

Friends in the Wey Valley Circuit,

Yesterday was one of the proudest moments of my life. I got to watch my eldest daughter, Elizabeth, be commissioned and inducted into the Mission House, a kind of “live in internship” the United Reformed Church has organised for young people going into ministry. She will spend the next two years working alongside Broadstone United Reformed Church as she begins her journey towards ordained ministry.

However, my feelings of pride are also tinged with sadness. Our daughter is leaving. She’s growing up. She’s changing, and nothing will ever be the same.

Most of us are creatures of habit. We like familiar routines, familiar places, and familiar faces. There is comfort in knowing what tomorrow will look like. Perhaps that is why change can be so unsettling. Even when change is positive, it often brings uncertainty. We wonder what we might lose, whether we will cope, or whether the future will be as good as the past.

Yet change is woven into the fabric of life.

The seasons change. Children grow up. Careers begin and end. Churches evolve. Communities change. None of us remains exactly as we were a year ago, let alone ten years ago. (Both my hair and waistline can attest to this.)

The Bible is full of people whose lives were transformed by unexpected change. Abraham left his homeland without knowing where he was going. Moses exchanged the quiet life of a shepherd for the daunting task of leading a nation. The disciples left their nets to follow Jesus. None of them would have chosen the uncertainty that lay ahead, but each discovered that God was already there.

It is tempting to focus on what we are leaving behind, but God invites us to notice what he is doing now. The “new thing” may not look like we expected. It may even begin as something small and easily overlooked. But God is always at work, bringing new life where we might only see endings.

Of course, accepting change does not mean pretending it is easy. We can be grateful for the past while still being open to the future. We can acknowledge loss while trusting that God has not finished with us yet.

One of the great comforts of our faith is this: although our circumstances change, God does not. His love remains constant. His promises remain true. His presence remains with us.

The writer to the Hebrews reminds us, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8).

That is the anchor for every season of life.

As we face change—whether chosen or unexpected—may we have the courage not simply to ask, “Why is this happening?” but also, “Lord, what are you doing here, and how can I join you?”

The future may be different from the past, but we can step into it with confidence, knowing that the God who has been faithful before will be faithful still.

As we send Lizzy out into the world, and her planned career in ministry, I look forward to seeing the change God will be working in her life.

Sincerely,

Adam

Photocopier Fix for Knaphill

At Knaphill Methodist Church, we have a 5-year contract for the hire of a photocopier and printer. The company with which we have the contract changed hands not long before we renewed it and we are not too happy with the current one.

Another company has approached us, touting for business, but before we make any decisions, I thought it might be helpful to ask what is done at other churches in the circuit. We produce a magazine 3 or 4 times a year, but otherwise our copying and printing needs are fairly small, so one thing we absolutely DON'T want in a new contract is a minimum monthly charge for copying.

Suggestions welcome.

Many thanks,

Lynda Shore

lyndashore2003@yahoo.co.uk

Our ref: 45260099351



Insp 4779 Chris Thoday
Elmbridge Borough
Commander
September 26

Ref: Crime Prevention Advice for Places of Worship

Dear all,

I am writing to make you aware that there have been **three burglaries affecting churches and religious premises within East Surrey during the past 30 days.**

Places of worship play a vital role in our communities and are often kept open to the public as a welcoming environment and safe space for residents. Unfortunately, this can make them attractive targets for criminals seeking to steal money, valuable items, and other property.

While Surrey remains a safe county, we would encourage all places of worship to review their security arrangements and consider the following crime prevention measures:

Physical Security

- Ensure all doors, windows, and access points are secured with appropriate locks when buildings are unattended.
- Consider installing or upgrading intruder alarms and ensure systems are tested and maintained.
- Ensure exterior lighting covers entrances, pathways, car parks, and vulnerable areas around the building.
- Trim vegetation and remove concealment opportunities around windows and doors.

Protecting Valuables

- Avoid leaving cash on the premises overnight wherever possible.
- Use a secure safe that is appropriately fixed to the building structure.

- Keep valuable items, historic artefacts, audio-visual equipment, and portable electronic devices securely stored when not in use.
- Record serial numbers and photograph valuable items to assist identification and recovery.
- Consider property marking schemes such as forensic marking or UV marking products.

Community Vigilance

- Encourage staff, volunteers, congregation members, and local residents to report suspicious behaviour.
- Ensure someone checks the building regularly, particularly during quieter periods.
- Share information with neighbouring places of worship and community groups where appropriate.

CCTV and Security Systems

- Review CCTV coverage to ensure entrances, exits, and vulnerable locations are monitored.
- Check that cameras are functioning correctly and images are of sufficient quality to identify offenders.
- Ensure recordings are retained for an appropriate period and can be readily accessed if required.

Reporting Suspicious Activity

Please report any suspicious activity, attempted break-ins, suspicious vehicles, or individuals acting unusually around your premises.

- In an emergency, or if a crime is in progress, call **999**.
- For non-emergency matters, contact Surrey Police via **101** or report online through the Surrey Police website.

We recognise the important role that churches and faith communities play in supporting local residents. By taking a few simple precautions and remaining vigilant, we can work together to reduce opportunities for crime and protect these valued community assets.

Please share this advice with trustees, wardens, volunteers, staff, and anyone involved in the management and security of your premises.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Thoday

Inspector Christopher Thoday
Borough Commander
Surrey Police

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.



**St Mary's Church Quarry St
Guildford GU1 3UP**

Heritage Open Days **18 – 20 September 2026**

Friday & Sunday 12.00 – 16.00
Saturday 10.00 – 16.00

including

‘OUR TIME 2’

*exhibition of art
from prisoners at HMP Send*

Refreshments available

including Heritage Café on Saturday run by the Brownies and Guides



Stay for FREE tea,
coffee & a chat

Clothes4U

Pre loved clothes with TLC

from

Knaphill Methodist Church

Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2DR



Saturday 19 September 2026 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



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

clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com



Merrow
Methodist Church

Coffee Morning



JOIN US
for
coffee/tea,
homemade cakes,
and
a chat

Thursday 15 October 2026
10.30 am – 12 noon
Merrow Methodist Church

biblesociety.org.uk | Registered charity 232759 | Photo: Engin Akyurt PIXABAY



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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!

COFFEE AND CAKE

AT ST. MARY'S

QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

**SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER
2026**



Thursday 27 August

- - -

Thursday 24 September

- - -

Thursday 22 October

10.30 – 12.00

- each month features a different charity

Everyone welcome



St. Mary's Church

Quarry St GU1 3UP

visit

OUR TIME 2

**- an exhibition of art
created by**

women prisoners from HMP Send

Opening:

Thursday 1 October	11 am – 5 pm
Friday 2 October	11am – 5 pm
Saturday 3 October	11 am – 5 pm
Sunday 4 October	12 noon – 5 pm

POP-UP PLAY CAFÉ

Wednesday 29 October 9.30 – 11.30

... call in at
ST. MARY'S
Quarry St
Guildford GU1 3UP

- space to play
- time to relax
- coffee and cake

All ages welcome



SAVE THE DATES

Join us for our 2026 series of

Advent Reflections

followed by a bread & soup lunch

**Thursdays – 26 November
and 3, 10 December**

12.15 for 12.30

Carols at Lunchtime: 17 December

St. Mary's Quarry St Guildford GU1 3UP

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



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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☎ +44 (0)20 3906 3906 ✉ info@tearfund.org 📱 @Tearfund

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