



**New Malden
Methodist Church**
At the heart of the High Street



Spotlight

August 2025

Message from Karl

During the month of July, I started several days by going for a walk to Richmond Park and a coffee with friends, mirroring a little of my experience when I was walking the Camino to Santiago de Compostella. For me, the biggest part of the challenge was not so much the walking itself, which I really enjoy, but getting going early in the day, as I am not a morning person! However, the walks were very rewarding, despite being plagued by wasps on more than one occasion while having my cuppa at a picnic bench in the park.



There is something about having people to walk and talk with that can make the effort involved in exercise, whether that's hiking up Trap's Lane and over to the Ladderstyle Gate or something more substantial, easier to manage. Moreover, I have found myself having some pretty deep conversations while walking along, and it highlights why the Princess Alice Hospice has begun offering 'Walk and Talk' sessions alongside the Bereavement Café. It can sometimes be easier to grapple with tough topics and emotions while walking alongside another person than it is when we are sitting across the table from them.

The importance of connection and conversation in all our lives, whether it comes together with exercise or something more relaxed like having a cuppa, is not to be underestimated. Loneliness is an increasingly prevalent issue in our country, which can affect anybody of any age. Indeed, there is a particular stigma, in my pastoral experience, attached to admitting to feeling lonely as a young adult, especially in a world of carefully curated social media profiles that can give the impression that everyone else is having a fantastic time. Yet, as Age UK highlight, older people are

the most likely to say they experience loneliness in their lives.

This is one of the reasons why Wesley's has such a pivotal part to play in the life of the church and in terms of what we can offer to the wider community. I love spending time sitting in the café, because even on days when things like worship preparation and the burden of administration force me to spend time stuck behind a computer screen, there is still a really positive feel of connection and community with others. Having this facility is a real gift and privilege, and I hope and trust that my successor will be excited about working with Lee and others to develop its mission further in the coming years.

For now, as we all slow down a bit during the long summer days of August and many people go on holiday, I would like to encourage you to not forget those you know who might be feeling lonely at this time. Perhaps you could invite them down to go for a walk in the cool of the morning, pop into Wesley's for a cuppa and chat, or simply call in on them if they are not able to get around and about. We all need community and connection, and it can be one of the most valuable gifts we can give to others. Furthermore, never forget that God sees all of our acts of kindness, and nothing is wasted in Christ, who renews the heavens and the earth.

Have a great summer!

With every blessing, Karl

Church Family News

Congratulations to Barbara and Paul Cavalier who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Wednesday 23 July.

Barbara sent this message:
Please give my thanks to everyone for the gift of flowers on Sunday kindly delivered by Sarah, they were just so uplifting. My husband is home and still on strong antibiotics for the infection in his leg.

A little bit further behind, Karl and Sally celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary on Saturday 19 July.

Congratulations also to Ali and Hannah Walsh who both graduated with 2:1s in Counselling and Catering respectively.

Church contact information – website www.newmaldenmethodistchurch.com



NMMethodists

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n/a Monday

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Mrs Julie Haines (Steward) juliehaines53@gmail.com

Charity Registration Number 1176621

Dates for your diary

St Johns Church, Old Malden

Organ Recital on Saturday 11 October at 7.30pm to include works contemporary with the 150th anniversary of the building of the Main Nave in 1875. Admittance by programme £12 and all proceeds to our Restore Fund.

On 7 December, the exact date of the consecration of the new nave, there will be a full choral evensong at 6.30pm.

For further details email Mr Barry Eaton, our organist (barryeaton11@hotmail.co.uk).

Wesley's Chapel

You are invited to pilgrimage and freely enter Wesley's Chapel with others to hear Revd. Canon Dr Julian Pursehouse, Chair of the Editorial International Board of the Holiness Journal affiliated with Wesley House Cambridge talk on "What would John Wesley's message be today?"

Date: Friday 12 September 2025

Time: 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Venue: Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU

SPARE FRUIT



If you have any excess fruit or over pick blackberries then Julie Haines would love them for jam making.

Please drop them off at church and ring Julie on 07757 768656 and she will work her magic.

Reading on a Sunday morning

Over the past few years we have lost a number of readers for the service. If you would like to be put on the list please contact Julie Haines and sign up on the spaces on the notice board. I have 10 people on my list but with holidays etc it is not always easy to find a second one when necessary.

Spotlight's Safeguarding Space

If during the excessive heat or a mighty downpour you find yourself with a few spare moments you may wish to browse the Safeguarding part of the 'London District of the Methodist Church' website. It is more interesting than it sounds & includes different sections. There is one named 'Support Services' which provides website links to organizations such as Action Fraud, Age UK & Childline.

www.methodistlondon.org.uk/safeguarding/other-support-services



The **Methodist** Church 

Liz Edwards – Safeguarding Officer

Wesley's

UPDATE

“In His Hands, New Things Bloom”

At Wesley's, seeds of hope continue to sprout. This summer, we welcome two tender shoots into our Wellness & Social Programme: Cancer Connections Group - a quiet place to share, heal, and be heard; and Discovering Chinese Culture for the summer workshop (old &/ young) - a joyful celebration of language, food, and friendship.

These gatherings are small but sacred spaces – where laughter softens burdens and stories knit hearts.

Rooted in faith, our Wesley's programme is a living expression of care on the high street.

Would you pray with us? And, if led, gently invite those who need a place to land... and come walk with us – just as you are.



For full programme details, visit:

www.newmaldenmethodistchurch.com/wesleys/wellness

or scan the QR code



Thank you to everyone who braved the biblical rain on Saturday 19th July to support the coffee morning. Despite the weather we raised £140.00 for Médecins Sans Frontières.

Circuit Service – 20 July



This evening service took place at Kingston Methodist Church. It was led by Vindra, Sharon and Maddie who all gave talks on the conversation Jesus had with the Samaritan woman he met at a well. It was an enjoyable time of worship and folk from New Malden made up about 25% of the congregation!

At the end of the service, just prior to refreshments, Julie Haines was presented with a bouquet of flowers as a thank you for her contribution as a Circuit Steward over recent years.

Maddie Stonehewer was also presented with a gift and wishes from the Circuit as she and Sam will be moving in the summer.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
SURBITON HILL
METHODIST CHURCH
TENNIS CLUB
1925 - 2025

Wimbledon may be turning 150
but we are turning 100!

Come along to celebrate on
Sunday 14 September
2.30-4.30pm

11-13 Manor Drive, KT5 8NE

All ages welcome
Cake cutting at 3pm

RSVP
to Kathryn Ingham or online at
www.surbitonmethodisttennis.org/100thbirthday

Quick march!

10 miles and 13 bridges or was it...



My sister, Georgina asked if I would join her on this walking adventure. Her interest stems from her volunteering work as a SSAFA case worker in her home county of Devon.

We left New Malden at 6:30 to make our way to the start line near Tower Bridge for our 8am slot. Being a military based event you'd have thought it would be all run on clockwork timing. Unfortunately, that was not the case. We were ready on the start line for 8 am, no one seemed to be in charge meaning we didn't actually start until 8:06.

After a strangely sparsely signed start, we made our way across Tower Bridge, the first of 13. Not too hot as yet, a bit of cloud cover was doing a good job of maintaining a pleasant temperature.

Once underway all was good. There were military personnel at every route decision-point signalling the right way to go.

It's great walking alongside the Thames, as there is so much to see.

The bridges kept on coming, often with many

steps to climb getting to the right level to cross and then lots more to descend.

We walked on both Golden Jubilee bridges that straddle Hungerford bridge, each counting as a 'bridge' in its own right, a bit cheeky, but technically they are individual bridges!

I found my pace would increase when I saw a snack stop in the distance. This is always my favourite part of every event, and these stops did not disappoint. Even though there were many sweet treats which were irresistible, I'd always take a banana for balance.

The weather was warming up now and our pace was slowing, but the 13th bridge was in sight.

Upon crossing the 13th bridge there was a sense of achievement, although sadly short lived when our next direction master pointed the way and said "just over mile to the finish", eeeek!

The clouds had gone and the sun was on max. Our final stretch turned out to be nearer a

mile and half, mostly along the King's Road to Eel Brook Common.

Once we were over the finish line and our names had been called out over the sound system, we had a very welcome ice cream whilst trying to hide from the sun.

My head counted the 13 bridges and my 'smart' watch measured 11.2 miles.

Hmmm, another slip in military tolerance? It's not like the old days!

I would like to thank you all for your consistent support across my many

challenges over the years. I am always very humbled by the way the church community pulls together and supports whatever is needed, I love how that feels.

It's incredibly impressive and kind the way you all make cakes (sometimes from a list of choices), donate cakes then sometimes buy back your own cakes!

The amount of tea consumed was fantastic and cash donations were incredibly generous. Together we raised just under £400 for SSAFA. Thank you very much everyone.



ssafa Lifelong support
for our Forces
and their families



Church Garden Party

The garden party in Alan Vincent's garden in the heat of 9 July attracted 18 people who enjoyed scones with jam and cream followed by a choice of (very) locally baked cakes. The scones were mostly completed following the Cornish tradition of jam first then cream although there were no arguments or serious incidents of rivalry. The afternoon was intended as a purely social event but some kind soul put out a collecting basket and the generous proceeds from this are being used to purchase items for the Community Larder that are needed but seldom donated.



Let battle commence

While Jannik, Carlos and Novak were preparing for Centre Court, New Malden's finest – Caroline and Lee – battled it out the illustrious Cambridge Road Court. No-one knows who came out on top but hopefully there was a sporting handshake at the end.

This was part of the Saturday morning Charity Bake Sale in aid of well-being activities at the church.

Thanks to Lee for organising and everyone who helped.



We still have two slots available in August – 16th and 23rd – for the Charity Bake Sale. Email nmmc@hotmail.co.uk to book.

When is a deterrent not a deterrent?

She may have retired by nothing escapes Sarah's notice. This pigeon at Chingford Station seems undeterred by the pigeon deterrent.

Way out →



Caroline sent in this carefully curated selection of holiday photos from some recent trips. One is from St Mark's square Venice, another up Pen-y-Ghent and another in the Julian Alps Slovenia.

There is a prize (not really) if you can tell which is which.

Donations

New Malden Methodist Church now has a donations page set up with the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF).

Please scan this QR code if you wish to donate online.



NMMC Diary Dates – August

Friday 1st	10.00 – 11.30am	Chinese Language & Culture Workshop
Saturday 2nd	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – Cancer Research
Tuesday 5th	10.30am	Walking Group
Thursday 7th	10.30am	Knit & Natter
	2.00 – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
Friday 8th	10.00 – 11.30am	Chinese Language & Culture Workshop
	2.00 – 4.00pm	Board Games
Saturday 9th	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – Mencap
Tuesday 12th	10.30am	Tai Chi
	2.30pm	Bereavement Cafe
Thursday 14th	10.30am	Knit & Natter
	2.00 – 3.30pm	Short Tennis (Upper Hall)
Friday 15th	10.00 – 11.30am	Chinese Language & Culture Workshop
Saturday 16th	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – TBC
Tuesday 19th	10.30am	Walking Group
Thursday 21st	10.30am	Knit & Natter
	2.00 – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
Friday 22nd	10.00 – 11.30am	Chinese Language & Culture Workshop
Saturday 23rd	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – TBC
Tuesday 26th	10.30am	Tai Chi Qigong
Thursday 28th	10.30am	Knit & Natter
	2.00 – 3.30pm	Short Tennis (Upper Hall)
Friday 29th	10.00 – 11.30am	Chinese Language & Culture Workshop
	1.00 – 2.00pm	Cancer Connection Group
Saturday 30th	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – NMMC

Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Barry Sawyer at nmmc@hotmail.co.uk. Please send me anything you think might be of interest: memories, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes, etc, by Wednesday 27 August.

Plan Details for the Churches				
Date	Time	Chessington	Kingston	New Malden
01/06/2025	AM	Stonehewer	Rutledge: HC	Vernon: AA
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
08/06/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden	Rutledge: AA/JMA	LA
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
15/06/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Zihle	Rutledge: W
Bible Month	PM	No Service	Rutledge	No Service
22/06/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	S. Lloyd	Rutledge: HC
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
29/06/2025	AM	Rutledge	Fullbrook	D. Lloyd
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
06/07/2025	AM	LA	Rutledge: HC/AfC	Maraj-Ogden
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	Bridges: 4.30pm PP
13/07/2025	AM	Cocking	LA/AA	Rutledge: AA
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
20/07/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	D. Lloyd: CC	Stonehewer
PM	6pm Circuit Service at Kingston			Bridges
27/07/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Bridges	Maraj-Ogden: HC
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
03/08/2025	AM	Han	Rutledge	Stonehewer
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
10/08/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	Rutledge: AA/HC	LA
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
17/08/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Maraj-Ogden: AA	Rutledge: AA/B
PM	No Service	Rutledge: HC	Rutledge: HC	No Service
24/08/2025	AM	LA	Bridges: AA	Rutledge: AA/HC
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
31/08/2025	AM	Han	LA/AA	Maraj-Ogden
PM	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service

Ministers' Day Off: Karl and Vindra - Monday **Circuit Meeting:** 8 July at Chessington

Notes
AA = All-Age Worship ACM = Annual Church Meeting AfC = Action for Children Sunday B = Baptism BL = British Legion Service C = Contemporary CC = Café Church HC = Holy Communion JMA = Junior Mission for All LA = Local Arrangement O = Oasis 50th Anniversary PP = Praise Party W = Wesley's 30th Anniversary Service

Chessington (10am)
Bible: NIV MWB: HC Only Music: Stf, H&P, SoF 1 - 3 Korean Language Service 12.30pm
Kingston (10.30am & 6pm)
Bible: GNB MWB: HC Only Music: Stf, SoF 1 - 3 Online: Windows on Worship
New Malden (10.30am)
Bible: NRSV MWB: Complete Music: Stf Online: Windows on Worship
Surbiton Hill (10.30am)
Bible: NIV MWB: Complete Music: Stf, H&P, Let's Praise 1, 2 Online: Live Stream