

# WEY VALLEY – WEEKLY CIRCUIT LETTER – 9 APRIL 2025

Barrie Tabraham

## ‘Pilgrims, All’

### “WHO WOULD TRUE VALOUR SEE” (StF 486) – John Bunyan (1628-1688)

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| 1. Who would true valour see,<br>Let him come hither;<br>one here will constant be,<br>come wind, come weather;<br>there's no discouragement<br>shall make him once relent<br>his first avowed intent<br>to be a pilgrim. | 2. Whoso beset him round<br>with dismal stories<br>do but themselves confound;<br>his strength the more is.<br>No lion can him fright;<br>he'll with a giant fight;<br>but he will have a right<br>to be a pilgrim. | 3. Hobgoblin not foul fiend<br>can daunt his spirit;<br>he knows he at the end<br>shall life inherit.<br>Then fancies flee away,<br>he'll fear not what men say;<br>he'll labour night and day<br>to be a pilgrim. |
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Bunyan's hymn, taken from his *The Pilgrim's Progress* isn't my favourite, but it was one I learnt in school, actually, rather than in church, and there were two versions printed in our school hymnals alongside each other. Needless to say, whichever one our head-master asked us to sing, we at the back of the assembly hall would sing the *other* version, i.e. 'fly away', and so on. And we loved to sing – in voices which had just broken – 'Hobgoblin or foul friend' !

Apparently in legend, **Welsh hobgoblins** (or 'bwbachod'), were good-natured though mischievous, and were said to perform household chores in return for bowls of cream, but had a dislike of clergymen and teetotalers, upon whom they played relentless pranks!



Some years ago when I had pastoral oversight of Trinity Methodist Church (which was in the old Woking & Walton Circuit in those days) I walked part of **the Pilgrim's Way** with the late **Bill Lindop**. The entire Way runs from Winchester to Canterbury, and is 119 miles in length. Whereas Bill, who was twenty years older than me, covered the whole distance on three separate occasions, I actually only managed 2/3rds of the total! We did it to raise money for the "Trinity 2000" project in Woking, and for a project to build a church and community centre in **The Gambia** in West Africa (I'm the one red).

On the early part of the walk Bill and I came across upon a little avenue of immensely old **yew trees**. They had clearly been planted deliberately since they were in a line and stationed at regular intervals – probably to act as a guide for pilgrims following the way to Canterbury. As we walked past these gnarled trunks, centuries old, I couldn't help thinking that the pilgrims who had walked along that self-same path that we followed, perhaps a thousand years ago – had the same belief & trust in the same Lord who had lived a thousand years before *them*.



It was, quite simply, humbling to think that one was part of such a tradition, part of what the writer to the Hebrews refers to as 'a bright succession', all following in the footsteps of the same Lord Jesus Christ – even though we were thousands of years apart. The 'great cloud of witnesses' didn't have to preach sermons to us. Walking in their footsteps and being shaded by those beautiful yew trees, was sufficient inspiration.

The Christian journey through life and faith has often been compared to a pilgrimage. But notice that the words of Bunyan's hymn are *not* spoken by Valiant, who is telling the author of the trials of his life – but by Bunyan himself. There is *always* a place for testimony, but the most valuable witness is when the love and faithfulness of those around us are allowed to speak for themselves.

So, don't worry if you feel that you aren't eloquent, or that you find speaking about your faith difficult. Your character will show the fruits of God's Spirit to others. It really will, and I have been privileged to know hundreds of Christians who have shown love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

They (and you) are pilgrims, all!

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**A Prayer:** Loving God, we thank you for the lives and example of our fellow Christians, who are on the same journey that we make. Help us so to encourage each other, that each one of us may make a 'pilgrimage of grace' for Christ's sake. Amen.

Every blessing to you all,

Barrie Tabraham

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### **Resources/Good News**

#### [An Easter Message from the President of the Conference](#)

"This Easter we rise with Christ, we are a new creation called to be a faithful witnessing community filled with the power and love and grace of God."

### **Flower Fairies at The Watts Gallery**

Step into the enchanting world of Cicely Mary Barker (1895 - 1973), the creator of the much-loved Flower Fairies, in this playful exhibition.

**22 October 2024 - 27 April 2025**

**Watts Gallery - Artists' Village,**

Down Lane, Compton, Surrey, GU3 1DQ



[Flower Fairies™: The Magical World of Cicely Mary Barker | Watts Gallery and Artists' Village](#)

# Lent Reflections

Would you like a few quiet minutes to reflect at the end of a busy week?

Would you like to pause a while to ponder the meaning of Lent?

Would you like to get closer to God's heart of love for you?

## LENT REFLECTIONS

might be just what you're looking for!

There are 3 Zoom sessions: on Fridays 28/3, 4/4 and 11/4,  
from 5.30pm until 6ish.

Feel free to join any or all of these  
and to have your camera on or off, as suits you best.

*Rev Sam – Trinity Methodist Church*

*To Join the Zoom Meeting – Please follow the link or use the ID and Pass Code below:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89733710859?pwd=9Rgf61MHiUxKZEoh7QM7KppNjbHaK6.1>

*Meeting ID: 897 3371 0859 Pass Code: 885315*

*(These details will be the same for all three of the Reflections)*

# FINDING HOPE IN HARD PLACES

## A SERIES OF LENT REFLECTIONS



ST MARY'S  
QUARRY ST  
GU1 3UP

12.30 – 13.30

THURSDAYS  
13, 20 & 27 MARCH  
3 & 10 APRIL

**SAVE THE DATES!**

FOLLOWED BY  
A BREAD AND SOUP LUNCH



Stay for FREE tea,  
coffee & a chat

### Clothes4U

*Pre loved clothes with TLC*

from

**Knaphill Methodist Church**

Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2DR



**Saturday 19 April 2025 2 - 4pm**

To claim your FREE clothes, collect a voucher from 30+ places in Surrey.

Email us to find out where they are: [clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk](mailto:clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk)



All are  
welcome to  
join us for tea,  
coffee, cake &  
a chat in a  
friendly  
environment



Whether  
you're  
looking for  
clothes for  
yourself,  
friends, or  
family



We have  
lovely,  
pre-loved  
clothes for  
everyone to  
take away &  
enjoy wearing



We look forward  
to meeting you  
& your family



If you would  
like to donate  
clothes,  
please  
contact us on  
the email  
below



If you would  
like to  
volunteer, we  
would warmly  
welcome your  
help

[www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U](http://www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U)

[clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com](mailto:clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com)

**DONATIONS - NOT NEEDED!**

Due to huge generosity lately from the residents of Knaphill and beyond, clothes donations are not being accept at all for the time being.





**SUNDAY  
27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
4.00pm**

# **PUDDING AND PRAISE**

This will be led by

Ross Richardson and Dave Paterson

Come and have some delicious puddings at 4.00pm and then settle down to some great praise, worship and contemplation at 4.30pm

**Delicious puddings and  
great Praise**

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**If you like a good  
pudding come and  
taste some**

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**Be uplifted by great  
praise songs  
led by 'Breeze'**

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**WALTON METHODIST  
CHURCH**

Terrace Road  
KT12 2SR

Telephone

01932 429184

<http://www.waltonmethodist.org>

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025 4pm

**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**



## **Circuit Service**

**In 2025/2026 we celebrate 60 years since  
the admission to the Order of Local  
Preachers of**

**Revd. Allan Taylor and Revd. Peter Hills  
and 70 years since the admission of  
Roland Hamon**

**This service will celebrate the significant  
milestone of 190 years of preaching, and give  
thanks to the faithful ministry of those who lead  
our worship.**



**Refreshments will be served after the service**

**Sunday 11 May 2025 3.00pm**

**Merrow Methodist Church  
Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH**

# Songs of Praise



**Saturday May 17th**  
**Horsley**  
**Methodist Church**

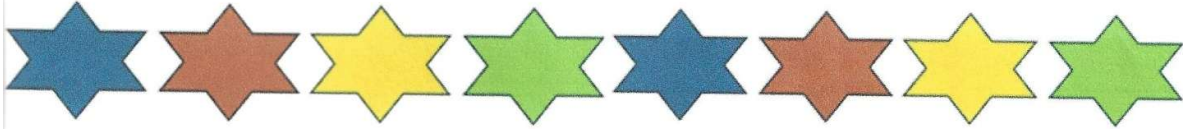
(next to W.H. Village Hall)

**7.00p.m.**

Come and sing a selection of favourite hymns.

Phone 01483 282474 to make requests.





**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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each  
month – Fun Bingo**

*Donations to Sam Beare Hospice  
or Open Doors Charity*



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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – time for our Quiz**



Check notice board for any changes

