



Spotlight March 2023

Message from Karl

Friday 24th February witnessed the first anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Despite the raft of economic sanctions imposed on Putin's regime and its supporters, the supplies of weapons to the Ukrainian armed forces, the bravery and tenacity of its soldiers and the remarkable courage of those Russians who have dared to defy the Kremlin's narrative, our news still brings us almost daily scenes of suffering from that country. Peace, sadly, still seems a long way off.

Now, to talk of peace begs the question of what we actually mean by it. Throughout the Bible, we see God's passion for peace reflected time and again, but true shalom does not only mean the absence of fighting and bloodshed, although that would be a good beginning! It also means actively forging new bonds across those things which readily divide us, so that we might learn to see the humanity in those whose experiences and outlooks are different to ours. It is when see people as just an abstract 'other' and reduce them to problems to be 'fixed', then too little room for empathy and understanding is left and the danger that conflict will emerge is great.

So, seeking peace and pursuing it, as the Psalmist puts it, involves risk because it hinges on the possibility of real relationship, and an enlarged vision of what it means to bear the image of God. When Jesus tells his frightened disciples not to be afraid, and offers them peace, he is inviting them to embrace the life of the Kingdom of God and thus to be open to unexpected relationships and to see the value in God's eyes of all people, not just those who already looked and sounded like them. Similarly, today, God calls us to have the courage to seek Christ in those we find difficult, or even threatening, and it goes without saying that this is not an easy business.

I imagine that is why Jesus also goes to great lengths to speak of the comfort and strength which comes from the Holy Spirit, a theme also embraced by Paul in his letters to the early churches. We cannot live up to this calling to embody real peace in our own strength, not least because it means challenging the injustice of any and all attempts to diminish and deny the human dignity of others, and to take seriously the effects of a very human but deeply destructive tendency to seek out scapegoats when things go wrong. We need the Holy Spirit as our compass and guide.

Thus, as we reflect on the terrible situation in Ukraine and all those other parts of the world where war rages and people suffer, it is important both to pray for peace, but also to recognise that peace begins with us in everyday life. How we treat others, spend our money, use our votes and channel our energies does make a difference in our increasingly fractured and divided world. As we journey through Lent, we are confronted with the darker side not just of humanity as a whole, but ourselves in particular. Yet, we also know that it is through the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ that we can trust that the evils of war, unchecked anger, festering hatred and cycles of distrust and violence will not get the last word.

So, may we commit ourselves anew to be people of peace in all that means. Every blessing, Karl

Spotlight's Safeguarding Space

The Circuit's Foundation Safeguarding Training took place in February. Sue, Tina, John and I were encouraged to consider that 'The Church is a unique place where all are welcomed.' Also, we were reminded that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are concerned about something that doesn't look, sound or feel right then do let me know. Thank you.

Liz Edwards, Safeguarding Officer



The Methodist Church

Church Family News

Please pray for **Rosemarie Lester** who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She started a 6-months schedule of chemotherapy and immunotherapy on Friday 10th February, to be potentially followed by surgery and radiotherapy. She would appreciate our prayers, not only for herself but for Nigel and CN as they all embark upon a scenario that is all too familiar to their family.

For the time being, Sarah Moore will take over the running of the Prayer Web.

Jean Bedford is currently receiving respite care at Speirs House following several falls over the last few weeks. We send her our love and prayers especially as she now has Covid too. She would welcome visitors once she is out of isolation.

We are very sad to report that **Pam Vincent** died peacefully on Tuesday morning, 21st February. We send love and prayers to Alan, his son Andy and daughter Nicky, and to all their family.

February News

Thank yous

Thank you from Pam to everyone who contributed in any way to the coffee morning on 14th January whether you baked, ate, drank or helped. £115.00 was raised for the Samaritans. Pam Bugeya

Thank you from Gloria to everyone who supported the Soup and Puds lunch on Thursday 26th January. We raised £515 for Refuge, a charity supporting women suffering from domestic abuse. Gloria Taviner

Thank You from Stella

Dear all, the final total for the Stand By me coffee morning held on Saturday 11th February was £309 25, and I am so grateful to you all for helping me raise such a sum.

To Julie who sold over £70 of jam and gave it all to Stand By me.

To all who baked for me, the number of cakes left for me in the Welcome area on Friday evening was such a surprise. Thank you so much and thank you to those who added to the tables on Saturday.

Thank you to Judy and Carol who sold all those cakes.

Thank you to Molly for running the Coffee bar, I was supposed to be doing that but somehow I kept getting distracted!!

Thank you to all who came to buy, and to all who donated so generously. Not forgetting those who bought what was left over for Sunday and gave over £40.

My final thank you is to, Eunjung who at the end of the morning took the vacuum cleaner down from its hook and hoovered the Welcome area for me. Stella Chattle

Please see the thank you we received direct from Stand By me later in this issue.

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Emergency Donations

https://www.allwecan.org.uk/donate/syrian-earthquake-emergency-donations/

Please use this link & website to donate to the relief effort via The Methodist Church charity All We can (Methodist Relief and Development). We also have a separate collection box available in Wesley's for this charity.

Plant Sale - 3rd June 2023

The Plant Sale and coffee morning and cake sale will take place on Saturday 3rd June with the proceeds going to our Boiler Fund. Please start getting those plants growing so that we can have a bumper sale!



Pastoral Visitors renamed ...

The pastoral element of church life is such an important aspect of what we do, and the Pastoral team frequently reflect on all the ways we support each other, and those connected with Church.

Following a recent discussion about the Pastoral role, it was felt that visiting was only one aspect of what we do. Visits were often linked with the distribution of Spotlight, but as this is now mostly sent online, contact can be through other means – emails, calls, Text /

WhatsApp messages, chats over coffee etc. It was therefore agreed that we would prefer to use the title of ... Pastoral Friends.

We have 13 Pastoral Friends, each of whom keep in touch with a number of people in whichever way they prefer. And we are always happy to visit – for a chat on the doorstep, or over a cuppa (2). If you feel this is a role you would be able to help with, I would be happy to talk to you about it.



Sue Abell, Pastoral Secretary

Reverend Donald Finnan

When the Rev. Donald Finnan died last June, he left instructions that any money collected after his memorial service should be added to a bequest he wanted to make to Rianna's Fund, a charity in Southern India supporting and educating children of poor Tamil communities.

Donald served as a missionary, pastor and teacher in the desperately poor rural area of Tiruneveli, in Southern India, for 5 years from the late 1950s, learning the Tamil language and living the humble and frugal existence of the people he served. In spite of terrible hardship and tragedy (his infant daughter died from disease while they were there), India remained an essential part of his heart and his mind. He yearned to return there and managed to do this at least once in later life. Donald spoke of having his ashes returned there but eventually came to realise that this would pose many difficulties, and instead identified a quiet spot in his equally beloved Lake District, near Hartside Pass and not far from where his wife Barbara's ashes lie. His stepson Simon duly scattered them there in October.

Meanwhile, Rianna's fund was unfortunately just winding up last Summer, and we had to find an alternative recipient for the funds collected in Donald's memory. Bonni-Belle Pickard, who was a Minister in this circuit until fairly recently, maintains links with a similar region of India and had spoken to Donald about the area on several occasions. She offered to take the funds on her next trip to India, to be used by the Bethania Foundation, specifically at the Grace Home in Nagercoil, a Christian organisation as near as we can identify to where Donald actually was. She personally knows people who work there, and she set off on Wednesday February 22nd taking with her the magnificent sum of £1740 to be used to feed, clothe and educate the poorest children in the region. Donald would be absolutely thrilled to know that his legacy lives on in this way, and I'm sure he would like to thank everyone for their generosity in enabling this to happen.

I very much hope to get a report from Bonni-Belle when she returns, giving details about exactly how this money is to be spent. This is a happy outcome, remembering a remarkable man who lost so much during his life but gave everything he had in the service of his congregations, his friends and his God.

Alison Bullett

) LINE

From the Charity MEDICAL LIFELINES UKRAINE CONVOY OF HOPE

'As winter bites and Russian

aggression targets the Ukrainian population with ever greater privations and misery, it is more important than ever to extend a hand of friendship and practical support to the innocent civilians who are victims of these callous and relentless acts.

Medical Lifelines Ukraine has so far delivered 16 aid-filled ambulances to war-torn areas of Ukraine since Russia's invasion on February 24th last year. The invasion has destroyed clinics and diverted medics and supplies to the front line. But the civilian need for humanitarian support and medical aid is massive. We use our ambulances to focus on 3 key objectives:



MEDICAL

1. Ambulances for hospitals.

Hospitals near the front line have lost ambulances either due to enemy action or to supporting Ukraine's military forces. They urgently need replacement vehicles to provide the medical support that their civilian populations desperately need.

2. Community transport hubs.

Vulnerable people in small communities in rural areas of Ukraine are hard to reach so their medical needs are often unmet. Our vehicles enable the co-ordination and delivery of life-saving humanitarian aid and medical support.

3. Delivering Aid

Our ambulances arrive in Ukraine filled to the brim with medical and practical articles including dressings and medical tools, PPE, defibrillators, generators, blankets, clothes and toys for displaced people who have lost everything.

We are identifying specific hospitals and special projects where our donated ambulances can make a real difference as well as the exact type of vehicles that will do the best possible job for them. With this information we are tracking down the right vehicles to buy and will make purchases as soon as we find the right match.

What you can do

Each ambulance costs around £15,000 to buy, recondition and deliver to Ukraine so the biggest thing you can do is to help support our fundraising, either by direct donations to one of our charity partners in the UK, or by supporting our fundraising activities. We are also very happy to hear from possible drivers... do get in touch!

Please contact us at ambulance2ukraine@gmail.com to support us or ask questions. Our UK fundraising partner is Harrop HR Missions Ltd Charity number 1117155 and we have partner groups in the US and elsewhere to ensure that donations receive the most favourable possible tax treatment.

Please follow the link <u>https://www.gofundme.com/f/convoy23</u>

In the immediate term, we hope to deliver a convoy of at least 6 ambulances to support the people of Ukraine in their struggle to survive, at the beginning of March.

Please can you help us equip these vehicles with items such as over- the- counter medicines, sanitary products, baby food and milk powder, nappies, new socks and underwear, gloves, hats and torches.

PLEASE NOTE: no outdoor clothing required thank you as we have no more room.'

If you can bring your donations/contributions to Church by **Wednesday 1st March**, we will make sure they reach the coordinator in Putney and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have made a difference.

Please act NOW while it is in your mind. Time is short.

With sincere thanks from everyone who has links to this devastated country.





Hi New Malden Methodist Church. Thanks to people like you who donated to our Shoe Appeal for Christmas 2022, every child in our care received a brand new pair of shoes, showing them they have our lasting love and support.

Thousands of Stand by Me children around the world were delighted to receive a brand new pair of shoes, many of them for the first time ever. Thanks to you, worn out shoes have been replaced with comfortable shoes that fit their growing feet. Smiles were seen from Myanmar to Kenya to Colombia, and we wanted to share with you the words of just some of our kids who expressed their joy and gratitude:



"I am very happy to get this amazing shoe. I start wearing them to church every Sunday. I praise the Lord for these amazing shoes. I am also very happy because I get to choose by myself at the store. Thank you very much for this beautiful shoe. May God Bless You." Andrew, Myanmar

"I want to thank you for this beautiful and useful gift. This Christmas was my first at Denisa Centre and I was overwhelmed with joy that you thought of the children in our centre. I was very happy to receive the shoes from you!" Maria (pictured right), Romania

Your support has given our children the dignity and security they deserve. Together, we have been able to provide our kids with protection from disease and infection.

Thank you for showing our children they are loved and cared for every step of the way!

Ahmad Ayoubi Executive Director

Wesley's

We are still in need of more volunteers during the week if you are able to help.

We will be implementing a rise to the prices from 1st March. They are still very reasonable!

£1.30
£1.50
£1.20
£1.20
£1.50

Mug of soup	£1.50
Glass of cold milk	80p
Glass of squash	40p
Pack of biscuits	40p
Mug of hot chocolate	
with marshmallows	£1.60

Saturdays in March & April

March

- 4th Kingston & Malden Scout & Guide Band
- 11th NMMC Boiler Fund
- 18th Malden & Coombe Flower Club
- 25th Our Woofs & Miaows UK

April

- 1st Inner Wheel
- 8th, 15th, 22nd, 28th all available at present

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 still plenty of vacances \bigcirc .

Good Friday Music 7th April, 2023 at 8 o'clock

This year we will be singing Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, a tuneful and reflective work with a choir drawn from churches in New Malden and beyond, accompanied by string orchestra and organ.

Rehearsals are below. If you haven't yet let Peter (p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk) know that you would like to sing, please do so. It is always a special part of Holy Week.

Saturday	18th March	10.15 – 11.45 am (scores from 10.00 am)		
Tuesday	21st March	7.45 – 9.15 pm		
Saturday	25th March	10.15 – 11.45 am		
Thursday	30th March	7.45 – 9.15 pm		
Saturday	1st April *	10.15 – 12.00 noon		
Wednesday	5th April*	8.15 – 10.00 pm Dress Rehearsal		
Please attend these * rehearsals if you possibly can.				
All rehearsals will be in New Malden Methodist Church, KT3 4BY. Coffee will be available in				
Wesley's before and after morning rehearsals. Please bring a water-bottle in the evening.				

Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at <u>nmmc@hotmail.co.uk</u> (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 April issue will be Wednesday 29th March.

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		CHESSINGTO	N	KINGSTON	NEW	MALDEN	SURBITON HILL
		10.00 am		10.30 am; 6pm	10.30	am	10.30 am
		Korean Langu	age Serv	vice at Chessington on S	Sundays	at 12.30 led by	Rev Paul Han
05 March am M Wakelin: HC		łC	Rutlidge: AA/HC	Brow	n	T Coveney	
							4.30: B Coveney PP
12 March	am	D Lloyd		Rutlidge: CA	Rush		Brown HC
19 March	am	J&M Wakelir	n: FP	Webb: AA	Rutlid	lge: AA	Brown: FS
Mothering Sun	pm	No Service		Brown	No Se	rvice	No Service
26 March	pm	M Wakelin		Davis	Rutlid	lge: HC	Brown LM
02 April	am	J Wakelin		Rutlidge: SJ	Brow	n	M Wakelin 4.30: B Coveney PP
06 April		No Service		6pm: Rutlidge: E	No Se	rvice	7.30pm Brown
07 April	am	No Service		10am: Rutlidge: W	10am	: W	ТВА
	pm	No Service		No Service	7.30:	Rutlidge: GF	No Service
09 April Easter Day	am	9 M Wakelin: HC 11 M Wakelin/Han: HC		Cocking: AA/HC	8.30: F	Rutlidge: HC Rutlidge: AA/HC	Brown HC
16 April	am	Davis: C		LA	LA		Webb
	pm	No Service		No Service	LA		No Service
23 April	am	M Wakelin		Rutlidge	Bridges/S Lloyd		Brown
30 April	am	Brown		Chun	Rutlid	lge	Webb
07 May	am	M Wakelin: HC		Rutlidge: AA/HC	T Coveney		Brown
14 May	am	Rutlidge		Bridges/S Lloyd	Verno	on	Brown HC 4.30: B Coveney PP
21 May	am	M Wakelin: (2	Rush	Rutlidge: HC		Brown
	pm	No Service		Rutlidge: HC	No Se	-	No Service
28 May	am	M Wakelin: F)	D Lloyd: P	Rutlidge: P		J Wakelin
CA: Café ChurchFS: FanC: Contemporary ServiceGF: GoCT: Churches TogetherHC: HoE: EucharistLA: Loc		nily Parade Service P: Pentecost nily Service PP: Praise Party od Friday Service SJ: With St John Iy Communion TBA: To be arra al Arrangement W: Walk of Wit		n's Inged			
Kingston: Sund New Malden: S	.0am : days 8 Sunda	Sunday: YouTւ և You Tube: <u>W</u> ays & You Tube	indows e: <u>Wind</u>	essington Methodist on Worship lows on Worship surbiton Hill Methodis		-	

NMMC Diary Dates – March

Thursday 2 nd Saturday 4 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm 10.00am – 12	Creative Arts Group Wesley's – Kingston & Malden Scout & Guide Band
Friday 10 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Board Games Afternoon
Saturday 11 th	10.00am – 12	Wesley's – Alison Bullett for the NMMC Boiler Fund
Sunday 12 th	3.00pm	Music in New Malden
Tuesday 14 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – AGM & Games
Wednesday 15 th 7.30pm		Pastoral Committee Meeting
Thursday 16 th	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Creative Arts Group
Saturday 18 th	10.00am – 12 10.00am	Wesley's – Malden & Coombe Flower Club First rehearsal for Good Friday Music
Tuesday 21 st	1.10pm	Lunchtime Concert
	7.45 – 9.15pm	Good Friday Music rehearsal
Saturday 25 th	10.00am – 12 10.15 – 11.45am	Wesley's – Our Woofs & Miaows UK Good Friday Music rehearsal
Tuesday 28 th	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – Easter Thoughts
, Thursday 30 th	7.45 – 9.15pm	Good Friday Music rehearsal

The Wesley Wanderers Walking Group

This group was set up nearly twenty years ago by Douglas Reed and friends of Surbiton Hill Methodist Church.

Sadly Doug and two of those friends have died but Peter Robson, an original leader, still leads the walks. They take place in the beautiful Surrey countryside with the exception of the London walk in February and maybe a walk along the River Thames towpath one month, but not always.

The walks alternate between the last Tuesday of the month and the last Thursday of the following month. This pattern is kept throughout the year.

The walks follow a circular pattern slightly longer in the morning always starting at 10 30am, a pub lunch and then a shorter walk back to the car park.

I have Peter's permission to put this notice in Spotlight and if you would like further information please talk to me. Stella Chattle.

The wife of Douglas Reed, Rachel, has written new words to an old hymn which she wanted to share.

My Dream

Dream of a world with no need for anxiety, A world of full employment where all can pay their bills; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – Surely we can fix our society's ills? We thank you, Lord, for eyes and hands and voices, Make us proactive, Lord, for this must not go on.

Dream of a world without any poverty, A healthy happy world where everyone gets fed; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – We can make it happen, if we share our bread; We thank you, Lord, for food and drink and money, So make us gen-rous, Lord, for this must not go on.

Dream of a world with no inequality, Life out there is messy, and often brutal too; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – so Speak to us, please! For we don't know what we do; We who have plenty, may long to give it all away – But would that fix the problems? No, the world needs You.

Dream of a world with no human misery, A world of compassion, where no-one howls with pain; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – yes, We'll give the broken hope and watch them smile again; We thank you, Lord, for empathy and kindness, With hands outstretched, we'll seek to spread Your name.

Dream of a world where no-one is illiterate, A world free of full ignorance, where all can write and read; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – yes, We could mend that problem, we could meet that need; We thank you, Lord, for books and pens and teachers, But we must play our part, for this can not go on.

Dream of a world where everybody knows our God, A world full of believers, who all may sense His love; Inspire us, Lord, to make it a reality – We could make a diff'rence with Your help from above. We thank you, Lord, for hymns and prayers and preachers, With hands held high, we'll praise Your holy name.

Words by Rachel Reed

FUN's Word-Cross Puzzle – the first to be published

in the *New York World* on 21st December 1913 Compiled by Arthur Wynne who worded in the paper's *Tricks and Jokes* department



- 2_3 What bargain hunters enjoy.
- 4_5 A written ackowledgement
- 6_7 Such and nothing more.
- 10_11 A bird.
- 14_15 Opposed to less.
- 18_19 What this puzzle is.
- 22_23 An animal of prey.
- 26_27 The close of day.
- 28-29 To elude.
- 30-31 The plural of is.
- 8_9 Cultivate.
- 12_13 A bar of wood.
- 16_17 What artists learn to do.
- 20_21 Fastened.
- 24_25 Found on the seashore.

- 10_18 The fibre of the gomuti palm.
 - 6_22 What we should all be.
 - 4_26 A day dream.
- 2_11 A talon
- 19_28 A pigeon.
 - F_7 Part of your head.
- 23_30 A river in Russia.
- 1_32 To govern.
- 33_34 An aromatic plant.
- N_8 A cat.
- 24_31 To agree with.
- 3_12 Part of a ship.
- 20_29 One.
- 5_27 Exchanging.
- 9_25 To sink in mud.
- 13_21 A boy.

Notes:

Down clues on the left, Across on the right as usual.

Numbers and letters refer to the square number at the start start and end of the word The following down words were new to me! 2_11, 20_29 and 33_34

Peter Bullett

Answers to February's Home-baked Quiz

All the answers are the names of cakes or biscuits. This is not original but I have adapted it from something I picked up in a far away village.

Prize for all complete and correct entries: Free coffee and cake for yourself and a friend at the next Sat NMMC coffee morning. Watch this space!

Where included, the words 'cake' and 'biscuit' are always in the singular.

- European does a somersault (5,4)
 Named after the Antipodean forces initially (5,7)
 ANZAC biscuit
- 3 Take your pick! Not as hard as it sounds (4, 4) Rock cake
- 4 Young Girl Guides might be plain or milk (9,7)



Alison Bullett

Chocolate brownie

5	American spirit (7)	Bourbon
6	Named for a Scottish city (6,4)	Dundee cake
7	Made in Funchal, perhaps (7,4)	Madeira cake
8	Pleasant in the south of France (4,7)	Nice biscuit
9	Top of the milk follows rhubarb's partner (7, 5)	Custard cream
10	Town in Greater Manchester (6, 4)	Eccles cake
11	Cook healthy disreputable lady in Derbyshire (8,4) Bakewell tart
12	Nsmile gets confused at Easter (6,4)	Simnel cake
13	Upset Ms. Foy? (6)	Eclair
14	Pirouette from Austrian capital (8,5)	Viennese whirl
15	Needed for cricket, X before German mountain, w	ve hear (10) Battenburg
16	Race at cork tangled on a stick? (6,4)	Carrot cake
17	Very rich person has restricted loaf (12,10)	Millionaire's shortbread
18	Dark woods before a French cake (5,6,6)	Black forest gateau
19	French small numbers, in agreement (5,5)	Petit fours
20	Chat show host. Michael without offspring (6)	Parkin
21	Heavenly messenger's food (5,4)	Angel cake
22	He wanted more but needs the tub first (4,6)	Bath oliver
23	Citrus before fine rain (5,7,4)	Lemon drizzle cake
24	Fruity Italian port (5,4)	Genoa cake
25	Can a room be changed? (8)	Macaroon
26	Wealthy golf ball support? (4,3)	Rich Tea
27	Scottish palace, we see (5)	Scone
28	Airbag lid needs fixing (9)	Garibaldi
29	Beat wings with person of all trades (8)	Flapjack
30	Heated and angry (3,5,3)	Hot cross bun
31	A redhead (9)	Gingernut
32	Fruity, sticky and sweet but not Artful (5, 6)	Jammy Dodger
33	Chat with friends (6)	Hobnob
34	Is raeli a cake or a biscuit? (5,4)	Jaffa cake

So far nobody has submitted answers or claimed their free coffee and cake at Wesleys! If this has whetted your appetite for cake, come and sample the wares on offer every Saturday, 10-12., in aid of various charities. If you are eager for more puzzles, speak to Alison.

Spring Photography Competition



Little owl in Marble Hill Park

Sunset over Rill







In the grounds of the Holiday Fellowship house Ballachulish near Fort William. Have the aliens landed?





The importance of Health and Safety

Sunset over New Malden



Spring time!





Spruced up Big Ben in the sunshine



Views from Conwy Castle



Please let Sarah know your favourite – there will be a prize for the most popular!

And finally, a caption competition for the April issue



Send me your suggestions 😇, Sarah