

Dear Friends,

One of the NHS five steps to mental good health and well-being is saying 'thank-you', smiling and offering to help others.

Four years ago, Janet and I arrived in Guildford, 11 miles away from where I was born in Leatherhead. As we arrived in the Circuit it was 15 years since my first Superintendency and in that time the goal posts had changed significantly.

I inherited a Circuit that needed to cut staff and where some significant book balancing had to happen. The Circuit was also still coming out of Covid and some restrictions were still in place. Four years later and new Local Preachers, a church on the verge of joining the Circuit, SMART targets, two new ministers, a Circuit encouragement role, a new Circuit Administrator, staffing issues and a general mindset reset later – not to mention loads of events in local churches and most quarters having a Circuit event of some sort – and we are in a different place.

That does not mean everything is rosy – there are still all kinds of things to face...unpick...deal with...There are always issues which can seem to be problems or opportunities – it depends on your outlook. There is still reshaping to be done.

However, I can say that the people of the Wey Valley Circuit have been absolutely wonderful to me in their support, care, love, and willingness to go the extra mile.

- To our wonderful Circuit Administrator Lucy who goes the extra mile almost every other day – thanks are not enough. Your calm willingness to jump into the issues and keep me on the straight and narrow is amazing.
- To our Circuit Stewards (and I'm not going to let this pass without a plea for others to step into this important role) – HUGE thanks. Supportive, caring, filled with ideas and a willingness to serve.
- To Dave and David who between them deal with money and property – what you have achieved is nothing less than stupendous. Thank you is too little a phrase.
- To our Supernumerary Ministers – time and again you have stepped up to the plate – the Preaching Plan and so much of Circuit life would not happen without you. You are all the most supportive and generous of colleagues.
- To my staff colleagues – both past and present – I have felt myself in your prayers as you have been in mine. We have travelled this road together and we have shared responsibility and collegiality. I couldn't have asked for a better team to be part of.
- To the Circuit Safeguarding Team, both past and present. Thank you for everything you have done over the past few years. I know safeguarding is not

always easy work, and I have a huge amount of appreciation for the time, care, patience and professionalism you have shown throughout.

- To the members at Cranleigh, St. Mary's, Knaphill (and West Horsley to come). Thank you for your continuing love, care, support and hope. You're the best.

It sounds like I'm leaving and of course I'm not. I'll be half time for my final year in the Circuit, with shifting responsibilities which hopefully will prepare me for what 'sitting down' from a 42-year active ministry looks like in the Summer of '27. Don't worry – there's no end of things I want to get stuck into in my final year. God has been and continues to be good. And in the meantime – I'll praise him for all that is past and trust him for all that's to come.

Peace be the journey.

Paul

Resources/Good News

This Summer is a Wake-up Call for Climate Action

The Methodist Church's partner charity All We Can is launching a campaign looking at the devastating impact of climate change across the world. In a series of reflections, different people will tell of how the change in weather is causing horrific impacts for some of the Earth's poorest and most vulnerable people.



['This summer is a wake-up call for climate action' - The Methodist Church](#)

Surrey Bike Bank

Surrey Bike Bank is a free refurbished bike scheme and part of an Active Travel England funded programme designed to help get people more active in areas of deprivation in Surrey. Surrey Bike Bank is aimed at residents who don't regularly use or own a bike but want to cycle to open up new opportunities and improve their lifestyles.

This project aims to make cycling accessible for everyone, by supplying free refurbished bikes to enhance accessibility to employment, education, and local services, while boosting mental and physical health by increasing levels of physical activity.

[From prison workshop to Surrey streets - Surrey County Council](#)

[How you can apply for a free refurbished bike](#)

Community Development Manager Wanted

Maybury & Sheerwater Community Trust (MASCOT)

<https://mascotwoking.org.uk/>

is looking for a smooth operator to run our Large Group activities, managing volunteers, liaising with location providers, encouraging community participation, and ensuring that these activities are well run. Initial focus will be on our successful “Let’s Talk” conversation classes.

Are you:

1. Thorough and Passionate about Community Development?
2. Wanting to use your experience to make a real difference in a local community that most needs you?
3. Experienced at managing volunteers and creating strong team spirit?
4. Comfortable working with people of varied backgrounds?
5. Committed to the aims & values of MASCOT? (see our website [About – Mascot Woking](#))
6. Looking to work 2 days a week?

If so, we’d like to hear from you. Please contact Tracey Francis at office@stmichaelssheerwater.or.uk by noon on September 4th.

This role pays £11,310 per year for 15 hours per week.

MASCOT is regulated by the Charity Commission (#1145217) and by Companies House (#7722947). We are currently supported by National Lottery, Surrey Country Council, Woking Borough Council, Woking Rotary and Active Surrey.

Staff may be working with children and vulnerable adults and are subject to screening by UK Government Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS checks). It is also a requirement that the successful applicant will have the right to live and work in the UK.

MASCOT is an equal opportunities organisation that follows Safer Recruitment practices.



Welcome Service

for

Revd Paul Tabraham

Our new Superintendent Minister

Light refreshments will be served before the service



Sunday 6 September 2026

6.00pm

**Knaphill Methodist Church
Broadway, Knaphill, GU21 2DR**

COFFEE MORNING FOR
AL-AHLI HOSPITAL – GAZA
(The oldest and only Christian Hospital)

Thursday 10th September
Coffee and Cakes from 10.30am
at Merrow Methodist Church

Talk by Dr Ang Swee Chai at 11.30am

A Senior Consultant at Barts Hospital. She has worked as a surgeon in both Gaza and Lebanon and has spoken at the United Nations. She is a founder member on the Board of MAP (Medical Aid for Palestinians).



Please come and listen to this wonderful, courageous lady who has worked tirelessly against injustice.

Tea/Coffee *and* Cake

Pay as You Feel

every Saturday, 10.00 - 12.00pm



Addlestone Methodist Church

(Next to Subway on Station Road)

Free Prize Bingo &
Games Mornings

on 1st and 3rd Saturdays
of month!



We always need donations and volunteers to
keep serving the Addlestone community. Please help us!

Play  
Chat. Connect



COFFEE MORNING



IN AID OF

KSSX

AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY
KENT SURREY SUSSEX

Registered Charity No: 1021367

AND SALE

There will be various stalls including:

Cakes, Guess the Weight of the Cake, Raffle, Tombola, Guess the Name of Teddy, Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar, Model Railway, & Bric-a-Brac.

Offers of help and donations of items welcome! Contact Tarina Berry



Bacon Butties!



To be opened by **Cllr Saj Hussain**

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Saturday 5th September 2026

10am to Noon

www.knaphillmethodist.co.uk



STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



4th August

11th August

18th August

25th August

1st September

8th September

15th September

22nd September

29th September

2026



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

The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!



Saturday 21st November 2026
2pm

At Walton Methodist Church Hall
A maximum of 6 people per team
Refreshments being served at half time.

Email:

waltonmethodistchurchsecretary@virginmedia.com
to book your place!

tearfund.org/quiz

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