the pier (windy) and a splendid pub lunch. Another stroll before heading home, with tea on the way.

Contact Gill on 01372 457987 for more information.

Effingham Methodist Diary



September

Sun 3rd 10.00am John Oborn

Fri 8th 10.00am Heritage Weekend with lunch and cream teas
(to 5.00pm)

Sat 9th 10.00am Heritage Weekend with lunch and cream teas
(to 5.00pm)

Sun 10th 10.00am Dave Putland - Heritage Service

12 noon Heritage Weekend with lunch and cream teas
(to 4.00pm)

Tues 12th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall

Thur 14th 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church

Fri 15th 10.30am Leadership Training at CURC

Sun 17th 10.00am Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Thur 21st 12.30pm Oasis Bible Study lunch in the hall

Sun 24th 10.00am James Wild

Mon 25th 10.00am Church Council Meeting (to 12.00 noon)

Tues 26th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall.

Thur 28th 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church

October

**Sun 1st 10.00am Rev Gavin Hancocks - Harvest festival and
Chapel Anniversary**

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

Dates for your diaries:

- Our next Church Council will be on **Monday 25th September** from 10am to 12 noon in the chapel. Agenda items to Gill Walker asap.
- Leadership training for running small groups: course starts at Cobham URC on **Friday 15th Sept** at 10.30am (to 12.30pm). (see p 8)



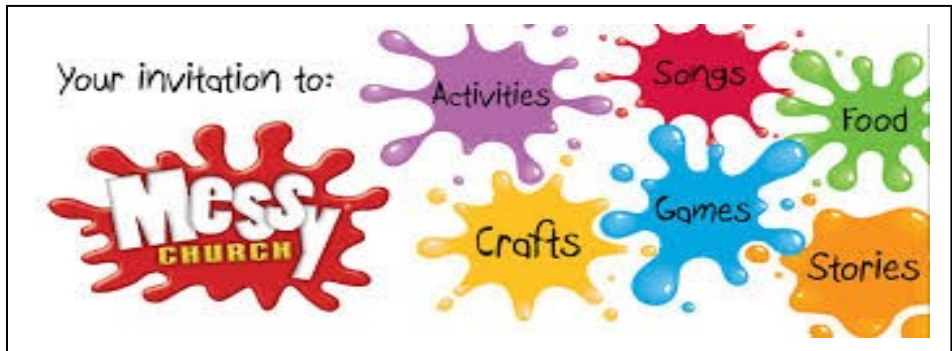
**We celebrate our
163rd Chapel Anniversary on
Sunday 1st October
with a special Harvest Festival
service
led by our Superintendent
Rev. Gavin Hanocks @ 10am
followed by a pub lunch**



Prayers in September

**1st September is The World Day of Prayer
for the Care of Creation** ~ see resources
at Churches together in Britain and Ireland
<https://ctbi.org.uk/creation-time-2017/>

10th September is Education Sunday ~
resources on Churches Together in England
website.



**St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesdays 13th September & 11th October ~ 3.30 -5.30pm**

Heritage Open Days Weekend



Effingham Chapel will be taking part in **Heritage Open Days** again this year, and will be open on **Friday 8th & Saturday 9th from 10am to 5pm** and **Sunday 10th from 12 -4pm** with refreshments all day, and an exhibition about our village, some famous locals and our Chapel's history.

SO PLEASE CAN YOU HELP ?

Talk to visitors, or help with refreshments, or bake some cakes or scones ?!

There's also the usual cyclists who'll also be dropping by on Saturday for signatures on sponsor forms for the annual **Ride & Stride** on behalf of *Surrey Churches Preservation Trust* and we'll be providing refreshments and a "comfort break".

Contact Pat or Janet or ring Ange on 01372-454850



H
heritage open days

Eff-

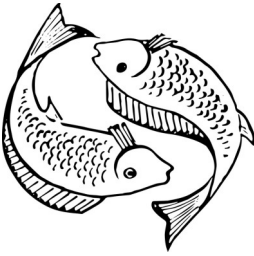
ingham Chapel will be open on
Friday 8th & Saturday 9th Sept >10-5
Sunday 10th Sept > 12-4

Find out more about our Victorian Chapel,
local history, dinosaurs and dig for fossils with your kids.

Cakes, Cream Teas and Ploughman's Lunches

Find us @ www.heritageopendays.org.uk

A Tale of Two Fishes !



It's the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 theses this year, so our Heritage exhibition has got to include a bit about that hugely bloody period, the Reformation ! This means research ! A couple of months ago, while we were watching a documentary series about Britain's monasteries, the presenter waived a copy of a "flyer" which she credited with kick-starting the English Reformation ! Provocatively scattered in London's streets on the day that Parliament convened in 1529, this vehemently anti-clerical pamphlet was *Supplication for the Beggars*, written by a protestant reformer, **Simon Fish**. It was printed in Antwerp, and smuggled into England by the same route as William Tyndale's English translation of the New Testament, and argued that monks were "the great scab" that would not allow the Bible to be published in "your mother tongue". It's believed that Anne Boleyn, another "Protestant", read the pamphlet and urged Henry VIII to reform the clergy by act of Parliament. Sadly, when Simon Fish returned to England he was eventually arrested in London on charges of heresy, but was struck down with bubonic plague and died before he could stand trial. You can read the pamphlet online as part of *Project Gutenberg*.

But what's this got to do with Effingham's Methodists ? Perhaps you remember that in 1844 a group of Methodists were registered with the Bishop of Winchester, to worship in Mary Cook's house, now Church Cottages. However, that property was owned by **Robert Fish Snr**. He'd died in May 1844, and by October his widow, Elizabeth, had given permission for the congregation to use Mary's house. Then in 1853 she and her son, Robert Fish Jnr. gave us the land for our Chapel. Sadly we can't trace the family back to Tudor times, as this surname is linked with work ! Fisherman or fish seller, or even a nickname for someone thought to resemble a fish !

Of course Simon could have "chosen" his surname as a link to early Christians, a perfect symbol for persecuted believers !

Ange & Dave Putland

Connect" a group for carers and partners with dementia

Come for refreshment, friendship, activities and fun.

We meet in St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, KT24 5LX in Effingham from 10am to 12noon on alternate Thursdays and also arrange monthly outings. Refreshments, friendship, chat and a good range of activities are on offer for all.

Next dates fortnightly, September 14th and 28th.
For more info. contact Gill on 01372 457987
email GillianMWalker@gmail.com
or Kim on 01932 586988

You don't have to live in Effingham to come and join us



A fun session with local artist Sue, who brought a great variety of paints and materials for everyone to have a go.

Dorking and Horsham Circuit

NEWSLETTER

**September
October &
November 2017**

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this in July and can't quite believe that I'm actually thinking about Christmas! The vagaries of Plan Making and summer holidays!

As we head into the final quarter of 2017 we probably do so in the midst of Harvest celebrations and Advent preparations. Mind you, Harvest and Advent are not too dissimilar in that they are both seasons in which we focus on God's provision.

Our harvest festivals invariably remind us of the incredible goodness of God who provides for our material needs through creation. Rain falls, sun shines, crops grow and there is a harvest! Amazing! Yes, I do know that the pattern does not always follow quite so simply but simply reminds us of the other half of the harvest celebration – our responsibility. God so generously placed at our disposal God's amazing creation but did so with the injunction that we exercise good stewardship over it. Not something we've always done very well. Perhaps this harvest we need to be asking ourselves the searching questions about our stewardship. Are we amongst those who place humanity a step above the rest of creation and therefore see it as serving our needs or do we see ourselves on a par with the rest of creation thus recognising that unless we treat the earth kindly we'll never be able to treat each other kindly. Paul writes of God's lofty plan in Ephesians 1:10. He reminds us that it is God's intention to gather up *all things* into Christ. That phrase, *ta panta* in Greek, literally means every created thing. Wow! God's idea is always massive, it's always way bigger than our little preoccupations. God's not just busy worrying about human souls, God's reworking the whole thing into something new! Perhaps when we begin to catch a glimpse of that we might begin to see the world and our existence in it from a different perspective. So, as we think about that let's begin to grab the opportunities we have to do something different for creation, to facilitate its salvation in some small way. Ask for grace, in my experience God never fails to answer!

(continued at bottom of page 21)

CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EXHIBITION

Back at Sandown Park, Esher
Tuesday October 17—Thursday October 19
www.creonline.co.uk

The Methodist Church 

EFFINGHAM

Heritage Open Days Weekend is early this year, on 8th, 9th & 10th September, so we've been researching the Reformation, as this year it's the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his 95 theses to a church door in Wittenberg. There's an exhibition about local history and our Methodist roots. **Baryonyx**, the Surrey Dinosaur, will also star along with examples of local fossils, and a fossil dig for kids. All day refreshments: ploughman's lunch, cream teas, lots of cakes and perhaps some dinosaur biscuits, so please pop in for a chat. See our entry on website <http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk> and for lots more events throughout Englandbut sadly still not much in Sussex !!!

On 1st October we'll be celebrating our **163rd Chapel Anniversary** with a Harvest thanksgiving service led by our Superintendent, Gavin, followed by a pub lunch.

Churches Together are organising more Bibles for our local primary school, a sing-along evening to raise money for **Christian Aid**, and Advent meetings. Then during December, the **Posada** figures will be visiting several schools again, and we'll be raiding the dressing up box for another **Living Nativity**. Meanwhile Effingham's fortnightly Dementia support group, "**Connect**", is now offering some outings in alternate weeks, and **Messy church** and **Tuesday teas** are going strong with help from the local community.

Last year we mentioned that when our Chapel was built only lumbering farm wagons passed by, but now it's massive articulated lorries which shake our foundations! Little did we realise that they would be getting much closer, as the local council has approved a planning application for a new 3 bedroom house in next-door's garden, with a drive and parking area right next to the Chapel!

A party-wall will hopefully ensure no damage to our frail building which has almost no foundations ! Once done we should be able to extend a wall and fence up Chapel Hill to the boundary wall. Our garden will be a bit bigger, and a lot tidier without so many tall trees.

Ange and David Putland

A service for the Admission of Local Preachers is planned for 6.30 pm on Sunday October 15 at London Road to welcome **Waseem Haq** and **James Wild**. Please turn out in large numbers for this Circuit celebration.

You will receive in your Church a paper about our need for more Circuit Stewards. Please study, ponder, discuss and pray over this important call.

***Here I am, Lord,
Is it I, Lord?***

LEATHERHEAD

It is great to have Lynda back with us after her period of sick leave.

In August, Hannah, our Family and Children's worker, along with Holly from the Parish, plus loads of volunteers from LMC, Christ Church and the Parish (thank you all!), ran a holiday club 'Space Academy' based at Christ Church. We had an amazing 60 children attend and learnt about Daniel. Great fun was had by all.

LMC continues to welcome new people into the church family, many children included. There is a real buzz around the church on a Sunday morning these days and our worship band continues to grow.

We look forward to our joint Pastorate Service at Cobham URC on October 22nd at 10.30 am. We also look forward to celebrating our Church Anniversary on 29th October with Philip Jones (son of Jean, whom many of you may remember from SNYF days) will be travelling from Peterborough to lead our worship.

Our *New Fire* contemporary worship services continue at All Saints Church, where Leatherhead Youth Project are based. They are always the 4th Sunday of the month, open for coffee from 6 pm, worship begins around 6.30 pm, all welcome.

PARTRIDGE GREEN

On a beautiful sunny weekend in June, Partridge Green enjoyed our annual village Fete. And, on the Sunday, all the churches together enjoyed breakfast followed by an open air ecumenical church service in the park. A delightful time to worship with our church family and friends from other churches in the village.

Our recent "Messy Church" with the theme "Love one another", was greatly enjoyed by the young families who attended, and our last Messy church of this year, with a Harvest theme, will be held at the end of October.

We also have planned two more toddler services in 2017, and our Bible Study groups will restart again in September, on alternate Tuesday afternoons, after the August break. So, plenty going on here at the south of the Circuit!

Alison James

LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

During each Wednesday morning in August we will be running our Holiday Fun sessions for young people. Each week we will be looking at a different story told by Jesus, with the children participating in a range of craft and other activities relevant to the story whilst the morning ends with a telling of the story in the style of "Open the Book". The organising team have been able to draw on our experience of running Messy Church and they are grateful for all the help offered by members of the congregation. Our first story was The Big Spender- the Prodigal Son - and we look forward to introducing further stories to the young people and the parents or carers who accompany them.

Helen Currington

DORKING

Rowan has completed her first year as Centre Chaplain, and we appreciate her ministry. Our cook has been ill, but we have managed to provide the customary lunchtime service, thanks to the goodwill of several generous people. Toilet refurbishment is now complete with the work in the gents' finished. The floor of the Large Hall has been sanded and resurfaced and is very smart. Similar refurbishment will soon take place in the Small Hall. August saw the ecumenical "Holiday at Home", with the Centre providing lunches and a venue for various activities.

There will be another Quiz Night with a light supper at 6.30 pm on Saturday September 23. Donations to Christian Aid and for the Centre—all welcome!

St Martin's Church will mark Heritage Weekend with open days on Friday-Sunday September 8-10.

(continued from page 18)

Of course, that grace comes in the shape of a person – Jesus! So, as we move through Harvest towards Advent and Christmas, let's prepare our lives to make room for him who comes to bring all the fullness of God to us. May our celebration of his coming fill our lives afresh with joy and hope. Joy at the knowledge that in him we have indeed been chosen *before* creation (Paul again a little earlier in Ephesians 1) and hope in the confidence of what it means to be the very children of God, manifesting God's renewal in the world today. We are part of God's plan and that cannot fail.

Yours in the Gospel.

COBHAM

Since the last Newsletter we have celebrated our Church Anniversary with four congregations coming together in a very lively service led by Rev Kath Jones. Kath was back with us two weeks later for a morning in which Cobham Methodist and URC churches came together to consider vision and mission. We all had to work hard, individually and in groups and the end result was a lot of pieces of paper which Kim took away to work on. Based on what we had done, Kim produced a Vision Statement, a Mission Statement and a list of actions, which have been discussed and adjusted by the Joint Leadership Team (JLT), and then circulated to all members of both churches, and approved by a Joint Church Meeting, at which we also discussed "the elephant in the room": buildings. The next stage will be for the JLT to draw up a "coming together" proposal which will be presented to the URC Church Meeting and the Methodist Church Council and then voted on by each separately. That will be in October.

In the mean time the Methodist congregation has decided that this year we shall have a "traditional" harvest festival when we shall sing traditional harvest hymns so we look forward to coming as thankful people to "plough the fields and scatter".

David Cappitt

Gavin

Leatherhead Pages

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



A SPECIALITY COFFEE SHOP AND SANDWICH COMPANY

Open Mon-Sat, 8am-3pm

OPEN TO ALL

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

All Saints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT



Next Sisters' Get-Together

Saturday 7th October
8.30am – 10.00am

Parish Church Hall

Speaker session, breakfast provided. Donations welcome to cover costs.
We welcome all women/girls across the Churches in Leatherhead,
together with any friends, family and neighbours.

**Leatherhead Concert
& Arts Society**

Regd Charity 1166764

**MUSIC
on
THURSDAYS
at LMC**



**WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH**

musiconthursdays.org

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

• Thursday 7th September • 12.30 lunchtime

William Robert Allenby, operatic bass-baritone
Professor of Voice at London College of Music
Emanuele Mollica, piano (*also from LCM*)

• Thursday 14th September • 12.30 lunchtime

Emily Andrews, flute

with French pianist Alice Rosset
final concert of Alice Rosset's 2017 English tour

Wednesdays at Christ Church

Epsom Rd, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
plenty of on-site park available

• Wednesday 20 September • 12.30 lunchtime

Guest organist: Graham Thorpe, Asst Director
of Music, St Michael's Cornhill, London EC
former Organ Scholar, Guildford Cathedral

If it's the last Thursday in September then it's:

JAZZ on Thursday at LMC

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

• Thursday 28th September • 12.30 lunchtime

The Alice Auer Quartet

Alice Auer, vocals • Alastair Elms, piano

Dan Hemsley, double bass • Josh Neale, percussion
courtesy of the London College of Music

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

• Thursday 5th October • 12.30 lunchtime

Jacqueline Phillips, cello

Richard Black, piano

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

LEP15



**Next Messy Church
for Leatherhead:**

Thursday 21st September
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

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

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

Next "Time for Tea":
Friday 1st September

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)



Holiday Bible Club



As this edition of the Link goes to press, the Leatherhead Holiday Bible Club is in full swing at Christ Church with 67 young people taking part. It's been a huge success so far and our thanks must go to Hannah and Holly for masterminding the week, plus all the many helpers in the background. We look forward to hearing all about it in due course.





Leatherhead

Methodist Church

Prayer Breakfasts

Prayer breakfasts are held on the third Sunday each month at 9.30am. It's a bring and share (non-cooked) breakfast with a short time of prayer fellowship before the morning service. All very welcome.

Next Prayer Breakfast is on 17th September.

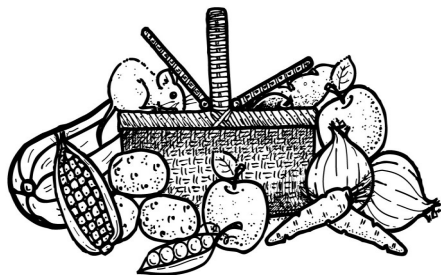
LMC House Groups

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

Everyone is very welcome to join a group. Please contact the church office if you are interested.



Combined Harvest Supper...



...with the Parish Church, Christ Church and Engage on Saturday 7th October at 6.30pm hosted by LMC. Food and Fun. Tickets £6 per head; family £12; single parent family £9 (same price as two years ago!)

Shaw.

Any queries contact Norma

MHA Best Sunday for Ages



The envelope collection in June for MHA amounted to £100. The total from boxes held by church members throughout the year, collecting "small change" was £152. MHA will be very appreciative of these generous contributions to the special projects which enhance the daily lives of those in their care.

Freda Walker

LMC Family News

Congratulations to...

...Alison and Andrew Foster who celebrated their Silver Wedding in July.



Congratulations also to...

... John & Lynda on the birth of John's grandson, Nathan Anthony Benn, on 19th July.

Special congratulations to...

... Lorna and Ray Alexander who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in July.

We remember ...

.. At the beginning of the academic year, those who are teaching or learning as they face the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead. In particular, **congratulations to Joel Friend** in passing his 'A' levels and getting a place at Plymouth University for September 2018. We wish him all the best in his gap year as he travels and makes memories!

Our thoughts and prayers are with ...

.....members, relatives and friends who are unwell, those in hospital, nursing or residential care, or at home, and the people who look after them day by day. We remember especially James & Jean Ross, Harry & Peggy Robinson.

Pastoral Visitors...

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

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 26th September** in the Vestry.



Diary



September

Fri 1st 2.30pm Time for Tea

**Sun 3rd 10.30am United Service at LMC -
Rev. Darlene McCarley - Holy Communion**

Thur 7th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)

Sat 9th 9.30am Heritage Open Day (*to 4.00pm*)

Sun 10th 10.30am Waseem Haq

(This service needs our support for Waseem as this is a trial service for his candidating for the ministry).

1.00pm Heritage Open Day (*to 4.00pm*)

6.30pm Rev. Darlene McCarley - Holy Communion

Thurs 14th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)

6.00pm Revive Youth Club

Sun 17th 9.30am Prayer Breakfast

10.30am Rev. Robert Davey

Wed 20th 12.30pm Organ Concert at Christ Church (*see p. 23*)

Thur 21st 3.30pm Messy Church (*to 5.30pm*)

Sat 23rd 8.00am Men's Breakfast - Catholic Church Hall

Sun 24th 10.30am John Oborn

6.30pm New Fire at Allsaints

(coffee shop open from 6.00pm)

Tues 26th 2.30pm Pastoral Visitors' prayer meeting

Thur 28th 12.30pm Jazz on Thursdays (*see page 23*)

6.00pm Revive Youth Club

October

Sun 1st 10.30am Waseem Haq

Thur 5th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)

7.30pm Church Council

Fri 6th 2.30pm Time for Tea

Sat 7th 8.30am Sisters' Get Together - Parish Church Hall

6.30pm Harvest Supper at LMC

**Sun 8th 10.30am Combined Harvest Festival Service at
Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell**

6.30pm Communion service

Jean Plant

Earlier in the year, we lost one of our number, Jean Plant. Jean had been a very active member at LMC for so many years and had contributed articles for this magazine virtually every month. We shall miss her tremendously. At the Thanksgiving Service on 26th May, our previous Minister, Rev. Ian Howarth gave the eulogy and he has given us permission to reproduce this here.

It is a privilege to have been asked by Jean to speak at her funeral. As we hear of the way of love from St. Paul we reflect with deep thanks today on Jean's love for her family, for her friends, for her Lord, and for her church here in Leatherhead and beyond. She expressed that love through a deep commitment, through action and hard work for what she believed in. Those of us who knew her writing, through her poems, her prayers and her letters saw an expression of her deeper self that she sometimes found more difficult to express face to face.

Over the past few weeks we have had to come to terms with her sudden decline from the active, involved Jean that we all knew so well, and today as we give thanks for Jean, we also have an opportunity to offer the shock and the sadness of her death to God, and today we pray for the comfort he promises to those who mourn, for Ann, Jane and Susan and the wider family.

And as we mourn and open ourselves in our prayers to that comfort that God gives, we also know that an important part of the grieving process is to remember, to tell the stories of Jean, of what she meant to us, of how her life interacted with ours. That will be different for all of us, particularly those closest to her, and the sharing of those stories is important to help the past nourish our future.

Jean's story begins on Wednesday 19th October 1932, when she was born in Greenwich, the second daughter of Nellie and Ted Way. She was the middle of three girls, younger by 15 months than Yvonne and older by 12 years than Diane.

Ted worked for Rose, Smith and Co. – a firm that brought coal direct from the mines to distribute to coal merchants south of London. When Jean was six the family moved to New Malden, which was to be her home for the next thirty years, except for some years during the war, when Jean and Yvonne were evacuated to stay with families in Mickleover, near Derby.

She went to school in Morden where she competed at school, district, county and All England Schools meetings at the high-jump. After school she trained as a teacher at Southlands College Wimbledon, and taught in several schools up until her marriage.

She was an active member of the New Malden Methodist Church – Brownies, Guides, Youth Club and Choir – and became a qualified Scout officer in one of the cub packs. Through Scouts and monthly officer meetings, she met her future husband Denis and he would often drive her home in his Morris Hillman. They got engaged in February 1956 and married 18th August 1956 lived in New Malden until moving to Hawks Hill, Leatherhead in March 1972. Their three daughters Ann, Jane and Susan were born during that time at New Malden.

After moving to Leatherhead, Jean returned to teaching as a supply teacher, and taught for up to 12 years at Ewell High School. On moving to Leatherhead, Jean transferred her membership from New Malden to LMC, and became involved in a wide variety of ways. Along with Anne and Paul Greet, she was an instigator of the first round of Holiday Bible Clubs here, at which she worked enormously hard.

She has done several spells as a steward and senior steward, ensuring things were done well and as expected. During my time as minister here she was one of the 'go to' people if I needed anything done.

She became heavily involved in the Methodist Women's Network at District and at National level. A highlight of her year were the annual Network Conferences at Swanwick, and I think these brought out a different side of Jean. The spirituality of Network really spoke to her, with the use of poetry and creative prayer. Always a great reader, she would bring books back that spoke to her in different ways. She was also encouraged to develop her gifts in writing prayers, poems and meditations, which she sometimes shared with us in worship or in the Link.

Another thing that came out of that was her discovery of prayer stations and labyrinths and LMC benefited from that as she inspired us through the creation of prayer labyrinths here for Harvest, Holy Week and Pentecost. These showed us the range and depth of creativity of Jean's spirituality. She was thrilled to become the District Network president, and I had to make sure that I was free to be present at her induction at Westminster Central Hall.

continued on the next page

Throughout Jean kept in touch with family and friends. She was a great letter writer, both informative, humorous and full. She enjoyed her holidays, in Devon and Cornwall, and in the Canary Islands, (when it wasn't too hot), and in recent years when Emily and Sophie, her granddaughters, arrived, the Isle of Wight also became a favourite, particularly Shanklin. She loved Emily and Sophie spending lots of time with them, cooking and craft activities.

She enjoyed her garden and for many years showed it off to us all at the LMC Barbecue, where Denis took his turn behind the grill.

Denis died in 2014 but Jean, now into her 80s kept active, returning as a steward and working with 'Time for Tea' at the Church in Leatherhead, and continuing with her love of sewing and reading.

She decided to move out of the house at Great Bookham at the end of last year to Emmeline Lodge, but sadly these proved to be the last months of her life.

There is much to give thanks for in Jean's rich and full life and we share in those thanks today.

Ian Howarth



Heritage Open Days

As part of Mole Valley's involvement in the Heritage Open Days, LMC will be open to the public as follows:

Saturday 9th September from 9.30am to 4.00pm;
Sunday 10th September from 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

The history of Methodism and of our church will be on display. **If you can assist with the stewarding of this event, please speak to Fred Meynen.**



Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

The Ride & Stride



Most counties in England hold an annual Ride & Stride, on the second Saturday in September, to raise money for the restoration and repair of buildings for Christian worship. The idea is that cyclists and walkers are given a list of churches and chapels in the area of their choice. They map out their own route to pedal or walk having asked their friends to reward their efforts.

The money collected is divided into two. Half the monies go to the church or chapel of the cyclist's or walker's choice and the other half is retained by the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust for distribution to churches in need.

Cyclists and walkers will be visiting our Church on the Saturday.

REVIVE YOUTH CLUB



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

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Leatherhead Methodist Church

2nd and 4th Thursday

6pm-7:30pm

Ages 7-11

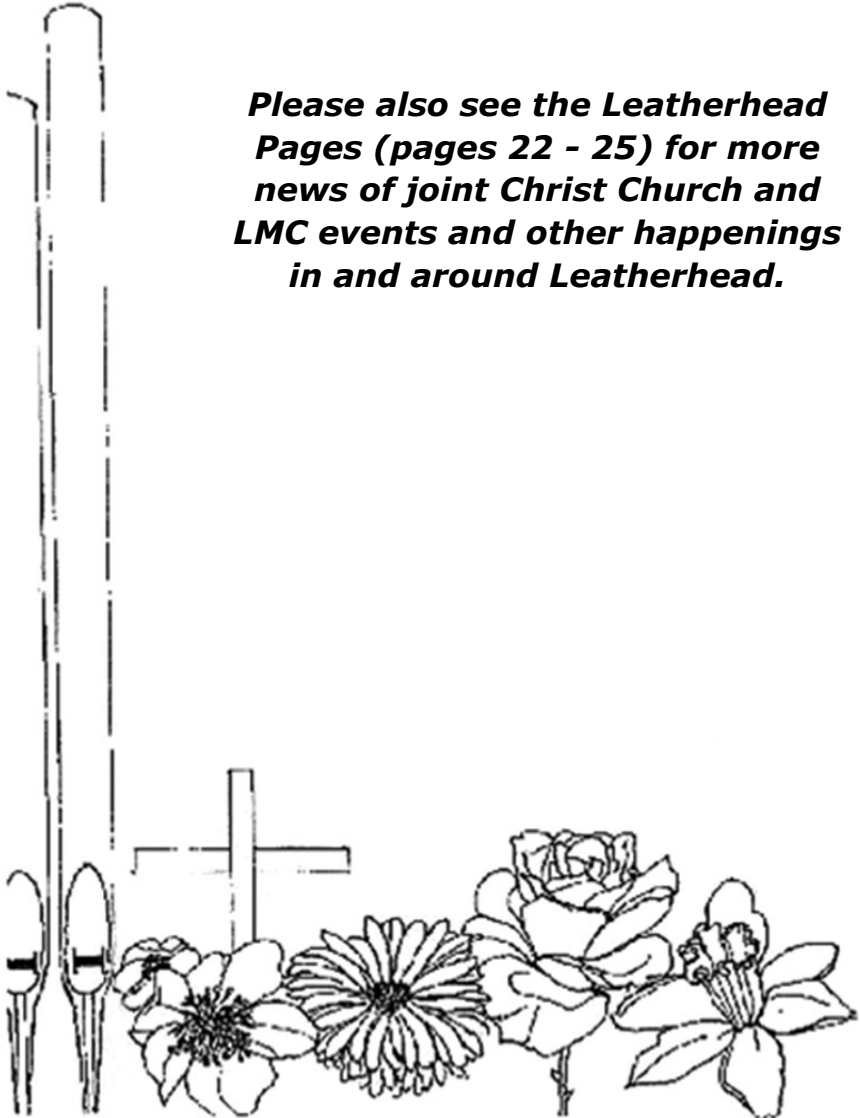
Cost £1

Email hannahleatherheadfcw@gmail.com

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

***Please also see the Leatherhead
Pages (pages 22 - 25) for more
news of joint Christ Church and
LMC events and other happenings
in and around Leatherhead.***



Christ Church



September

Fri 1st 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC

Sun 3rd 10.30am Mrs Thelma Roberts

Wed 6th 7.00pm House Group at 38 West Farm Avenue

Thur 7th 12.30pm Recital at LMC (*see p 23*)

Fri 7th 2.30pm LMC: Time for Tea

Sun 10th 10.30am Rev Darlene McCarley - Holy Communion

Thur 14th 12.30pm Recital at LMC (*see p 23*)

6.00pm Revive Youth Club at LMC

6.00pm *Still Reforming: St Anne's, Dean Street: An Experience of Anglican Liturgy*

Fri 15th 10.30am Leadership Training: Cobham URC (*see p 8*)

Sun 17th 10.30am Rev Brian Treharne

Wed 20th 12.30pm Organ Recital - Graham Thorpe (*see p 23*)

7.00pm House Group at 38 West Farm Avenue

Thur 21st 3.30pm Messy Church at LMC (*to 5.30*)

Sat 23rd 8.00am Men's Breakfast - Catholic Church Hall

**Sun 24th 10.30am Rev Darlene McCarley,
followed by Church Meeting**

6.30pm New Fire ecumenical service at All Saints

Thur 28th 12.30pm Jazz on Thursday at LMC (*see p 23*)

6.00pm Revive Youth Club at LMC

Sat 30th 7.30pm Quiz Night at Christ Church (*see p 37*)

October

Sun 1st 10.30am Mrs Heather Ward

4.00pm *Still Reforming: St Columba's, Pont Street,
"Scotland and its Reformation"*

**Sun 8th 10.30am Rev Lynda Russell: Joint Harvest Festival
at Christ Church**

Christ Church Family News



This month we pray for those with ongoing health problems, including Lynda and Darlene, those waiting for test results and others awaiting surgery. We remember carers and friends in care homes, the lonely and bereaved. May we all find time to help those in need.

Anne Cairns

QUIZ NIGHT

At Christ Church United Reformed,
Epsom Road, Leatherhead KT22 8ST
Saturday 30th Sept at 7.30pm
£12 per head, including
Fish and Chip Supper
*(bring your own drinks
& glasses & cutlery)*

In aid of the Mary Frances Trust, which works with people who are experiencing any kind of emotional or mental distress, to help them to get on with their lives again

Tickets £12. Make up a table of six or eight, or come on your own. For tickets/more info please call Margaret on 01372 277415 or Mike on 01372 273472

1st Leatherhead (Christ Church) Scouts

PRESENTATION OF CHEQUE TO SURREY YOUNG CARERS



Back on February 22nd 2017, several Cubs and their leaders from Leatherhead District, got together at Christ Church URC, in Leatherhead for a special Service of Thanksgiving for 100 years of Cub Scouts, which proved to be very memorable, and the collection raised came to £79.30, which was to be given to a local charity, 'Surrey Young Carers'. It was arranged that 1st Leatherhead Leaders would contact the charity, and ask for a representative to come along to a Pack meeting, to be presented with a cheque, and inform the other Leaders of the date and time. This was duly arranged for Wednesday, 21st June 2017, when Claire Gocher of Surrey Young Carers came along to be duly presented with the cheque.

The photo attached, shows the cubs of 1st Leatherhead, David Brain, ADC Cubs, Leatherhead, Claire Gocher, Surrey Young Carers and Jacqui Ball CSL, 1st Leatherhead, holding up a presentation cheque for £79.30. After the presentation, Claire gave a short talk to the cubs, explaining what the charity does, and how their money would help these other children to have some fun.



In Memoriam

To his dying day my Grandpa always kept a photograph of his brother in his wallet. Donald was one of the many thousands killed in the 3rd Battle of Ypres on 2.10.1917.

When I saw an advert for descendants of this futile battle to attend the Commemoration Service I applied for the ballot. I was successful and so my husband Nigel and I travelled to Ypres to remember him and the many others too from all over the world.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission tend around 1.7 million graves or memorials here and in many countries around the world.

In the very beginning, prior to the Imperial War Graves Commission being formally constituted, attempts were made to make the burial grounds along the Western Front less bleak by growing annual and perennial flowers, grass, shrubs and trees. Gertrude Jekyll's expertise was sought and she suggested cottage-garden plants and roses in the headstone borders. The concept was to create a sentimental association between the gardens of home and the foreign fields where the soldiers lie. To this day the CWGC continues this tradition.

Lawns are used in cemeteries throughout the world where a sufficient water supply is sustainable. They provide the appropriate setting for the headstone borders, and the absence of paths contributes to the simplicity of design.

There are some 900 gardeners around the world caring for the graves. When we were at Tyne Cot (the largest Commonwealth Military Cemetery in the world) the gardens were immaculate. The rows of white Portland Stone headstones with the cottage garden planting in between made a fitting tribute to the many lives being commemorated.

Until 19 November there is a free exhibition telling the story of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at The Canada Building Brookwood Military Cemetery Surrey GU24 0BL. Open 7 days a week 10 – 4. Free entry. I went recently and found my guided tour most informative.

Alison Gillott



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: Steward -
David Cappitt 01932 862661



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Lynda Russell

10 Church Road
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KT22 8AY

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

E-mail:

lynda.russell@methodist.org.uk

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38 Stoke Road
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KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail:

kimp_822@hotmail.com