



New Malden
Methodist Church
At the heart of the High Street

Spotlight

March 2022

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Message from Karl

March is often a season of promise. The last throes of Winter are on their way out, and signs that Spring is coming begin to appear around us. Days gradually get longer and brighter, and we prepare to greet the return of British Summer Time. However, events in the wider world cast a long shadow this year, reminding us that the darkness never fully goes away even as it can never overcome the light.

At the time of writing, Russia has begun to invade Ukraine, the end of Covid-19 public health measures have left many feeling deeply uneasy, and rising prices for basics such as food and utilities are pushing more people closer to the breadline. In the midst of this, it is perhaps opportune that Lent begins on 2nd March this year, as this season invites us to wrestle with the realities of human nature and our universal need of God's grace.

Each and every one of us is a mixture of light and darkness, as people made in the image of God with all the potential that brings, but subject to the power of sin with its many distortions and seductions. It will not do simply to brand people like Vladimir Putin and his followers/enablers as monsters, because while their actions are (in my view) evil and indefensible, such designations are too often part of an unconscious but powerful strategy to avoid addressing our own propensity to lean into the darkness.

Yet, for all of this, Lent is also a hopeful season, exactly because God-in-Christ has faced the full force of the darkness of human nature on the cross, and God raising him from the dead guarantees that sin and evil will not get to have the last word. We enter into a period of self-examination and reflection during Lent not to make ourselves feel bad or because of a distorted view of God as malevolent and fault-finding, but because it is about preparing ourselves to follow the path Jesus

walked – through crucifixion and reckoning with the darkness, into the light and fullness of resurrection life.

So, I pray that this Lent will be a time of renewal and reconnection with God for each of us, as well as in terms of the international community. God is all about hope, about the light shining in the dark which will never be put out. We need that light now, and to be people ready to share that light, to pass it onto others. May we embrace Lent as an opportunity to embrace divine hope and put it into practice.

Every blessing, Karl

Church Family News

David Knowles had his operation on Wednesday 10th February. He is back home now and making steady progress.

Eleanor and Andy Roberts are leaving New Malden early in March to start a new life in the Peak District. We will miss them and wish them all the very best.

Their rental address as from 7th March will be 5 Rhodesia Road Chesterfield S40 3AL. Their email is allhailthegloriousnorth@hotmail.com and Eleanor's telephone number is 07807 625606. She says that the kettle will be on for friends always!

Summary of February Sunday Notices

Woolly Hats for Kingston Hospital A&E Department

I have delivered another bag of hats to my contact for the Matron of the A&E Department at Kingston Hospital.

Dr Kate was thrilled with them, and asked if we would go on knitting them as the elderly patients arriving at A&E were never-ending and where appropriate they were giving two hats to those patients when they left to go home.

Hopefully by the time you read this I should have collected a supply of wool from Ruth McLeod, the wool she had for the teddy bears. Knitting is too painful for her now. I will put it in the side office, off to the right hand side of the Sanctuary.

Love and thank you Stella

Otto Mani

Otto Mani – Latin for Eight Hands (I am assured!) gave us a wonderful lunchtime concert on 8th February.

Linda Bridges, Alison Bullett, Peter Bullett and Anthea Fry played two grand pianos, performing a variety of music from the 19th and 20th centuries. Just think of it – forty fingers playing all the right notes, all in the right order!

We were treated to a delightfully varied programme of tunes and musical styles from different composers. There were familiar tunes that I recognised, pieces played 'stridently' as instructed by the composer and many items new to me. The programme demonstrated not only the variety of the music but also the varied skills of the performers. Each piece was introduced by one of the four, giving us information about the composer, the music and the background to the piece. Every performer partnered each of the others at some time during the programme; none remained at the same piano throughout and each occupied the right hand and left hand seat at some time.

These short concerts are designed to fit into a working lunchtime and are now returning to a good-sized audience. More are planned for the coming months. If you don't come already, do start to attend; they are a delight.

Aubrey Allen

Wives & Friends Meal In

Wives and Friends is a small loyal group of ladies who meet once a fortnight on Tuesday evenings in Wesley's, for activities of all kinds.

They have talks on a wide variety of subjects, given by volunteers; they have occasional outings, they have snacks and chats, they have handicrafts, games and members' evenings and they have both an annual Meal Out and an annual Meal In. Above all, they are a friendly group who meet for fun and fellowship.

I have occasionally either led Musical evenings for them or played the piano for Christmas meetings where members choose favourite readings and carols. Although not many of these have taken place recently, I was invited as a guest to their Meal In on February 8th and was thus part of a delightful evening which I'm sure was greatly enjoyed by all 15 participants.



It was organised on a very democratic basis. This tradition apparently started in celebration of the Millennium, so the ladies have had a few years in which to perfect the well-oiled machine of organisation in order to produce spectacular results. It would be invidious to name names, even if I was aware of who provided which delicious dish. But everyone was clearly both a Cook and a Bottle-Washer and they all played their parts to perfection.

The Lower Hall was decorated and a large table was set in the middle, with a Christmas cloth, candles and shiny sparkly things strewn about to set off the festive atmosphere of late Christmas. The prawn cocktails were already in place, looking very inviting, and once everyone was assembled and we had agreed on the lighting levels, we all tucked in to quite honestly the fattest, juiciest prawns I have ever tasted, in a signature sauce that definitely did not come straight out of a bottle or jar.

Washing up was done while the next course was brought forth, and after a suitably timed pause we queued for chicken with apricot sauce - another triumph - roast potatoes and mixed veg. Conversation and laughter flowed freely throughout, although the mixed fruit punch was laced only with ginger beer.

Again a secret washing up team did their bit afterwards, while the array of puddings was assembled. We were grateful for the pause, because there was a wonderful range to choose from. Cheesecake, trifle, apple flan. Well, those were my choices anyway, and the three just about fitted into the best china dishes that were pressed into service for this special occasion.

After this - and tea, coffee and After Eight mints - I thought it only fair to take part in the washing up ceremony, partly because I needed to stand up to ease the pressure on my waistband.

There had been some trials and vicissitudes earlier in the day, apparently, with an oven not working properly, but these are intrepid and experienced women and a little setback like that does not set them back. The whole evening flowed smoothly with no hint of stress or anxiety, on the surface at least.

At the end of the evening I was even cheeky enough to take home some leftover veg to make what I termed Potage Bonne Femme – Wives' Broth? which provided several very pleasant memories of a great evening over the following days.

My warmest thanks and appreciation to everyone who was involved in this enterprise. The result did you all a great deal of credit.

(If this sounds like something you might enjoy, have a word with Doreen. She will be glad to hear from you and would welcome new members to this friendly group).

Alison Bullett

Wesley's March 12th

On Saturday 12th March we are running the coffee bar in aid of Hearing Dogs. Hearing Dogs is a charity that trains up dogs to transform the lives of deaf people in two important ways: firstly by alerting them to sounds they would otherwise miss like doorbells, alarms, microwaves etc. And secondly by helping deaf people connect with society - supporting them



when they are out and about, thus alleviating loneliness and feelings of isolation. Isabel thinks Hearing Dogs don't get as much publicity as they deserve so we're doing our bit. There's also a tenuous family connection in that one of my distant cousins is deaf and had Hanson the Hearing Dog for the best part of 15 years. He was actually retired for some of this time but continued to accompany her everywhere.

So on the 12th we'll have a variety of cakes and biscuits for sale and it would be lovely to see you there. If you want to make a request for a particular bake then please do. I'm already doing dark chocolate cornflake cakes (wasted on children) for Clive and some parkin for Northern folk from either side of the Pennines.

Caroline Auty & Isabel



Another decade, another bonkers cycling challenge for Dave Moore!

In 2012, to mark a landmark birthday, I cycled 1000 miles from John O'Groats to Lands End for charity. Ten years on and I am undertaking another cycling challenge. Not as many miles this time, but a lot more hills!

The ride is 518km over 5 days in early September, up and down (it'll feel mainly up) the French Western Alps climbing several of the peaks often featured in the Tour de France, including Alp D'Huez (1,860M) and Col du Galibier (2,642M). The profile of the ride is pictured overleaf showing all the hills, giving the 12,311M of total ascent.

Some serious training is required and much less cake I fear!

On Saturday 2nd April I will be holding a Wesley's coffee morning and would very much appreciate your support in helping me raise money for two great causes who are actively working for the future of our planet (details below). If you are able to bake a cake I would be very grateful or just come along and have a chat over coffee and cake.

Alternatively, you can donate using the Just Giving link below. 😊

Many thanks and I look forward to seeing you on the 2nd April.

Working with the Vodafone foundation and the #YourPlanet campaign, I'm going to be raising funds split between two charities, each of which are doing brilliant, yet very different work.

[The Ocean Cleanup](#) - Have a target of removing 90% of floating plastic pollution in our oceans. Follow the link if you want to see some great videos. A key element is tackling some key rivers and removing the plastic from them before it has a chance to make it to the sea. Some great tech involved. (Website theoceancleanup.com).

[Tusk](#) – Advancing conservation across Africa. Some of the challenges they are finding solutions for are poaching and illegal wildlife trade, habitat loss and human/wildlife conflict. Tusk's mission is to amplify the impact of progressive conservation to protect the people and animals.

All monies donated go directly to the two charities, rest assured you are not sponsoring a holiday for me. I've paid to enter this challenge and for all the travelling to get to get there and back.

I'll pay for the additional snacks (of which there will be many) and everything technical to get my bike ready for the climbs.

Vodafone are arranging the bike transport logistics, as well as the support team giving training and fundraising advice.

The Vodafone Foundation will also match every penny raised.

It would be fantastic if you could sponsor me. Here's my link –

<https://www.justgiving.com/David-Moore-518km>

The route is breath taking

Overall
 • 518k
 • 12,311m ascent



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MORE IS IN YOU™

Alpe D'Huez	1860m
Col De Sarenne	1999m
Col du Lautaret	2058m
Cold du Galibier	2642m
Col D'Izoard	2360m

And to finish...

Crime de la Bonnette at 2860m and the highest paved road in France

Thanks very much for your support. Dave Moore

Circuit News

Reflect
 Methodist spirituality

Southern Retreat - Wychcroft Retreat Centre 29th-31st July 2022

'Be Still and Know' led by Rev Hilary Fife

Hilary is an Anglican priest who up to her recent retirement was working as a hospital chaplain, as well as leading reflective days.

The retreat will be in silence from Friday night to Sunday lunch time and will follow the format of inputs from the leader, each followed by ample time for private reflection, in the peaceful stillness of the presence of God.

Wychcroft, the Southwark Diocesan Retreat and Resource Centre, is a Victorian house 22 miles south of London, set in the heart of the Surrey countryside near Bletchingley and five miles from Redhill train station.

The cost for the weekend (accommodation and full board) is £190. The event is open to all and a booking form is available from Sarah Moore.

Music in New Malden Spring Concerts

13th March 2022

Anja Jamsek (violin) and Min Young Bae (piano)
Sonatas by Mozart and Grieg flanking Arvo Pärt's *Fratres*

24th April 2022 (change of date)

New Malden Voices, directed by Jane Wilkinson
Our community choir singing some of your favourite songs

Tickets £8 www.ticketsource.co.uk/musicinm
and Wesley's at NMMC (cash only)



NMMC Lunchtime Concert

Tuesday 22nd March at 1.10pm

Music for piano trio
Stefan Brown (violin), Andy Coleman (cello) and Peter Bullett (piano)

Concerts are from 1.10 to 1.50pm with hot and cold drinks available from Wesley's until 1.00pm.
Free entry with retiring collection. Audience members may arrive and leave between items.

Save your stamps

Collect stamps for RNIB and make a difference to blind and partially sighted people.

If you receive cards and letters through the post, could you save the stamps to send to us? We will recycle them into much-needed funds for our services, such as our Letter from Santa in accessible formats for children with vision impairment to help them feel included at Christmas.

How stamps make a difference

By collecting stamps you're helping to break down the barriers that stop people with sight loss living life to the full. We accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Stamps are sold by weight and we raise £20 per kilogram of stamps, so it's a brilliant way to raise money.

We now have a collection box in Wesley's (to the left of the pigeonholes) so you can bring your stamps in and when the box is full, I will send them off to the RNIB.



For stamps to be worth anything to the RNIB it is really important that they are not damaged in any way, so, don't try peeling the stamp off the envelope, leave it on and cut around it leaving at least a 1cm margin around all sides.

For more information visit their website.



<https://www.rnib.org.uk/donations-and-fundraising/fundraising-your-community/stamps-appeal>

Sarah Moore

Churches Together in Malden Initiatives

For many churches one of the effects of the pandemic has been a reduction in people attending our services and a smaller pool of volunteers to keep things going. However for every cloud there is a silver lining and in this case it has driven a desire to do more in collaboration with other churches. The following three initiatives are recent examples.

NHS Care Packages for Kingston Hospital

After several weeks of donations being collected at the various churches, an impressive array and quantity of luxury goods was delivered to Kingston Hospital for the NHS staff who have worked so tirelessly throughout the pandemic. Many thanks to all those who contributed so generously here at NMMC, keeping the office ladies on our toes as the basket kept filling up! Biscuits, chocolates, cosmetics, skincare items, bath bombs and scented candles were among the goodies and over £150 in cash donations was spent on a range of gluten free foods. It was a challenge to squeeze everything into the car that picked it all up but my skill at computer games (Tetris of course) came in very handy as we filled the boot, the back seat and the floor.

Prayer on the Streets

The idea of offering prayer to passers-by in the High Street was first suggested back in August by Gill Carpenter from St Joseph's and finally came to fruition in January. A group from different churches gathers by the war memorial on the first Saturday of each month from 10am (-ish!) until 12, to coincide with Wesley's opening hours. Anyone is welcome to come along and talk to us about whatever may be troubling them and to be prayed for or not as they wish. Sometimes you may just want to offload and we are more than happy to just listen. Do come and say hello – we don't bite! Quite a few of our own members have already taken us up on the offer.

I've been amazed at how people are willing to open up if they are only given the opportunity. So often our "How are you?" is answered with "Fine, thanks" and we don't probe further. This initiative has opened my eyes because when I've tried asking friends "Is there anything you'd like me to pray about?" or "Is there anything worrying you at the moment?" the answer has been "Well, actually..." far more often than I expected.

We've also found prayers being answered. A young mum concerned about her toddler's speech development found professional assistance via a volunteer programme; a teenager finding it difficult to make friends at university found a warm welcome at new halls of residence; and a homeless man, who spent three weeks in hospital recovering from an attack while he was asleep, has finally found accommodation.

Lent Talks

Churches Together in Malden warmly invites you to a series of talks on Thursday evenings during Lent. Each speaker has chosen a favourite chapter of the Bible to look at in more depth than may be possible during a worship service. Each talk will therefore be free-standing and each speaker will take their own approach.

3 March	Luke 15	Rev Katie Thomas (St James Parish Church, C of E)
10 March	1 Kings 19	Amanda C Dickie (St Joseph's Catholic Church)
17 March	Romans 12	Rev Peter Flint (New Malden United Reformed Church)
24 March	Romans 8	David Greenfield (St John's Church, C of E)
31 March	John 4	Rev Dr Karl Rutlidge (New Malden Methodist Church)
7 April	John 10	Simon Bramwell (New Malden Baptist Church)

The talks will all take place at **St James Parish Church**, Bodley Road KT3 5QE starting at 7:30pm and finishing around 8:30pm.

Diary Dates – March

Wednesday 2 nd	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Service led by Karl Rutlidge IN BACK KITCHEN
Thursday 3 rd	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Lent Talk: Luke 15 (St James Church)
Saturday 5 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Women's Institute
	10.00am	CTIM Prayer on the Streets (in front of Waitrose)
Tuesday 8 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – AGM & Games
Thursday 10 th	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Lent Talk: 1 Kings 19 (St James Church)
Saturday 12 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Hearing Dogs – Caroline Auty & Isabel
Sunday 13 th	3.00pm	Music in New Malden
Thursday 17 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Lent Talk: Romans 12 (St James Church)
Saturday 19 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Lee Monczak (St Raphael's Hospice)
Monday 21 st	7.30pm	Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert
Tuesday 22 nd	1.10pm – 1.50pm	Lunchtime Concert
	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – Off the Bench – Peter Bullett
Thursday 24 th	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Lent Talk: Romans 8 (St James Church)
Saturday 26 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Support for the elderly – Alison Bullett
	10.45am – 11.45am	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
Sunday 27 th	1.00am	Clocks go forward an hour to British Summer Time (don't miss church!!)
Monday 28 th	8.00pm	Circuit Meeting at Kingston MC
Monday 28 th	7.45pm – 9.30pm	Good Friday Music Rehearsal OR - TBC
Tuesday 29 th	7.45pm – 9.30pm	Good Friday Music Rehearsal TBC
Thursday 31 st	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Lent Talk: John 4 (St James Church)
Saturday 2 nd April	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Moore Family – Dave's cycling challenge (see article)

Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at nmmc@hotmail.co.uk (or in longhand through my door or the church door 😊). I am happy to receive anything you think might be of interest: memories, lockdown experiences, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes etc.

The deadline for the March issue will be Wednesday 30th March.

Circuit Plan

		KINGSTON 10.30 am; 6pm	SURBITON HILL 10.30 am	NEW MALDEN 10.30am	CHESSINGTON 10am
<i>Korean Language Service at Chessington on Sundays at 12.00 noon led by Rev Paul Han</i>					
02 March	pm	No Service	No Service	7.30pm: HC	No Service
06 March	am	Rutledge	Brown	Rush	M Wakelin: HC
	pm	No Service	4.30: Brown: PP	No Service	No Service
13 March	am	Bridges	Rutledge	Brown	M Wakelin
20 March	am	Rutledge: HC	Brown HC	Webb	Lloyd: C
	pm	Rutledge	5pm: Brown: Zoom	No Service	No Service
27 March	am	Davis	Brown: FS	Rutledge: HC	LA
03 April	am	Brown	Rutledge	J Wakelin	M Wakelin: HC
	pm	No Service	4.30: Brown: PP	No Service	No Service
10 April	am	LA:SJ	Brown	Rutledge	Webb
14 April	pm	6.30pm: Rutledge HC	No Service	No Service	No Service
15 April	am	WoW	TBA	WoW	TBA
17 April	am	Rutledge: HC	Cocking: HC	8am: Rutledge: HC 10.30: Chun	9am M Wakelin: HC 11:M Wakelin/Han:HC
24 April	am	Lloyd	LA	LA	Fullbrook
01 May	am	LA	Webb	Vernon	Wakelin: HC
	pm	No Service	4.30: Bridges PP	No Service	No Service
08 May	am	Cocking	Bridges	M Wakelin	Rutledge
15 May	am	Rutledge: HC	J Wakelin	Chun	M Wakelin: C
	pm	Rutledge	No Service	No Service	No Service
22 May	am	Bridges	Vernon HC	Rutledge: HC	M Wakelin
29 May	am	Rutledge	M Wakelin	Fullbrook	Rush
05 June	am	J. Wakelin	Rutledge	Webb	Wakelin: AA/J/P
12 June	am	Lloyd	Chun	M Wakelin	Rutledge
	pm	No Service	4.30: Bridges PP	No Service	No Service
19 June	am	Rutledge: HC	Cocking HC	Davis	M Wakelin: C
	pm	Rutledge	No Service	No Service	
26 June	am	M Wakelin	LA	Vernon: HC	Webb
Abbreviations		J: Jubilee LA: Local Arrangement P: Parade PP: Praise Party;		SJ: Joint service with St John's TBA: Churches Together event to be arranged WoW: Walk of witness	
Online services (follow links)					
Chessington: 10am Sunday: chessingtonmc.online.church ; 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					
Preachers Meeting: To be arranged; Circuit Meeting: 8pm on 29 March at Kingston MC					