



New Malden
Methodist Church

At the heart of the High Street



Spotlight

January 2023

Message from Karl

Happy new year!

I had been putting it off for some time, finding excuse after excuse not to get around to it on any given day, but between Christmas and New Year I finally gave in and tidied my study. This was a major operation, as I first had to clear the junk out of the cupboard under the stairs in order to free up one of our big storage boxes. The worship resources (everything from giant playing cards to world maps and tangles of wool!) could then go into said storage box, freeing up room in the filing cabinets where they had been squirreled away. That meant I could move things I'd put on the bookshelves for lack of a better place into the cabinets, and then finally I could sort out my books and ensure everything had a proper spot. Several hours of work later, it looked pretty good. How long that will last is another matter, but we shall see!

Sometimes, we do need to have a good clear out and get things we have been putting off sorted out. I wonder what comes to mind when you think of this – it could be something practical like it was for me, something to do with relationships that need our attention, or perhaps something between you and God. We focus explicitly on the latter during the seasons of Advent and Lent, but these are not the only times we can have a spiritual sort out and/or clear out, and the new year strikes me as being as good a time as any for us to do so together, as part of the Body of Christ in New Malden.

Some churches hold their annual Methodist Covenant Services in September, at the start of a new Church year, but I think it is good to have them in January when people around us may be thinking about resolutions, getting things sorted out and cultivating good habits for the rest of the year. In the Covenant Service, we renew our commitment to God, and in turn embrace God's commitment to us. Undoubtedly, the Covenant Prayer is deeply demanding (even if 'put me to suffering' is commonly misunderstood, because we no

longer think of the meaning of suffering in the same way but rather as meaning 'sitting with'), but the basis on which we join together in saying it is the grace and love of God.

God longs for each and every one of us to flourish, which is something of what we mean when we talk about 'abundant life' or 'life in all its fullness'. To mix my metaphors, it is both about seeing in true colour rather than monochrome, and being less encumbered by the junk we so often carry about. In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we see what love in human form looks, sounds, feels and smells like; we get to taste and see that the Lord is good. Jesus shows us that flourishing does not mean always having it easy or life being without problems and challenges, but it does mean a life which is not rendered small, colourless and weighty by our putting up barriers to God.

In the Covenant service, we remember what God has done for us in words and in the sharing of Holy Communion. We encounter the heights and breadth and depth of God's love, and in the process, make space to do some spiritual sorting out as we also acknowledge things we need to let go of as we re-commit ourselves to walk the path of love ourselves. Whatever form your sorting or clearing out takes, I pray it will be a blessing for you and others.

Blessings, Karl

Spotlight's Safeguarding Space

It is expected that those who carry out certain roles within the Methodist Church receive safeguarding training. We are very fortunate that Foundation Safeguarding training is to be held locally at Chessington Methodist Church on the morning of Saturday 18th February & I will contact you before the end of January to extend an invitation if this is necessary.



The **Methodist** Church 

Thanks, Liz Edwards, Safeguarding Officer

Church Family News

Following a spell in hospital before Christmas, **Ruth McLeod** has been moved back to the White House Care Home to be made comfortable. Sadly she is not expected to live very much longer. Angy Stagg is in regular contact with Alison Finch who says that Ruth is "ready to go". Our prayers are with Ruth, her family, friends and carers.

Jane Bennett has now moved in with her son Andy. Her address will be 47 Seymour Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8LY. We wish Jane every happiness in her new home.

We are delighted to announce that **Shanise Chabuka** has graduated from Nottingham University with a degree in American Studies and History. We send her our warm congratulations.

December News

Christmas Fair

To those who shifted furniture on Thursday, thank you.

To those who set up and manned the stalls, thank you.

To those who turned out cupboards, etc, and provided teddies and all the other items to sell, thank you.

To those who made cakes and other treats, thank you.

To those who cleared up and put the furniture back, thank you.

To Alan and Tony who counted all the money, thank you.

You all help raised £1,275.00 which was fantastic. It will be split 50/50 between church funds and Momentum, a children's cancer charity which started in Kingston but now covers Surrey and Sussex.

I believe this was a great community effort with so many people working for such a success.

Julie Haines

Christian Bookshop

Sue and Mike Duckering have recently come across a Christian bookshop in Kingston that sells cards and a nice selection of things that people may want to give as presents. In the Richard Mayo centre, Eden Street, Monday to Friday 10-4pm, Saturday 10-2pm.

Church Directory

Please let me know if there are any changes to your current entry in the Church Directory as it will be updated in the next few weeks. Sarah

Wesley's 7th January

On 7th January we will be doing a coffee morning raising money for the Wildlife Aid Foundation. This is a charity based in Leatherhead providing an emergency service for all British wildlife. They care for and rehabilitate sick, orphaned or injured animals. Currently they are building a new centre with more space for the animals and a nature reserve.

During lockdown, we had a family of hedgehogs living in our garden. We noticed that one was ill and took it to the centre and they looked after him. Sadly, he passed away but we were really impressed with what they do. We will be happy for any help: bringing in cakes or eating the cakes. Thanks Isabel, Caroline and Robert



Lunch for Charity

On behalf of Inner Wheel, I am organising a "Soup and Puds" lunch in the Lower Hall on Thursday 26th January at 12 for 12.30. Please come and support this charity event. The cost is £12 and tickets can be obtained from me. Proceeds will go to the Women's Refuge.

Gloria Taviner

Lantern Arts Centre Raynes Park

The opening film in the Silver Screen 2023 Spring Film Programme is

'Like Dandelion Dust' on Tuesday 10th January. Doors open at 1.30pm, film starts at 2.00pm. Admission is free (donations only). Advance booking is NOT required. Phone Lantern Arts Centre Office for further details 020 3761 7070.

The 2023 Spring Film Programme is as follows.



**LANTERN
ARTS CENTRE**

SILVER SCREEN

2023 Spring Film Programme

**Every other Tuesday | Held in the Main Lantern Centre
Auditorium (unless otherwise advised)**

Doors open at 1.30pm | Film starts at 2pm | Free - donations only

Jan 10th	'Like Dandelion Dust' 12, 1hr 40mins, 2009, Drama
Jan 24th	'Downton Abbey 2' PG, 2hrs 5min, 2022, Drama romance
Feb 7th	'Rain Man' 15, 2hr 13m, 1988, Drama
Feb 21st	'Bucket List' 12, 1hr 37m, 2007, Comedy drama
March 7th	'A Room With A View' PG, 1hr 57m, 1985, Romance Drama
March 21st	'Fisherman's Friend 2' 12A, 1hr 51min, 2022, Drama comedy
April 4th	'Green Fingers' 15, 2001, 1hr31min, Drama

Advance booking IS NOT required
Phone Lantern Arts Centre Office for further details 020 3761 7070

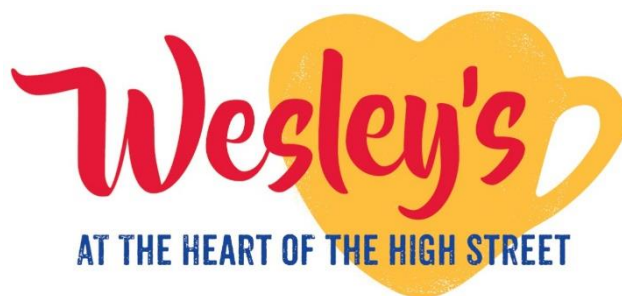


What is happening with Wesley's

Happy New Year!!

I hope this finds you well and that you had a peaceful and healthy Christmas.

I thought this would be a good time to give you an update on Wesley's.



As you may have heard, Hilary has resigned from her post in Wesley's. Since July she has been living with her parents in Andover due to the ill health of first her father, then her mother. Fortunately both her parents are well on the mend and she hopes to return to volunteering, but for now she is unable to cover any vacancies. During the time that Hilary has been off we have only had to close once because of lack of volunteers but this is largely because several people are doing many more shifts.

Wesley's is now open daily from 11am to 1pm. Post Covid we felt it was important to be open every day, but due to the lack of volunteers we were unable to go back to our previous four-hour opening. It is hoped that we will be able to return to this in the fullness of time, but for now we need to recruit more volunteers in order to open for the current two hours every day.

Initially, we had procedures in place to keep the volunteers as well as the public safe from Covid, by offering table service and designating one volunteer 'outside' duties, eg, taking and delivering orders, meaning that the 'inside' volunteer stayed in the servery and prepared the drinks. Now that Covid restrictions have relaxed for everyone, we are not requiring that volunteers operate in the above way, so everyone can decide how they wish to work. Table service is no longer required, so volunteers can return to operating in the 'old' way if they wish.

If we do not get any more volunteers there is a danger that we will not be able to staff Wesley's fully and therefore will have to consider closures which is obviously something that we do not want to do. Ideally, our volunteer base will grow and we will be able to go back to 4 hours daily opening.

We would like to ask whether you could consider volunteering with us at all, or know anyone who you think would be able to help and in turn benefit from being part of this vital service to the community of New Malden. You could always do a trial shift to give it a go. Bring a friend and do it together!

If you were a volunteer in the past, we would value your expertise, we miss you!

Please phone Sarah in the church office, or better still, pop in for a coffee and a chat.
In the meantime, take care. God Bless Sarah Moore

Post Box Topper

Our Nativity post box topper came out again this year and was much admired by the passers by in the High Street.

We would like to create an Easter topper and need contributions. Below is a very simple knitting pattern for bunnies, but we would be very grateful for chicks, flowers and anything else you can think of that we can adorn our post box with. Please give your creations to Sarah or Julia. Thank you.



Baby Bunny

Using 4mm (US 6) needles cast on 26 stitches. Work in garter stitch for 48 rows. Cast off
Square measures 12cm x 12cm.

Mummy Bunny

Using 4mm (US 6) needles cast on 39 stitches. Work in garter stitch for 72 rows. Cast off
Square measures 18cm x 18cm.

Making Up

Halfway up from cast on edge run gathering thread across all sts. Run each end of thread diagonally towards cast off edge to meet in the middle of cast off edge.

Pull both ends of thread slightly to form shape of head. Insert toy stuffing in head and pull thread tightly to form head and ears.

Using photo as a guide and using mattress stitch, sew back seam. Insert toy stuffing.

Run gathering thread along cast on edge and pull tightly. Fasten off.

Sew French knots for eyes and make appropriately sized pom pom for tails.



Items for Free

We have been having a clear out/spending some wedding money and have the following items free to a good home. Could well suit kids moving out of home, refugees setting up in the UK etc. All are in working condition but clearly not current models!

1. A juicer - make your own apple or orange etc juice.
2. A Panasonic viera 32 inch TV with 4 HDMI ports.
3. A Kenwood mixer with attachments. This has a slight quirk in that when you first turn it on it races away at a frantic speed, but turning it off and no sorts this out.

Get in touch if you would like any of these or know someone who might. We thought we'd try the church before freecycle, charities or the tip!

Caroline Auty

The Horton Arts and Heritage Venue

Those of you who have lived in this area for a while will know that at one time Epsom was well known for its mental hospitals. Built between 1899 and 1923 Horton, Long Grove, Manor, St Ebba's and West Park Hospitals, collectively known as the Epsom Cluster or the Horton Estate, was a group of five large psychiatric hospitals situated on land to the west of Epsom covering 1,000 acres. The hospitals were built by the London County Council for 10,000 patients to alleviate pressure on London's existing lunatic asylums, which had by this time become overcrowded. The County Council continued to manage them until they were nationalised, becoming part of the National Health Service in 1948. The final hospital was closed in the late 1990's.



On the Horton site there was a chapel which was used for worship, then as a music therapy centre from 1961 before finally closing in 1997. The Grade II listed building has recently been renovated and is now an arts and heritage venue. There is a photographic exhibition in the body of the chapel showing the history of the hospitals, a small theatre with a programme of entertainment and a café and bar.

It is well worth a visit and is currently open to the public for four days a week, Wednesday to Saturday from 9.15 to 4pm, plus evenings and other specific dates for events. It is situated at Haven Way, Epsom Surrey KT19 8NP (near Horton Country Park and before you reach The Old Moat garden centre). You can find out about upcoming events on the website thehortonepsom.org.

Gloria Taviner

Lunchtime Concert

Tuesday 17th January 1.10 – 1.50pm

We will be treated to an organ recital by Mark Laflin who will be playing a mixed programme of theatre organ and classical organ music. Come along for 40 minutes of listening to our beautiful organ. Entry is free with retiring collection.

Christmas Activities

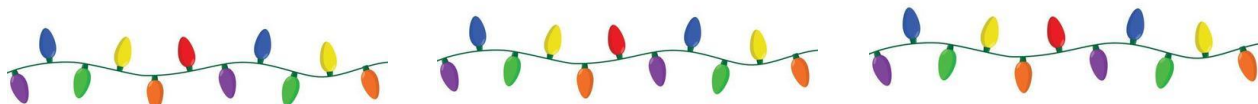


This year's nativity fell neatly into a regular service and was a cross between a traditional nativity, a pantomime and All Creatures Great and Small. Julia Morton was the MC and told the Christmas story from the point of view of the animals present, AND in rhyming verse. Some people have all the talent. Rev Stan Brown was Joseph though he had missed the memo about Joseph being a bearded chap. Members of the congregation were adorned in suitable headgear to play sheep, a cat, dog, donkey, cow and a fox. The audience joined in with sounds effects and a song, appropriately to the tune of Old McDonald with a swaggering piano part. A great time was had by all - except the fox. Shout out to those who organised it and provided such fine millinery. I've never been to Royal Ascot but I now know where to find a suitable hat.

(On a related note, if you like the idea of a story being retold from many different points of view you'll like Stone Blind by Natalie Haynes, a retelling of the Medusa myth by those involved including the snakes.)

This service was a true musical extravaganza and ended with Sam Middleton playing Bach's Wachtet Auf on the natural horn, accompanied by Peter. As a horn player I cannot even comprehend how you might play this on an instrument without valves. Looking forward to more from Sam at some concerts in the New Year.

Caroline Auty





Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Christmas Tree Festival, whether setting up, decorating and sponsoring a tree, stewarding the festival, helping with the dismantling and clearing up and of course donating. Special thanks to Keith Hampton for overseeing the clear up.

Numbers of visitors picked up from last year and everyone who came was delighted by all the trees and their different decorations.

The church fundraising for the festival charities was as follows:

Wesley's Saturday 10th December	142.00
Lessons & Carols service collection	89.00
Wesley's Saturday 24th December	126.56
Carol Singing in High Street 24th December	156.47
Christingle service collection	63.26
Communal Jar	190.71

This means that every tree receives £32.00 as well as what they have collected in their individual boxes.



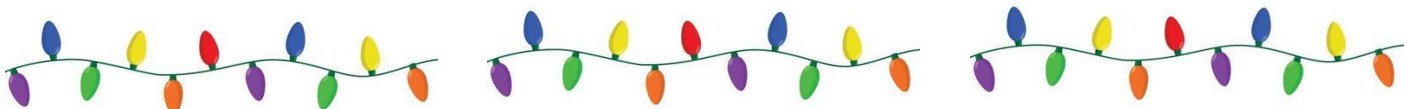


A great communal effort! Very many thanks.

Sarah Moore



In addition to the magnificent fund raising efforts for the festival, thank you to anyone who put a card for their friends at church on the Christmas card tree in the Welcome Area and made a donation to Crisis. The excellent sum of £98.73 was raised.



And finally in our Christmas round-up, some pictures of the community carol singing outside the church on Christmas Eve for the enjoyment (or otherwise, they were not given a choice) of the people of New Malden. As noted above, a magnificent £156.47 was raised.



Excellent accompaniment, as ever, from Peter Bullett on keyboard and Caroline Auty on trumpet.



The splinter group across the road proving that carol singing is a very serious business!

An Update from Joel Community Services

Dear Valued Joel Supporter

I am writing to thank you so much for your interest in and support for Joel. And following the longer email that I sent in July (see www.joelcommunityservices.org), I wanted to give you a quick update on the progress we've made.

Over the past six months we've been renovating the Joel Centre, so that it can fulfil our vision to provide a home and community for those who are vulnerable and in need of housing "especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6: 10). In recent months we've begun to fulfil this vision, providing a temporary home to a young Christian family that were facing homelessness, but who are now able to enjoy a warm home, community, and practical support from St Peter's Church. It has felt like we've been able to show something of the character of God, "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows... God sets the lonely in families" (Psalm 68: 5-6).

This family plan to move on early in the New Year, after which we will continue with our plans to house a Christian community of Iranian refugees. We already know of several who are very keen to move in, when their circumstances allow, and we're beginning to plan the services we will offer, such as teaching English, employment training, and translation. Any donations we can raise will go towards such services, and to making the rent affordable, as we work with other stakeholders to support the residents' transitions into sustainable employment and independent living.

If you would like to partner with us through a gift this Christmas, helping create a home for the vulnerable, then our bank details are Joel Community Services: S/C 40-52-40; A/C: 00025841. (A gift of just £20 per month would enable us to pay transport costs for one of our volunteers who offers to do translation work for free.)

I wish you all a very good Christmas and may you know His Peace and Joy as we celebrate God's Presence with us.

Yours in Christ
Hugo Foxwood, Chair of Joel Community Services
Vicar of St Peter's Norbiton



Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at nmmc@hotmail.co.uk (or in my church pigeonhole).

I am happy to receive anything you think might be of interest: memories, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes etc.

The deadline for the February issue will be Wednesday 25th January.

Wanted – Cuttings from

Purple heart plant (*Tradescantia*) also known as Wandering Jew. Thank you Julie Haines



Diary Dates – January

Saturday 7 th	10.00am – 12	Wesley's – Wildlife Aid Foundation
Monday 9 th	5.00pm	Property Committee Meeting
Tuesday 10 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – More Chair Exercise
Friday 13 th	2.00pm	Board Games Afternoon
Saturday 14 th	10.00am – 12	Wesley's – VACANT. Please contact Sarah to book.
Tuesday 17 th	1.10pm	Lunchtime Concert – Organ Recital
Thursday 19 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
Saturday 21 st	10.00am – 12	Wesley's – VACANT. Please contact Sarah to book.
Sunday 22 nd	12.00	Church Council
Tuesday 24 th	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – Meal In
Thursday 26 th	12 for 12.30pm	Inner Wheel Charity Lunch
Saturday 28 th	10.00am – 12	Wesley's – Tamil Festival

Wesley's Vacancy Saturdays January onwards!!

Please contact Sarah Moore if you would like to book Wesley's on a Saturday morning to hold a coffee morning and cake sale to raise funds for your favourite charity. There are plenty of vacancies for 2023!

Circuit Plan

		CHESSINGTON 10.00 am	KINGSTON 10.30 am; 6pm	NEW MALDEN 10.30 am	SURBITON HILL 10.30 am
<i>Korean Language Service at Chessington on Sundays at 12.30 led by Rev Paul Han</i>					
08 January	am	M Wakelin: CV	Rush: AA	Rutledge: CV/HC	Brown: CV
	pm	No Service	No Service	No Service	4.30 Brown: PP
15 January	am	M Wakelin: C	Rutledge: CV	Local Arrangement	Brown
	pm	No Service	M Wakelin	No Service	No Service
22 January	am	M Wakelin	Fullbrook	Lloyd	Rutledge
29 January	am	J Wakelin	Davis	Rutledge: AA/B	Brown
05 February	am	M Wakelin: HC	Rutledge: AA/HC	Brown	J Wakelin
	pm	No Service	No Service	No Service	Brown 4.30: PP
12 February	am	Rutledge	Brown	Chun	Davis
19 February	am	Webb: C	Vernon	Cocking	Brown: HC
	pm	No Service	Brown: HC	No Service	No Service
22 February	pm	7.30: CT	No Service	7.30: Rutledge: HC	No Service
26 February	am	M Wakelin	J Wakelin	Rutledge: HC	Brown
	pm	<i>6pm: Circuit Service at New Malden</i>			
Abbreviations		AA: All Age Worship B: Baptism C: Contemporary Service CA: Carol Service CB: Crib Service		CC: Choir Café CE: Christmas Eve Service CG: Christingle CL: Carols by Candlelight# CT: Churches Together CV: Covenant Service	
				G: Gift Service HC: Holy Communion LA: Local Arrangement N: Nativity PP: Praise Party W: Watchnight Service	
Worship Books		Methodist Worship Book (Holy Communion only)	Methodist Worship Book (Holy Communion only)	Methodist Worship Book (complete)	Methodist Worship Book (complete)
Bibles		NIV	GNB	NRSV	NIV
Music (Projection by arrangement)		Hymns & Psalms Songs of Fellowship 1-3	Singing the Faith Songs of Fellowship 1-3	Singing the Faith	Singing the Faith Hymns & Psalms Let's Praise 1-2
Online services (follow links)					
Chessington: 10am Sunday: YouTube: Chessington Methodist Church					
Kingston: Sundays & You Tube: Windows on Worship					
New Malden: Sundays & You Tube: Windows on Worship					
Surbiton Hill: 10.30 Sundays. You Tube: Surbiton Hill Methodist Church					
Ministers' Day Off: Stan: Saturday; Karl: Monday. Mark works part-time and can usually be contacted Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.					

'Twas The Month After Christmas (Dieting)

'Twas the month after Christmas,
and all through the house,
Nothing would fit me,
not even a blouse.

The cookies I'd nibbled,
the eggnog I'd taste,
At the holiday parties,
had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales,
there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store,
(less a walk than a lumber).

I'd remember the marvelous,
meals I'd prepared;
The gravies and sauces,
and beef nicely rared,

The wine and the rum balls,
the bread and the cheese,
And the way I'd never said,
"No, thank you, please."

As I dressed myself,
in my husband's old shirt,
And prepared once again,
to do battle with dirt,

I said to myself,
as I only can
"You can spend a winter
disguised as a man!

So-away with the last,
of the sour cream dip,
Get rid of the fruit cake,
every cracker and chip.

Every last bit of food,
that I like must be banished
Till all the additional,
ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie,
not even a lick.
I'll want only to chew,
on a long celery stick.

I won't have hot biscuits,,
or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot,
and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome,
and life is a bore-
But isn't that what,
January is for?

Unable to giggle,
no longer a riot.
Happy New Year to all,
and to all a good diet!

Afternoons at Wesley's

Bereavement Café

2nd Tuesday in the month 2.30 – 4.00pm

A place to talk with people who understand.



Board Games Afternoon

2nd Friday in the month
2.00 – 4.00pm

All ages and abilities welcome. Free entry.

Light refreshments will be provided.



Creative Arts Group

1st and 3rd Thursday in the month
2.00 – 4.00pm

Everyone welcome. Do your own thing, or learn something new over a cuppa and a chat.



Please ask Sarah in the Church Office for more information
020 8942 1288 or nmmc@hotmail.com