

Dear Friends,

When you drive east into Sevenoaks along the A25, if you ever do, you pass a chapel on the right. It looks like any other church, but is a Unitarian chapel. Unitarians are part of the Christian family, in a sense, but would not be able to join, say, Churches Together in England. It's a long story, but, although they are followers of Jesus, and some use a liturgy not dissimilar to the Book of Common Prayer (though worship tends to take a much freer form these days) and may even hold a Communion service, one thing above all others separates them from almost all other Christian churches. They do not believe that Jesus was divine; and they do not believe in the Holy Trinity.

They share the same Biblical roots as us, but approach the Bible in a more rational way, they would say. Their faith is in Jesus the man, the teacher, rather than the healer and miracle-worker. Their institutional roots lie in the 16th century, and a group called the Socinians, among others; it was an Anglican priest who is believed to have introduced the Unitarians to England, but by and large most Unitarian churches in this country were founded by Presbyterians. Interestingly, the Sevenoaks chapel was originally Baptist.

I am busy preparing a service for the coming Sunday, known as Trinity Sunday; and will once again be preaching on the Holy Trinity. I wish it were easy, but it isn't. A few weeks ago, I had the great privilege and pleasure to baptise an infant, which I did in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Not three Gods, but one God 'in three persons'. The blessings I pronounce are trinitarian, and we often share 'the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.'

I have every sympathy with the Unitarians. Indeed, I have encountered many a Methodist 'unitarian' over the years. The reason the first Unitarians followed a different path was that they could not find the doctrine of the Holy Trinity in the Bible. Yet I remain a trinitarian: I just wish I didn't have to try to explain the Trinity on the Sunday after Pentecost. But I listen to Jesus telling his disciples that he and the Father are one. I hear the poem beginning the Bible describe the wind from God – also translatable as Spirit – sweep across the face of the waters; and later, God saying, 'let US make humankind in OUR own image.' I hear another poem, from the hand of the apostle John: 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.'

I try to follow Jesus, though could always do better. I am a fan of the Jesus Prayer: 'Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I say the 'Our Father' every day, though not always thinking about the words. (I occasionally say it in German, for that reason.) I say an ancient prayer on Monday mornings, which begins, 'O Holy Spirit, as the sun is full of light, the ocean full of water, heaven full of glory, so may my heart be full of thee.' I somehow find that the most challenging ('Come as power, to expel every rebel lust, to reign supreme and keep me thine.'). Whichever words I use, I am addressing God, the One God. It really doesn't matter a hoot what I believe about the nature of God, in an intellectual sense. What matters is knowing that I am loved; that we all are loved, and that we are called to love; that there is no greater demonstration of God's love than through the birth, life death and resurrection of Jesus; and that his Spirit is the source of my knowledge, my understanding, whatever holiness I may have, my beauty, and my joy.

You see, I can't seem to talk about God without invoking the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Blessings!

Peter

Resources/Good News

Carer's Week 2025

Carers Week 2025 takes place from Monday 9th June until Sunday 15th June 2025. It's a national event to recognise and celebrate the UK's six million plus unpaid family and friend carers.

The Week aims to raise awareness of caring, highlighting the challenges family and friend carers face, and acknowledge the huge contribution carers make.

Are you one of Surrey's missing carers?

Across Surrey there are drop-in Hubs for carers to meet staff from Action for Carers and get advice and support on all aspects of caring. There are 15 Hubs, each running twice a month.

[Carer Hubs | Action for Carers](#)



Help for unpaid carers

Are you looking after a relative or friend?

Do you know charity Action for Carers can help?

We help people aged 5-95 who are looking after a relative or friend, with advice, information on rights and benefits, practical and emotional support, free events, wellbeing sessions, support groups, help at hospital, resources and much more.

Find out how we can help YOU

0303 040 1234

CarerSupport@actionforcarers.org.uk

For more information, please get in touch:

☎ Call 0303 040 1234 or
✉ or email CarerSupport@actionforcarers.org.uk

www.actionforcarers.org.uk

A Network Partner of
CARERS TRUST

Action for Carers Surrey
Charity Registration No 1116714



**YOU ARE INVITED
TO JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
TRINITY
METHODIST
CHURCH**

**60th
Anniversary**
1965-2025

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 6PM

ANNIVERSARY SHOW

FREE TICKETS: SIXTYTRINITY@YAHOO.COM

SUNDAY 15TH JUNE 10:30 AM

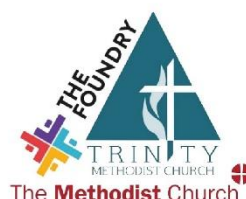
WORSHIP WITH

REV. ANNA CARRINGTON

FOLLOWED BY BUFFET LUNCH

RSVP BY 7TH JUNE

TRINITYWOKING@BTINTERNET.COM



TRINITY 60TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

SATURDAY- 14TH JUNE 2025
@ 6.30PM



BRING YOUR OWN
REFRESHMENTS (no
alcoholic drinks
allowed on the
premises)

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

FREE
ENTRY!



*Featuring current and past
Trinity members from the
English and Chinese
congregations.*

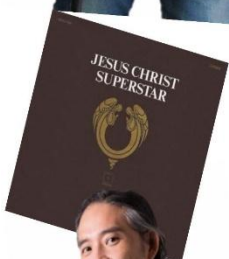
For **free tickets** please
contact

sixtytrinity@yahoo.com

This is also a fundraising event for
the upkeep of this church building
and our work with the local
community – any donations would
be appreciated.



SCAN ME



STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



3rd June

10th June

17th June

24th June

1st July

8th July

15th July

22nd July

29th July



Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book

The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!

COFFEE AND CAKE

AT ST. MARY'S

QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

APRIL - JUNE
2025

10.30 – 12.00



Everyone welcome

SAVE THE DATES!

Thursday 24 April

Thursday 22 May

Thursday 26 June



WINTERSHALL

Experience the story



The Life of Christ

The greatest story of all time

17 - 21 June 2025
10am - 3.30pm

Our powerful, biblical, outdoor drama
takes you back to a time when
Jesus lived on earth.

See the remarkable events of Jesus' life
re-enacted as you follow the actors
around Wintershall's beautiful lakes
and ancient woodland.



BOOK NOW  wintershall.org.uk

admin@wintershall.org.uk

Wintershall, Bramley, Surrey GU5 0LR

Registered Charity Number 1167111



THE BRIGITTE TRUST PRESENT

Before I Say Goodbye: Workshops (FORMERLY COFFIN CLUB)



Come along to our **free end-of-life workshops**, where each week a professional will share valuable information on the different options available to you to plan and cost either your own or others unique end-of-life celebration.

When: Tuesday 10th, 17th and 24th June, 9:45AM - 12:00PM

Where: Clandon Wood Natural Burial Ground, Guildford
GU4 7FN

The course will provide you with all the information needed to plan a meaningful end-of-life celebration- a farewell that honours your values and brings comfort to loved ones. **Attendance is free but we kindly ask you to book a space for us to manage numbers and catering.**

For further information, please contact Sarah Pattenden on **07469 932192**, email sarah.pattenden@brigitte-trust.com or visit www.brigitte-trust.org/our-service/before-i-say-goodbye

Royal Surrey Community Open Day



Royal Surrey County Hospital



28 June 2025
11am–3pm

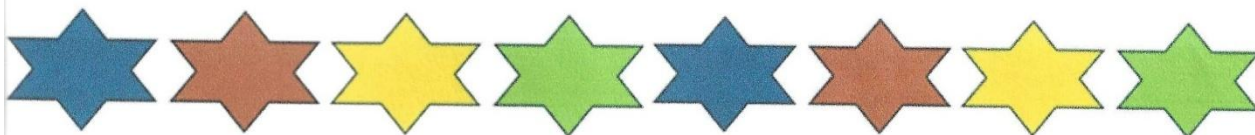
Everyone's welcome to see

- ★ Our surgical robots in an operating theatre
- ★ How to save a life with CPR
- ★ Free face painting, games and competitions for kids
- ★ Your future as a healthcare professional
- ★ How to take an X-ray
- ★ Free health checks



Scan for more info
and to book tours





**Saturday morning events at the
Addlestone Methodist Church café
on Station Road**



***Come along between
10am and 12 to enjoy
tea/coffee and cake and
join in with activities***

**1st Saturday of each
month – Fun Bingo**

*Donations to Sam Beare Hospice
or Open Doors Charity*



**2nd and 4th Saturdays – popular
hymns & songs to sing to or just
listen to.**

3rd Saturday – time for our Quiz



Check notice board for any changes

