



New Malden
Methodist Church
At the heart of the High Street



Spotlight

September 2022

Message from Karl

Greetings, and happy new Methodist year!

When walking around Kingston and surrounding areas in the past couple of weeks, I have noticed that the leaves on many of the trees are already turning brown and falling, despite it being somewhat early. Apparently, this is called a 'false autumn', and is a sign that trees are under stress due to lack of water. They shed leaves and draw nutrients back into themselves to attempt to survive. It's just one sign of the challenges facing not just human communities, but the natural world, in these tough times.

You do not need me to tell you that the cost-of-living crisis has dominated much of the news in the past weeks, and will be among the biggest issues facing the incoming Prime Minister. As we await the cooler months of the year, the question of what we can do as a church community to support people locally has, I know, been on many of our minds. The Methodist Church nationally is encouraging us to think about becoming a 'warmth hub', opening our building to those who might otherwise be cold, hungry and lonely, and other ideas like knitting warm items for people or being a hub for people to collect donated blankets, duvets and sleeping bags are options on the table, and you may have more suggestions.

Now, it is of course true that we face rising utility costs as a church, and will need to work with the other churches and groups across New Malden to make a difference. Opening our building up in this way is sacrificial, but in these hard times, it is an expression of God's love for all people, especially the most vulnerable. Sadly, the Conservative Party's leadership contest has seen the scapegoating of various segments of the population, such as those relying on social security, and thus another part of our response will need to be challenging these narratives. After all, if we turn on one another, how can we stand together and care for our neighbour as ourselves?

In the midst of this, I take hope from knowing that the God of love is the light that shines out in the darkness, and the darkness will never overcome it (John 1:5). We have a secure ground for faith and trust, and we are called to be the light of the world, shining out hope and love especially in those places and times where it looks like darkness is winning. Never underestimate the difference a bit of warmth, a cuppa and really listening to another person can make. It is true that we cannot solve all the problems facing our nation right now by ourselves, but we can put God's love into action and change the world, one life at a time.

So, friends, this will be a tough few months, but I trust we will rise to the challenges they bring. I ask that you pray for me and all church leaders in New Malden as we seek to respond as best we can to these circumstances, and that our communities and buildings will bring hope to others.

Every blessing, Karl

Church Family News

Hilary Warner has spent several weeks staying with her Mum, Dell, in Andover and giving her much needed support as Andrew, Hilary's Dad, has been in and out of hospital. He is still quite poorly and we continue to hold them all in our prayers.

Sue Knowles is currently undergoing further treatment following an operation in June. We pray for her, David and all the family.

Dennis Doe. We are sad to report that Dennis died in Kingston Hospital on Sunday 10th July. He was well-known in the circuit, having been a Local Preacher for 46 years. We send condolences to Carolyn and the family. Please hold them in your prayers. A Thanksgiving Service for Dennis was held at Surbiton Hill Methodist Church at 11.30am on 9th August.

Julie Haines. Unfortunately Julie has been suffering from an infection in her hip bone and the implant that was inserted after she fell and broke her hip last August. The implant will have to be replaced so Julie is facing more surgery and recovery time and she still needs knee surgery!

Donald Finnan. There was a thanksgiving service held here at New Malden for Donald on Friday 22nd July at 2.00pm followed by tea and cake. It was a joyful occasion accompanied by lots of singing. Donald would have approved! See Hilary's photos of the display at the funeral later in this issue.

Jean Bedford. Happy Birthday to Jean who was 90 on 30th July. Congratulations Jean on this impressive milestone.

George and Eleanor Alleyne. We heard during August from Dawn Ojo that her parents have recently celebrated their 85th and 86th birthdays at a lovely family party. George is now having overnight dialysis at home which he is really appreciating and is suiting him very well. It means he doesn't have to go to St George's for long periods of time. It is lovely to have good news of old friends.

Gillian Beckwith, Doug's Bryan's daughter, sent us a message this week.

I am so sorry to bring you some sad news. My brother **Andrew** sadly died early Saturday morning after a short illness. He was diagnosed with lung cancer just a few weeks ago in July, by which time it had spread and treatment was no longer an option.

He decided to spend his remaining time with his wife Patsy in their lodge just yards from the beach at Selsey, where he enjoyed a good quality of life until just a few days before he died. He was cared for by the marvellous palliative care team connected to St Wilfred's Hospice at Bosham and died without pain and peacefully surrounded by his wife and close family.

Like me Andrew grew up in New Malden Methodist, and although not a regular member, certainly kept in touch with many of the members through his job as local window cleaner, often finding time to enjoy a cup of coffee and have a chat.

His funeral will be held at Randall's Park crematorium Leatherhead on Friday 23rd September at 3.30pm.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Andrew's family and especially Gill who lost her sister Rosemary in March.

Eleanor, Andy, Anna and John Roberts. Good news from the Roberts family. They have now moved into their new house. They are getting sorted out and are available to provide tea and buns if you are in the vicinity. Their address is now Lambton Cottage, Station Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1GA.



Dave and I can definitely endorse Eleanor's generous invitation. We spent a lovely afternoon sitting in the Roberts' beautiful garden overlooking the Bakewell Showground and a field of alpacas!

July & August News

Saturday Coffee Bar Thank Yous

Saturday 2nd July. An enormous thank you to everyone who was involved in any way with our sale. As well as our usual selection of cakes and jam inside, we had stalls outside laden with jigsaws, books, DVDs, CDs and plants. With the help of a beautiful sunny day (which we thought hot at the time!) we made an amazing £557.50 for the Methodist charity "All We Can". Julie Haines

Saturday 16th July raised £139 for The Children's Society. I am very grateful to the wonderful people who helped, baked, and attended. I am just sorry I was not able to take part.

Pam Bugeya

(Pam was struck down by the dreaded Covid)

Saturday 6th August saw a total of £108.40 raised for church funds. Thank you so much to all who provided cakes and/or came for coffee. Julie Haines and Carol Dadds

Saturday 20th August's Alp coffee bar (take 2). I want to say huge thank you. Both fundraising events have been extremely successful, spreading the word about the charities, Tusk and Ocean Cleanup, and the fundraising and raising a whopping £800 between them. This is all down to the fantastic church support.

The generosity of everyone involved never ceases to amaze me.

The contribution of time and resources, doing all the baking, jam making and coming down and serving and buying others' products is just brilliant.

My only disappointment is that due to my training regime, my cake intake is virtually zero at the moment. Dave Moore

Do you remember ...?

James Tuckett went to New Malden station on 16th August and in conversation with Dewan who works in the ticket office, learned that on that day in 1940 New Malden was bombed and the railway station was damaged.

Dewan is trying to put together some kind of commemoration event and would like someone local who can remember the event to give a talk with their personal memories of the day, preferably someone who can remember the bombing of the station itself.

The event is being organised with the Malden & Coombe Heritage Society so please contact them if you are able to help via their website <http://maldensandcoombeheritagesociety.weebly.com>

Afternoon Tea with Musical Entertainment

Surbiton Hill Methodist Church Tennis Club, 11-13 Manor Drive Surbiton

Sunday 4th September 3.00 – 5.00pm

The Palliative Care Sierra Leone Committee hope you will be able to join us at the above event as we raise money for this worthwhile charity.

There will be a wonderful afternoon tea and the musical entertainment will be provided by a pianist (our own Linda Bridges), a soloist and a violinist, all of whom are excellent musicians. So do come along and enjoy an afternoon of good food, entertainment and friendship.

Suggested donation £10.

If you have any questions about the event feel free to get in touch with Kathryn Ingham 07533 129443 or inghamkathryn@hotmail.com

Hymn Singing at Speirs House

We will be resuming the monthly hymn singing and occasional Communion at Speirs House, on Wednesday 7th September. It would be good to have a good number to join in for about an hour from 3.00pm. Alison Bullett can arrange lifts from church if you contact her. You don't have to have a great voice; just a friendly face and a willingness to engage with the residents over a cup of tea.

The residents really do love it!

Alison Bullett

Harvest of the Sea

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd October

The theme for this year's harvest will be the Harvest of the Sea.

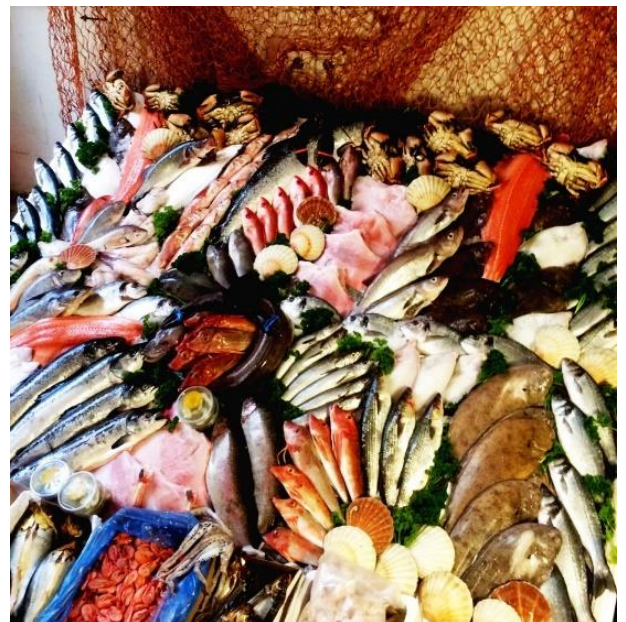
So, we would like shells, pebbles, etc, for the display which we will put together on Saturday 1st October from 10.30am. Please come along and help!

We will also collect items for the foodbank, watch out for suggestions of items required nearer the time. Cereal, rice, longlife milk and snack items are always popular.

On Sunday 2nd after having coffee following the service, there will be a simple ploughman's lunch.

PLEASE sign up for this so we do not under or over cater.

A sign-up sheet will be on the notice board. After expenses a donation will be made to Water Aid.



Macmillan Fundraising Event

Friday 30th September

Wesley's 10.00am - 1.00pm (yes 3 hours!)

Donations of cakes etc will be lovely.

Last year was a great success so please come again and bring a friend or two!



Forget Silverstone, this is where the action is.

The pandemic led to the cancellation of many sporting and cultural events at home and abroad; no Wimbledon, no Proms, and the World Cup postponed. But perhaps none have been so keenly missed as the New Malden Dog Show. 3rd July, therefore, marked a welcome return of the dog show to the hallowed turf of Blagdon Park, scene of many closely fought contests and fierce rivalries (not really but sometimes after school).

The church was represented this year by 2 exciting and emerging young talents: Nellie (Alice and Etta's golden retriever), and Ollie (Isabel's cockerpool - you may remember his guest cameo at community carols). First up was Nellie in the Prettiest Bitch class. Nellie's poise and long flowing locks saw her in good stead and she romped home in first place. Ollie hoped to replicate her form in the Handsomest Dog group but competition was tough and he missed out on a medal place. It wasn't really a level playing field - some of the other dogs looked like they had a regular performance-enhancing grooming routine, and we can't get near him with a brush.

Never one to complain and always one to stay chipper, Ollie made a strong comeback and led from the start in the Dog with the Most Appealing Eyes class. A well-earned victory was secured. His well-rehearsed and beseeching stare was no match for the opposition nor the guest judge.

Nellie continued the church's rich vein of success by winning her heat in the tricky egg and spoon race that demands absolute concentration and attention to detail from all competitors. The final was a particularly tense affair and despite faultless technique and a near perfect strategy, Nellie was just pipped to the post.

Both Nellie and Ollie made it past the group stage and into the grand final. Nellie took silver and Ollie was a respectable 6th overall, which was not bad considering he tried to leave the arena, for a pit stop or some refuelling....who knows! Overall a good haul for the church dogs - Ollie seemed happy with his winnings of two packets of treats, a squeaky zebra, 2 rosettes, and a (now destroyed) tennis ball on a rope.

We await next year's show with no small interest.



Quiet Days at the House of Prayer, East Molesey

The next Quiet Day at the House of Prayer in Seymour Rd, East Molesey, will take place on 1st October, and will be led by Rev Graham Cocking.

Journey of a Disciple

As we journey together in this hour let us look at a disciple's journey – “come follow me” taking the defining moments of Jesus' ministry as presented in the gospel of Matthew. Let us consider his journey and investigate our own journey in a comparative way. The journey will cover five defining moments and examine them in passages from the Bible, elucidation and prayer.

Music in New Malden

Our next season (2022-23 - gosh, we started back in 2008...) will begin in October with a recital by soprano Kate Semmens and pianist Steven Devine.

Both Kate and Steven have been previous visitors to our series and it is good to welcome them back after a long absence made even longer by Covid. They will be presenting a lovely programme of songs by Fanny Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann, along with some related solo piano works by Moscheles and Brahms. Sunday 9th October at 3pm is the date for your diaries (followed by our trademark tea & cake).

We are blessed with a good number of top-flight professional musicians living locally, and looking further into the autumn we hope to confirm a Trio concert by instrumentalists formerly working at the Royal Opera House Orchestra for a visit in November - watch this space!

In December, we'll once again be looking forward to Christmas with a seasonal concert from the Harmonie Choir and Orchestra.

Request from the Bride

As some of you may already know, my fiancé (Tom) and I are getting married at the church on Saturday 8th October.

I feel very privileged to have grown up as part of such a friendly and supportive church community, so it was a very easy decision on where we wanted to get married!

After our wedding ceremony, we will be having tea, coffee and cake in the welcome area. Rather than one big cake, we are hoping to emulate the delicious and varied tableful of cakes that the coffee bar sees each Saturday morning, and so we have a favour to ask the bakers amongst you. We'd love members of the church community to make cakes for us all to enjoy together along with our guests, so if you were planning on joining us on the day and have a favourite cake that you would like to make, please speak to my mum (Sarah Moore) who has kindly taken on the role of chief cake coordinator.

Big thank you in advance and we are very much looking forward to seeing some of you on the day!
Ellie & Tom

Wesley's will not be open on that Saturday morning as we will be getting ready for the wedding.



MusicFest 22

Three consecutive Saturdays in July saw the church filled with a wide variety of musical genres as MusicFest22 took place. In the first concert Jeremiah Stephenson put the organ through its paces with a really delightful and varied programme. Next up, baritone Dan D'Souza and his talented accompanist Dylan Perez took us around the world in 80 minutes from English folk songs to Philip Glass.

The grand finale saw a welcome return for the Riverside Sinfonia PLUS the London Mozart players for a programme inspired by ballet. This really was a lovely, lovely contrasting programme that showed off a high level of musicianship.

Thanks go to those who helped pull together this festival, which took place even when other Malden Fortnight events had to be cancelled. For £25, we were treated to some rare musical treats alongside some regular crowd pleasers.

Caroline Auty



Jeremiah
Stephenson



Dan D'Souza &
Dylan Perez



Riverside Sinfonia & the London
Mozart players

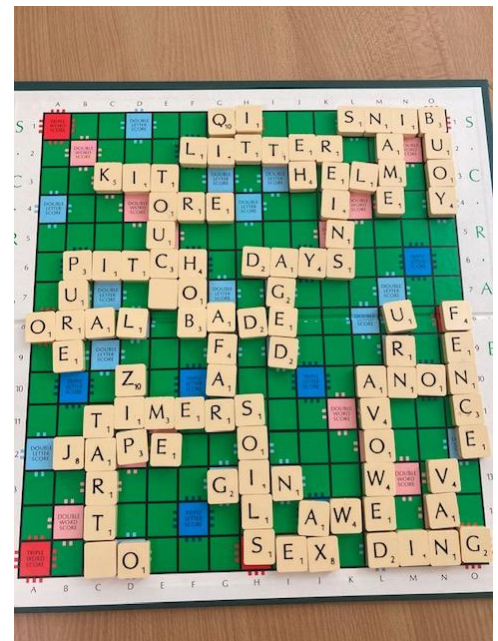
Board Games Afternoon

The inaugural board games' afternoon was held in Wesley's on 15th July. A small but perfectly formed group of players selected Scrabble as the most inclusive game in the circumstances, and spent a merry 90 minutes with furrowed brows pondering their next moves.

I'm not going to say who won (it was me) but it all hinged on a 2 letter Q word on a triple word score in 2 directions. Don't let that put you off, it's never happened before. Overall we thought our words had a medieval theme and wondered if someone could write a story, perhaps another Canterbury Tale, using them.

Be great to see some more players next time, not just for Scrabble but any of the games you see below. I'm quite partial to Rummikub myself if anyone prefers numbers to letters.

Caroline Auty



Board games afternoon is the 2nd Friday of every month at 2.00pm in Wesley's.

Please come along and beat Caroline!!

Knitting for 'Warmer in Winter' bags

Many of our members have been knitting hats for elderly hospital patients. The request came through a contact of Stella Chattle's, Dr Kate Kenyon.

Dr Kate has just got a small grant to help with another project - Warmer in Winter bags - to give out to those who will need it the most.

They will be making large bags (shortened pillowcase size, drawstring or tote) to contain:

Knitted or crocheted hats

Scarves or snoods

Lap blankets

Thermal gloves, socks and covered hot water bottles will be bought and added to the bags.

A large volume of crocheted squares from 'crochet a granny square' will be received and these will need to be sewn into lap blankets.

They hope to give out at least 200 of these bags and have asked if our ladies can help with knitting hats, scarves or snoods.

Please ask Stella if you would like any more details. Dr Kate will be coming to a meeting of Wives and Friends in November if you would like to learn more (the date will be in the October edition of Spotlight).



The life of Donald Finnan



A splendid collection of Donald's memorabilia from throughout his life was put together by Hilary Warner, Alison Bullett, David Howell.



A selection of bibles, hymn books and music with various stoles.



Photos from the Wednesday Fellowship and the Bookham church where he preached each month plus mementoes from his time as a padre in the RAF and his son's career as a Lightning Engineer.

Fresh vision for the Joel Centre!

Dear Supporter,

I do hope this letter finds you well. Following my previous email about the sad closure of KCAH's drug stabilisation project and the new opportunities for the Joel Centre, I am writing to give you an update on what, I hope you will agree, are exciting plans for the future.

A Scripture that has been particularly on our minds as we've prayed about the Joel Centre has been this:

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. (Galatians 6: 9-10)

From our consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, it has become apparent that our post-pandemic context means that the Joel Centre is no longer so well suited for the purposes it has served in the past. At the same time, we've become aware of other vulnerable groups who are in need, or soon to be in need, of accommodation where they could be part of a Christian community.

The Vision

In particular, there are a group of refugees at St Peter's – many of whom suffer from trauma, loneliness, and related mental health issues – who would significantly benefit from living in a communal space where they could be shown love and support. One of them recently wrote to the Home Office: "I have not seen my family for many years...I am very depressed...I ask you to help to change my life...the accommodation [where I] live now is not a good place and I do not feel safe and I am suffering from a lot of...stress and it is not a good place for me. Please move me to the Kingston area, which is close to my church, and provide me with a good home...". It is our hope that this young Iranian refugee and others like him would find a degree of healing and liberation in a new home with a warm community, and in turn be able to serve and show hospitality to others.

The Joel Trustees have therefore decided that we will make the Joel Centre accommodation initially available to members of St Peter's and nearby churches who are a) in need of accommodation; b) would appreciate living in a community; and c) are eligible for housing benefit, or who could pay a sub-market rent. We would expect the accommodation to be a home to four or five residents, or perhaps more if they were willing to share rooms. And we would envisage supporting their transitions into sustainable employment and independent living.

Having accommodation so close to the church would enable us to offer a range of opportunities to engage in our church life, to receive English lessons (an Iranian translator has already offered to help with these) and other courses of benefit to them. We would also look at ways to encourage the residents to show hospitality to other refugees or church members, perhaps giving them a budget to supply ingredients for weekly meals. There seem so many possibilities if we can work out how to share resources in a fruitful way.

Partnership

One of the aspects of Joel that has been so important and special is how it has brought different churches together in seeking God's Kingdom through working with the vulnerable. Our hope is that that we will continue to work together in this next phase of life, whether through volunteering, referring refugees, or financially sharing with those in need. For that reason we do hope some of you would consider making this vision possible through giving a one-off or regular donation.

We were grateful that many of you, at our previous request, transferred your giving over to KCAH to support their work. If you would now like to support the new vision for the Joel Centre, then I'd encourage you to transfer your giving back to Joel Community Services. If you'd like to build on Peter Holmes' passion for a holistic way of caring for the vulnerable in a context of a Christian



community, then we'd encourage you to be generous, so as to support refugees who are part of the family of believers.

The bank details for Joel Community Services, if you'd like to join with us in this vision, are:

Joel Community Services, CAF Bank
Sort Code: 40-52-40 A/C: 00025841

On behalf of the Joel Trustees I pray God's blessing upon you, that you would experience his refreshment like streams of living water.

Yours in Christ,
Hugo Foxwood, Chair of Joel Community Services, Vicar of St Peter's Norbiton
info@joelcommunityservices.org

Diary Dates – September

Thursday 1 st	2.00pm – 4.30pm	Creative Arts Group
Saturday 3 rd	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Stand By Me – Stella Chattle
Sunday 4 th	3.00 – 5.00pm	Afternoon Tea with Musical Entertainment
Surbiton Hill Methodist Church Tennis Club, 11-13 Manor Drive Surbiton. See July & August News for more details		
Tuesday 6 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Wives & Friends Cream Tea
Wednesday 7 th	3.00pm	Hymn Singing at Speirs House
Thursday 8 th	8.00pm	Circuit Meeting
Friday 9 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Board Games Afternoon
Saturday 10 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Rotary Club of New Malden
Tuesday 13 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
Thursday 15 th	2.00pm – 4.30pm	Creative Arts Group
Saturday 17 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Malden & Coombe Flower Decoration Society
Saturday 24 th	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Inner Wheel
Wednesday 28 th	7.30pm	Church Council Meeting (ZOOM????)
Saturday 1 st October	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Inner Wheel
	All day	Quiet Day at House of Prayer, East Molesey

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, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes etc.

The deadline for the October issue will be Wednesday 28th September.

Circuit Plan

		CHESSINGTON 10 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>					
04 September	am	M Wakelin: HC	Lloyd	Brown	Rutlidge
11 September	am	Bridges	Rutlidge AAW/ACM/HC	Cocking HC	Brown HC
18 September	am	M Wakelin: C	Chun	Rutlidge AAW/ACM	Brown PLD
			6pm Brown		
25 September	am	11am: M Wakelin/KCF: H/JP	Rutlidge HF	Lloyd	Brown ACM
02 October	am	M Wakelin: HC	Davis	Rutlidge HF	Brown HF
					4.30pm Brown PP
09 October	am	M&J Wakelin	Brown	Rush	Rutlidge
16 October	am	Chun: C	Rutlidge HC	Bridges	Brown HC
			6pm Brown		
23 October	am	Brown	Vernon	Rutlidge HC	Rush
30 October	am	J Wakelin	M Wakelin	Brown	Lloyd
		4pm: M Wakelin TR			5pm Brown SR
06 November	am	M Wakelin: HC	Webb	J Wakelin	Brown
					4.30pm Fullbrook PP
13 November	am	M Wakelin: R	Davis R	Rutlidge R	10.45 Brown at war memorial
20 November	am	M Wakelin: C	Rutlidge HC	Chun	Brown HC
			6pm M Wakelin		
27 November	am	Webb	Brown Gift Service	Rutlidge Gift/HC	Bridges
Abbreviations		HF: Harvest HC: Holy Communion JP: Joint Parade PP: Praise Party SRL Service of Remembering		R: Remembrance T: Time to Remember Service	
ACM: Annual Church Meeting B: Baptism C: Contemporary 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.					
Preachers Meeting: To be arranged; Circuit Meeting: 8pm on 8 September; 8pm on 17 January					