

*It's time to go to the ball...*

Walton Methodist Youth

Present

*Cinderella*

Friday 11th  
(7:30pm)

Saturday 12th December  
(2:30pm and 7:30pm)

Tickets: £10 Under 16: £7 Family (of 4): £30

Contact Colin and Sandra: 01932 224877

*or see the website*

**In Aid of MISSION DIRECT trip to  
UGANDA**

Walton-on-Thames Methodist Church Hall

Terrace Road

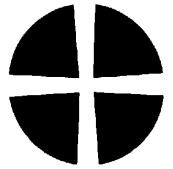
KT12 2SR

the **RCS** Sherriff Trust  
advancing the arts in Elmbridge

[www.waltonmethodist.com](http://www.waltonmethodist.com)



*Flight Path*



The Newsletter of the Woking and Walton-on-Thames Methodist Circuit

No. 39 Sep-Dec 2015

Dear Friends,

On one of the roads I drive along many times each week there is a cottage which rejoices in the name 'Friendly Cottage'. The sign is a little rusted and worn, and gives the impression of established welcome. Or at least – that is the impression until you get close to the cottage. I have never actually seen the house itself, because Friendly Cottage is guarded by high, solid wooden gates and a security entry phone. Never once have those gates been open. Perhaps the owners intend to be friendly, and perhaps they are actually very friendly, but those security measures say 'keep out' and demonstrate distrust and suspicion.

Contrast that with the experience my niece had this year when she looked into renting her first room away from home. She found a suitable room, and met the landlord and was amazed at how laid back he was. He vaguely said that a week's notice would be fine and there was a written agreement she could sign but it didn't bother him too much. He did not see the need to take up references. As long as she behaved reasonably well, he was perfectly happy for her to rent the room. In a world where most such arrangements are tied up with legal agreements, signed contracts, assessments and rules, this made a refreshing change. When he was asked about his attitude, he said "more than 80% of the population are honest and I would rather act as if everyone was, rather than be guided by those who are not".

In both situations there is a clash between what we expect and what we get. They have echoes with the passages in the bible where Jesus praises the people who were expected by everyone else to be corrupt, or diseased, untrustworthy or hardly worth noticing. And not only did he notice them but he then showed them that they – even they – could follow his example of love, compassion, and discipleship. They have echoes too with the passages where the people who tried hard to be noticed for their piety were not the ones praised by Jesus.

The message is about finding your integrity. If you claim to be friendly on the outside of your house, surely you need to follow that message through and

demonstrate your friendliness in your life. If you claim to be just, then act justly. If you claim to be honest, then be honest.

For many people there is a sense of inadequacy. 'How can I be all that Jesus demonstrated?' 'How can I be a faithful follower of his way?' Surely the examples of Jesus's interactions with people answer that question for us however inadequate we feel. Everyone is noticed, everyone matters and the most unlikely people and situations are often the ones upheld as examples to others. Never let us forget that, through the life and death and resurrection of Jesus, we have the assurance of God's forgiveness and the restoration of our relationship with him.

In this new Connexional year perhaps we can all seek to be faithful followers, not just saying words, but living lives of faith and following the calling of God in our lives. I live in hope that one day the gates of Friendly Cottage will be open wide and I will discover that it is indeed a place of friendship and welcome!

With all good wishes

*Claire*

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#### CIRCUIT NEWS

As a Circuit we are entering into a period of uncertainty and change which will give us all challenges.

The Circuit meeting held on 14 July voted unanimously in favour of continuing discussions with the Guildford Circuit a view to form a new Circuit. This vote of confidence resulted in Rev Dr Claire Potter being appointed as Superintendent of the Woking & Walton-on-Thames Circuit (in addition to the Guildford Circuit) for the connexional year 2015/16. This was approved by the Methodist Conference. We give thanks for Claire and her willingness to undertake this heavier workload.

We are also grateful for the willingness of ministers from the Guildford Circuit who will be providing emergency pastoral care for some of our churches during this coming connexional year. Revd. Dr Claire Potter will be available for Woking and Sheerwater. Addlestone and Weybridge will have similar care from Revd. Asif Das & Revd. Peter Hills, and Walton by Revd. Claire Hargreaves.

The stationing process has started, seeking for two new ministers to join the Circuit in September 2016. One will have pastoral care of Woking and Sheerwater and the other of Addlestone, Walton and Weybridge.

Alongside this, formal conversations are beginning with representatives from our Circuit and the Guildford Circuit to explore the real possibilities of forming a new circuit. There are some tasks which can be shared across the two circuits and, with

# Remix Voices & Choir Remix

present

## *Choir Magic*

A concert of popular upbeat songs and ballads from the 60's to the present day

at

Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road,  
Woking, GU21 4LH

on

Saturday 17 October 2015

at 7.45pm

Fairtrade Refreshments

**ADMISSION FREE**

**Retiring collection to support water  
development projects in The Gambia**

Contacts:

Trinity Church Office

01483 730754

Bill

01483 765897

Julie

01483 764188

# eco-chic swap shop

because swapping is the new shopping.



## how it works...

1. donate your good quality, undamaged, washed but no longer used clothing, bags, jewellery & books.
2. give items to Marion or Megan from 1<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September.
3. liven up your wardrobe for a £5 entry fee. Refreshments provided.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, Walton Methodist Church

8-10pm.

**EVERYONE WELCOME.**

approval from the Circuit meetings, are already happening. We now have a team overseeing the requirements for Safeguarding issues, and a Circuit Property Steward will be working with property stewards in our Circuit. The Leadership Teams of both circuits are working closely together and sharing ideas and concerns.

As Circuit Stewards, we ask for your support, and more especially your prayers for the ministers who will be taking on extra challenges; not forgetting Revd. David Faulkner who continues to be a valuable member of the team.

Liz Swift—Senior Circuit Steward

## Trinity Celebrations

Over the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Trinity Methodist Church Woking celebrated 50 years of worshipping God in our current Church. It was a weekend of fun, fellowship and worship. On Saturday evening we held a Hog Roast which was attended by over 150 past and present members. Memorabilia of the past 50 years was displayed around the Church, a power point presentation of the stages of building the Church was shown and entertainment was supplied by Trinity Players.

A celebration service was held on Sunday, and our worship was led by Rev. Mike Long, one of our past ministers. Jennifer Clulow, the daughter of A. Harrison Clulow, our first minister in 1965, gave one of the readings and the other was read by Nigel Chipangula a member of our Junior Church – thus spanning the 50 years. The service was attended by nearly 200 past and present members and friends and was followed by a buffet lunch giving everyone valuable time to catch up with old friends. The visitor's book from 1965 was discovered in our archives and was put out for folk to sign. Great delight was expressed by those who found their original signatures!

A souvenir prayer book "**50 prayers for 50 more years**" has been produced, and this is available to all the Churches in the circuit, so do let me know if you would like copies – a donation to cover the cost of printing would be appreciated!

Jean Normington, Senior Steward



Walton Methodist Church, Terrace Road, KT12 2SR  
Warmly invites you to a

## Beetle Drive

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Saturday 26 September 2016

7.00pm Walton Methodist Church Hall

£6 per Person, chance to win prizes

All profits to the Uganda 2016 Mission  
trip



Contact Rosanne on 01932 953801

<http://www.missiondirect.org>

### Trinity Methodist Church, Woking

Trinity are continuing celebrations for their 50th anniversary on the Brewery Rd site. They had a successful church anniversary (see page 3) and will continue events with a special Harvest weekend. All are invited to a Barn Dance (see diary page) which is open to all and free of charge, with a retiring collection. Come and enjoy –do si do!

Don't forget the Macmillan Coffee morning and Ploughman's on 18 September (see page 6)

### Walton Methodist Church

There is a very busy autumn ahead for Walton because the Youth group are ramping up fund raising for their proposed trip to Uganda in 2016. Social events commence on Friday 25 September with the annual Macmillan Coffee morning (see page 6). On Saturday 26 there is a Beetle Drive (see page 4), a Cake Competition on 3 October (see page 12) and a clothes event on 23 October (see page 18) and a Pantomime, Cinderella on 11 & 12 December. (see page 20). Rehearsals are about to commence for the Walton Methodist Players March 2016 production 'A night on the Red Carpet'. (more details next time)

### Weybridge Methodist Church

Weybridge said farewell to Jane & Peter Howson at a family lunch on 12 July. Peter's last service here on 19 July included the reception into membership of Joseph.

The church looks forward to welcoming Rev Asif Das to lead worship for the first time on 6 September.

We have two café church sessions planned for this quarter; one on 13 September which will be led by Rev Asif Das with a theme of 'Getting to know you', and a second on 8 November, leader and subject to be confirmed.

## News from around the Circuit

### **Addlestone Methodist Church**

The consultation session for a potential new presbyter for Addlestone, Walton & Weybridge was held here on 28 July; thank you to the ladies for the refreshments.

Addlestone bade farewell to Rev David Faulkner after his 5 years in ministry there at a service and lunch on 2 August.

The congregation look forward to welcoming Rev Asif Das who will lead his first worship at Addlestone on September 20, Harvest Festival.

The annual Christmas Fayre will take place on 28 November 2015. *see page 7*

### **Byfleet Methodist Church**

Byfleet hosted the circuit service for Rev Dr Peter Howson on 19 July. It was very well organised and we were fed royally at the tea afterwards. Thank you to all who helped and contributed to this event. The congregation look forward to welcoming Rev David Faulkner who assumes pastoral care for Byfleet from 1 September. The Church are holding an Advent Carol Service on Sunday 29 November at 4.30 pm to which all are welcome (*see diary, page 10*)

### **Knaphill Methodist Church**

Knaphill are entering a very exciting year as they commence a year of celebration of 150 years of Methodism in Knaphill. This will commence with a Victorian themed Bazaar on 28 November (*timing not available at time of going to press but assume 10—3*) —See page 5 for the advance dates of further activities. In addition they church are continuing to progress the redevelopment project.

### **St Michael's, Sheerwater**

St Michael's are looking forward to welcoming Rev Dr Claire Potter as presbyter with pastoral charge for the next connexional year. The church is also welcoming Rev Peter Hills to the ecumenical team helping to minister to the Sheerwater estate during this time of uncertainty and change.

## KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In November this year Knaphill Methodists are beginning a special year of celebrations to mark the arrival of Methodism in the village 150 years ago and the story of our church community since then. A number of special events are being planned (advance details below). We extend a hearty welcome to all who would like to attend any of these events.

In connection with the Anniversary Year, we will be re-publishing and updating the various documents which tell our story from our beginnings to the present day.

A key event in the year will be a flower festival at our church over the weekend of 11 and 12 June 2016, to which we shall be inviting local tradespeople, local and circuit churches, and schools, fellowships and groups which are part of, or connected with, our church and other local community groups to make donations of floral arrangements. On Sunday 12 June there will be a special service at 10am to celebrate the life and witness of the church over the last 150 years. This will be followed by a Songs of Praise style of service at 4pm that day which we hope members of other churches in the Circuit will be able to attend.

#### Saturday 28 November 2015

Victorian themed Christmas Bazaar

#### 10am, Sunday 21 February 2016

Special guest preacher, Rev John Hellyer, Chair, South East District

#### 7:30pm, Saturday 27 February 2016

Concert given by the Almac Bisley Brass Band, in aid of Band-nominated charities and church funds

#### 7:30pm, Saturday 12 March 2016

Talk on the history of Knaphill by local historian and author, Iain Wakeford

#### Easter Weekend, 25 – 28 March 2016

Exhibition on Methodism down the years

#### 10 – 12 June 2016

Flower Festival weekend

#### Saturday 24 – Sunday 25 September 2016

Harvest weekend, to include Harvest Supper

7:30pm, Saturday 15 October 2016

Dave Bilbrough Concert

All events take place on our church premises.

Please watch for local publicity nearer the time and keep an eye on our website:

<http://www.knaphill-methodist-church.com>

### MacMillan Coffee Morning & Cake Stalls

### Trinity Methodist Church, Woking.

Friday September 18 10 a.m. —3 p.m.

Coffee, Cake and/or Ploughman's Lunch. (please book a Ploughman's before 14 September lunch via

tastietreats2014@gmail.com or call 07787923450 )

AND

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



### Walton Methodist Church

Friday 25 September 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon. Coffee and Cake stall

Woking and Walton-on-Thames Mission Group present...



**Speaker, Rev Melvyn Cooke**

Saturday 17 October 2015

**10:00am - 4:00pm**

Walton Methodist Church  
Terrace Road,

Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2SR

Come to **Walton Methodist Church** on **Saturday 17th October 2015** from **10:00 am to 4:00 pm** where Melvyn will lead our thoughts in this essential area of witness. Bring your own lunch. (Drinks provided.)

#### BOOKING FORM

Name .....

Phone .....

Email .....

I enclose £5 booking fee. Cheques made payable to Woking & Walton-on-Thames Circuit

Send to Dave Faulkner, 48 Lane End Drive, Knaphill, GU21 2QG.

**Circuit Mission Day**

**Saturday 17th October 2015**

**10—4**

**Walton Methodist Church.**

# **How can I speak about my Faith?**



**Led by**

**Rev Melvyn Cooke**

**Bring your lunch**

**tea/coffee provided**

**A charge of £5 per person will be made  
to cover costs.**

# **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

## **Addlestone**

## **Methodist Church**

## **Station rd**

## **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

## **10am-3pm**

## **Come and visit for**

## **Gifts, Jewellery**

## **Tombola refreshments**



## Introducing Peter and Margaret Hills – by Peter

Peter Hills has moved into the Guildford Circuit . He brings a wealth of experience in ecumenical matters and will be assisting Claire with the events in Sheerwater. Peter will also be providing Pastoral Care to Addlestone and Weybridge whilst Rev. Asif Das is on sabbatical.

Though rather sorry to be leaving Kent, since it is our home county and Margaret's family all live in the Canterbury area, we look forward to joining you in the Guildford Circuit. It is an ending as well as a new beginning, leaving behind an itinerant life to settle in what will probably be our final home. There have been many homes before it during 41 years of marriage, twelve of them outside Great Britain. Twenty-seven of those years have been spent in pastoral ministry of one sort or another – eleven as an army chaplain, eleven in Circuit appointments, four as a part-time 'active supernumerary', and one year learning how to retire, I suppose. Prior to that I was an army education officer and then spent three years training for the presbyteral ministry in Cambridge. Margaret gave up her career as a receptionist in A&E to be with me wherever I was sent, though she was able to use her skills on a part-time basis in a major hospital and two local health centres in England, as well as some voluntary work in military medical centres abroad.

We are planning to enjoy retirement, but have much to occupy us: I shall continue as a chaplain to the police and ambulance services. Having began my working life as a primary school teacher, and spent many years as a governor in various schools, my contact with young people is now as a padre to the Cadet Forces. I am also the Honorary Chaplain to the Royal British Legion Women's Section, attending their annual conference and other national events. I was until recently a visiting chaplain at Westminster Abbey, along with Paul Hulme, and am still called upon to help out from time to time. Having served the District as Ecumenical Officer in Kent I took over that role in Surrey from Martin Ellis, and have already been busy. (Perhaps I haven't quite grasped this retirement business, after all.)

## Farewell

The Circuit gathered together on Sunday 19th July at Byfleet Methodist church to celebrate 40 years in ministry for Rev Dr Peter Howson. It was a joyous service which involved music and dance and included the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Peter was presented with a selection of gifts including a 'Book of Memories' compiled by Claire Smith on behalf of the Byfleet and Weybridge Churches. The service was followed by a splendid tea—thank you to the ladies of Byfleet .

We wish Peter and Jane well as they prepare to move to the Andover area.

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*Note from Peter:*



After a joyous service at Byfleet to celebrate my 40 years of active ministry it was a further blessing to receive acknowledgements from the Circuit of my three years here. May I thank everyone for the generous gift.

As I write we do not know exactly where we shall be come September as the work on our house has been delayed. When the final moving-in date has come we will let you know what our new contact details will be.

With many thanks for all the times we have enjoyed in the Circuit over the past three years

Peter Howson.'



## Coffee Morning & Cake Competition & Auction...



**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
October**

**10am-12noon**

Pay £5 to enter any **homemade cake**, it is that simple. Cakes will be judged on taste and creativity.

There will be 3 prizes. After judging the cakes will be auctioned to the highest bidder!!!

Contact  
**Marion Deacon**  
to  
enter  
**07772442574**

Come and  
enjoy a  
cuppa and  
a cookie  
and a chat.

Margaret has arranged flowers in Westminster Abbey and is a former Chair of Sevenoaks Flower Club, but is happiest as part of a local flower-arranging team. She is a member of WI and has done a lot of other things, from directing plays, pantomimes and Music Halls to line dancing. We spent many years in drama groups and operatic societies during college and army years, something which Circuit life made difficult, and still enjoy singing in choirs. Other enjoyments are Cunard voyages, river cruising, holidays in Germany and walking our lovely Labrador, Izzy in all weathers – and we are always open to new challenges.

*Peter Hills*





## CIRCUIT DIARY

Sun 13 Sep	Weybridge	<b>Café Church</b> 'Getting to know you' led by Rev Asif Das
6.30pm		
Thurs 17 Sep	Addlestone	<b>Circuit Meeting</b>
8.00pm		
Fri 18 Sep	Trinity	<b>World's Largest Coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer care.</b> Coffee, Cake & Ploughman's Lunch ( <i>see page 6</i> )
10—3		
Sat 19 Sept	Canterbury	<b>District Synod</b>
Fri 25 Sep	Walton	<b>World's Largest Coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer care.</b> All welcome. ( <i>see page 6</i> )
10—12 noon		
Sat 26 Sep	Walton	<b>Beetle Drive</b> ( <i>see page 4</i> )
7.30 PM		
Sat 3 Oct	Walton	<b>Cake Competition</b> ( <i>see page 12</i> )
10—12		
Sat 3 Oct	Trinity	<b>Harvest Barn Dance</b> <a href="mailto:office@trinitywoking.org.uk">office@trinitywoking.org.uk</a> or 01483 730754. to book a place
7.30		
Sat 17 Oct	Walton	<b>Circuit Mission Day</b> Following the success of last years event the Circuit Mission Group are organising a further day. ( <i>see pages 14 &amp; 15</i> )
10- 4		

Sat 17 Oct	Trinity	<b>Choir Magic</b> Remix choir & voices present a concert of upbeat songs and ballads from the 60's to the present day. ( <i>See page 19</i> )
7.45pm		
Fri 23 Oct	Walton	<b>Eco-chic Clothes swap</b> ( <i>See page 18</i> )
8.00—10 pm		
Sun 8 Nov	Weybridge	<b>Café Church</b>
6.00 for 6.30 pm		
Sat 28 Nov	Addlestone	<b>Christmas Fayre</b> ( <i>See page 7</i> )
10—3		
Sat 28 Nov	Knaphill	<b>Victorian themed Christmas Bazaar</b>
10—3		
Sun 29 Nov	Byfleet	<b>Advent Carol Service</b>
4.30pm		
Fri 11 Dec	Walton	Walton Methodist Youth Club presents <b>Cinderella</b>
7.30pm		
Sat 12 Dec		( <i>see page 20</i> )
2.30 & 7.30 pm		

## Advance Notices

Sat 6 & Sun 7 Feb 2016	Everywhere	<b>Circuit Prayer Vigil</b> A similar event to Feb 2015, details to follow in next edition
Sunday 28 Feb 2016	Trinity	<b>Circuit Service</b> A joint Circuit Service with all churches from our Circuit and the Guildford Circuit.
6.30pm 2016		
March 3/4/5 2016	Walton	Walton Methodist Players present <b>A night on the red carpet</b> ( <i>more details next time</i> )