



ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE



THE GRAPEVINE



JUNE 2022

Volume 1 No 5



This is the day which the Lord hath made!  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Psalm 118 v 24

## PASTORAL LETTER

June 2022

*Our letter this month is written by the Revd Malcolm Shapland, a retired URC minister, who lives in Wales. For some years now Malcolm has written a regular "Spare a prayer" column which he shares with many people via Facebook. In this one he picks up on a well-known poem and has entitled it – Spare a Prayer for "If Only".*

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Dear Everyone,

In school we were made to learn Rudyard Kipling's poem "IF". It was popular back then and Mr. Kipling was a poet and writer and not a cake man! It tells of all the things that can be achieved if you do what the poem suggests and it ends with the promise that you will do and get all the things you wish for if you follow the IFs.

It is much more likely that many of us think of what would have happened (or indeed not happened) if, instead of IF, we had heeded the IF ONLY we had or hadn't done something.

Regrets for things said, for opportunities missed, for actions missed, for neglect of some duty to someone. So many other IF ONLY'S. Regrets from the past can dominate the future of our living.

I think Kipling's poem ends with the lines:

*If you can fill the unforgiving moment  
with sixty seconds worth of distance run.  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it.  
And what is more, you'll be a man my son.*

Someone wrote a parody on that:

*If you can fill the unforgiving moment,  
With sixty seconds worth of distance run.  
You'll have the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And a heart attack before you're fifty-one.*

Regrets there may be but there are good things, too. We need to be guided by our regrets but not overcome by them.

*Malcolm Shapland*

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*(Kipling went to school in Westward Ho! and a few years ago the council set the whole of this poem out in cobble stones, incorporating them into the surface of the promenade. The politically correct lobby won through, though, and the final line is missing!)*

## SERVICES AND OTHER KEY DATES JUNE 2022

***The Minister is now on Sabbatical until mid-August***

***On the first and third Sunday of the month, services will also be on Zoom.***

<b>Sunday 5 June (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship with Holy Communion taken by Mr Sydney Shore</b>
	4.00 pm	The Ian Engelmann Singers' Concert Riverhouse Barn, Walton (see p13)
<b>Wednesday 8 June</b>	<b>12.30 pm</b>	Organ Recital with David Oldfield Weybridge site (see pp 12&13)
<b>Friday 10 June</b>	<b>12.30 - 2.30 pm</b>	People Who Lunch Walton site (see p14)
	<b>8.00 pm</b>	Treble Clef Choir Concert St James' Church, Weybridge (see p13)
<b>Sunday 12 June</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship taken by Mrs Anna Crawford</b>
<b>Tuesday 14 June</b>	<b>8.00 pm</b>	Elders' Meeting Bill Topping Room, Walton site

***COPY DATE FOR JULY/AUGUST ISSUE WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE***

***ALL ITEMS TO THE EDITOR (provided they do not contravene copyright regulations)***

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(Please note amended email address for the Associate Editor)***

<b>Sunday 19 June (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship taken by Mrs Vivien Gerhold</b>
	3.00 pm	Messy Church
<b>Sunday 26 June</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship taken by the Revd Bruce Stuart</b>

## News of the Church Family

### Birth

Rachel & Mike Snaith were delighted to welcome the newest member of their family with the birth of their granddaughter, Adaline Rosetta Willis, on 26<sup>th</sup> April – a daughter for Gemma and Tom. We send our love and congratulations to all the family.



### 4<sup>th</sup> Weybridge Scout Group

Many congratulations to the 4<sup>th</sup> Weybridge Scouts who have won the Surrey County Expedition Challenge 2022. Their Team A, which had been selected to represent Walton & Weybridge District, was victorious in this two-day event in May. They had to plan and undertake a lightweight hiking and camping expedition being entirely responsible for themselves throughout the event. A panel of judges monitored and graded the performance of all the teams taking part. The 4<sup>th</sup> Weybridge Scout Group has always been part of the Church Family (along with our other uniformed organisations) and over the years church members have often been involved either as leaders or through the Scout Group Council. Consequently we have followed their activities with great interest and are very proud of everything they achieve. Our thanks go to Scout Leader, Sally Rogers, for sharing these photographs with us.



WELL DONE!!



## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

We all send our love and very best wishes to Jean who celebrated a special Decade Birthday on 11<sup>th</sup> May.



### WOW WHAT A NIGHT!

I went to Nova club on my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday for a fancy dress disco, dressed as a clown – thank you Margaret Faultless for the costume. And what a night I had. A lot of secret plans had been put in place. Food, flowers and gifts. I was blown away with the love I felt from all my special friends. I took my invisible dog called Spot (Spot the Dog) – unfortunately he did a ‘whoopsie’ on the floor (fake of course) but it got a lot of laughter.

My daughter said, Don’t grow up – it’s a trap”.  
SO I WON’T!

*Jean Rigden*

## Prayers

Please remember all these church friends in your prayers – Brian Ashfield (as he recovers from major surgery), Kate Ashfield, David Cheeseman, Chris Goddard, Moira de Kok, John Langdon, Lilian Smith and Michael Stevens.

*(If you have any family news you would like to share with the wider Church Family please give the details to the Editors. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to be included in the Prayer List please let the Editors know. We always seek permission from the person involved before any name is added.)*

## Masks – A New Guideline

The Elders’ Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May agreed that the wearing of masks on church premises will be a matter of personal choice, going forward, in accordance with views expressed by the congregation. We will maintain space, ventilation and hand hygiene as before and we ask that anyone feeling unwell for any reason will not attend church premises, but please let your Pastoral Elder know. These changes will be under review each month at Elders’ Meeting.

## The Grapevine

The next edition of *The Grapevine* is a combined issue for July and August. Please send any articles, notices etc for the two months to the Editors by **15<sup>th</sup> June** by email (see email addresses on p3) or hard copy.

## Church Meeting

The next Church Meeting is on **10<sup>th</sup> July** following the morning service. Please make a note of the date and do your best to be there.

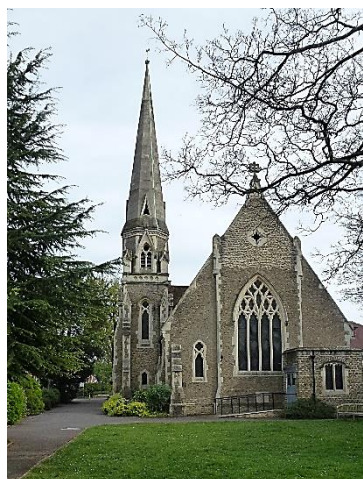




## Wessex Synod – Prayer Calendar for June

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 5  | The Haven @ Banbury;<br>Christ Church, Milton, Portsmouth;<br>United Church, Ferndown |
| 12 | Fleet;<br>Pear Tree Green, Southampton;<br>Hope, Weymouth                             |
| 19 | Grange, Reading;<br>Salisbury   |
| 26 | Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon;<br>Petersfield & Liss                          |

## TWO IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### **SUNDAY 21 AUGUST at 10.30am** **Final Service in the Weybridge URC building**

Thankfully the congregation is not closing. The fellowship continues as part of St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Walton and Weybridge. It is, therefore, not going to be the last time we are all together. It's the building that's closing although inevitably that is going to be an emotional occasion for us all.

The service on 21<sup>st</sup> August will hopefully be "simple but sincere" in style as we give thanks for all that has happened within the church's walls since 1865 and, before that, at Heath House. Inevitably a number of things will have already been removed from the building by then but we shall still gather there.

Tea/Coffee and cakes will be served after the service in the church hall so do put this date in your diary and do come – and please invite any past members you're still in touch with to come along and join us, too. They will be most welcome. This is not going to be a "great and the good" occasion, followed by "big eats". Instead, it will be a time for quiet sincerity and an opportunity to worship there, one last time, honouring the many memories we have of it.

### **SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER at 10.30am**

Our Synod Moderator, Clare Downing, will be leading our worship on this day. Clare has not led worship in the pastorate since my induction service in 2017 and this date has been in her diary for some time – long before our church union discussions began. What's rather nice, though, is that Clare will take this opportunity to sort of commission and dedicate our new church for the future. It will be a different kind of service. Perhaps a human analogy is helpful. On 1<sup>st</sup> January we gave birth to a baby. On 2<sup>nd</sup> January we brought the baby home (first service). We have decided on a name and now on 11<sup>th</sup> September the Moderator will "baptise" our baby.

Again, do come along to the "baptism service" and, who knows, there may even be a Christening Cake with coffee afterwards.

*Michael Hodgson*

## Top Tips and all that Chat – Your comments on life today

*Unsurprisingly our 'chat' in recent weeks seems to have been primarily about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.*

I made a rare venture into the loft to search for our large Union Jack and the red, white and blue bunting to put up in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee. Although the flags were later discovered stacked neatly on a shelf in the garage the loft experience turned out to be a worthwhile activity – it is now a lot tidier and emptier!

In the past we have had several families from overseas living in our road. Perhaps in a feeling of nostalgia they always celebrated their home country's national days usually with a party and always with their country's flag standing in the porch. The parties were memorable with a mixture of ex-pats, neighbours and other friends enjoying an international menu. Some of the links we made then still exist today. The coming Jubilee celebrations reminded us of those occasions – it is definitely time to fly the flag.

Hopefully the Platinum Jubilee celebrations will give us all a boost. It is a spot of brightness when the daily news is so often downbeat.

To be able to see the Queen's Coronation on television was so exciting – even though by today's standards the television screen was very small. We all crowded round and felt we were part of history.

Watching cookery programmes is not something I normally do but I have to admit to being hooked on the programme with the five finalists (from 5000 entries) to choose the Platinum Jubilee Pudding. The recipes devised by the contestants were ingenious but I was relieved when one of the less complicated dishes won. Even I should be capable of producing the Lemon Swiss Roll and Amaretti Trifle although it may not be as perfect as Jemma Melvin's. Nevertheless it will be part of our Platinum Jubilee celebrations along with the original menu for Coronation Chicken by Constance Spry and Rosemary Hume.

For the Royal Wedding (Charles and Diana) in 1981 our neighbour (a keen gardener) persuaded us to plant a red, white and blue flowerbed – red salvias, white alyssum and blue lobelia. The salvias and lobelia had their moment of glory in that year but the heirs of the alyssum continue to pop everywhere each year despite desperate weeding. Our neighbour moved several years ago so does not witness the annual battle.

Friends and I have been reminiscing about previous Jubilee celebrations in the church (Weybridge). They all seemed to involve Union Jack cakes and Champagne but the one that really stuck in our minds was the Golden Jubilee in 2002. Following the morning service and wearing our 'regalia' we went into the imaginatively decorated hall where there were various competitions to test our knowledge of royalty. After a fabulous lunch (prepared by several ladies in the church) we settled back for entertainment by the choir and were then encouraged to join in various 'national' dances led by the extremely nimble-footed Ron and Margaret Parker with Margaret Drennan providing the piano accompaniment – surely the one and only time that most of us have sung and danced 'The Lambeth Walk'! Wonderful memories provoking a lot of laughter.

When we went to a party to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 I wore a red, white and blue outfit and a headband with two very small Union Jack flags fluttering from it! The headband re-appeared for the Royal Wedding in 1981 and for the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees. I am now thinking of getting it out again for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations – it is still in good shape even if I am not quite the same!

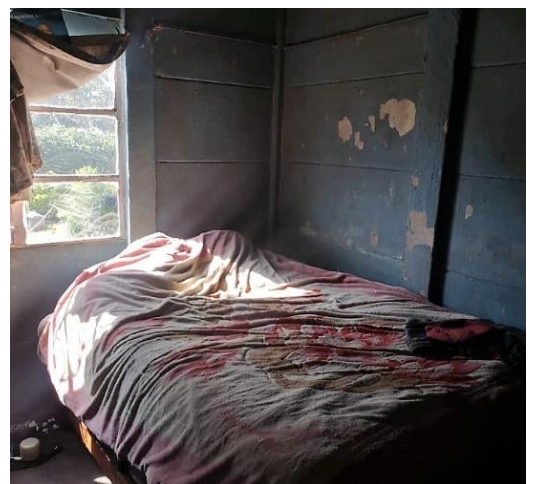
# ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

**THE RICH GET RICHER WHILE THE POOR GET POORER** is certainly true in Zimbabwe. This article focuses on the life and living conditions of one artist who has been my main link with the group over many years. Mike Masedza gives an insight into his background and current struggle to survive. There must be thousands more like him in Zimbabwe and worse in other parts of the world. Despite a promising start after Independence, Zimbabwe's standard of living and human rights record during and since the Mugabe era has steadily deteriorated.

**MIKE'S STORY:** 'I was born on the 14th of October 1967 in Rusape in eastern Zimbabwe. I grew up in a rural area herding cattle and goats, making my own toys by moulding animals and birds. I carved wood with traditional tools and made yokes etc. Soon after sitting my 'O' level exams, I left school when I was seventeen. I wanted to attend a music school but failed to get the fees. That's when I was introduced to the late great master Joseph Ndandarika by my uncle who was his friend. I was apprenticed to Joseph for five years and was lucky to rub shoulders with many famous first-generation artists as they so respected his talent'. (Ndandarika exhibited extensively both nationally and internationally, having works in important collections worldwide).



'I am the sixth born in a family of six boys and two girls. Six children are now late including parents. I am left with my sister who is now married and lives far



away. My late brothers and sisters all left their children totalling fifteen in my custody - some now have their own kids. I have four children, two boys and two girls. I have six grandchildren - my extended family amounts to twenty-five. My late wife Grace died on the 11th of September 2001. I will never forget that day as it's when Bin Laden attacked the USA. She was only twenty-five when she died of a heart problem. Miss her so much!'

**LIVING CONDITIONS:** 'I used to rent two rooms with my second wife (35) and teenage son (13) but am now reduced to one. Electricity is normally off from 6am to 8pm. Sometimes I do piece jobs in construction and dig wells. I spread harvest cobs on top of the roof - then pack into bags



so that they can fit in my one room. Sometimes I sell surplus cobs depending on the harvest but this season I cannot sell because the harvest is low. Church friends occasionally give us food. We do not have running water and



draw water from a well in the yard (above). I fill a bucket to flush the outside toilet (above right). My wife travels to clean someone's home earning 10\$ for a forty-hour week. She sleeps there weekdays as she cannot afford the daily 2\$ bus fare. At least it helps put some food on the table.





**LEFT:** Mike's wife Emma, preparing a meal in their kitchen – once an abandoned chicken run with son Maita ('Thank You').

**MIKE'S DREAM:** He has always lived in cramped rented conditions and dearly wants his own home. In better times when we organised large exhibitions at various URC churches in the UK, he managed to scrape some money together to buy a 'stand' – a plot of land to build a modest home. With the help of a bricklayer friend, he is in the process of building walls for one room

(right) but ideally needs two rooms before he can move in with his family. However, this room needs about 400 more bricks to complete plus window frame and glass, door, roofing sheets and timber. However, he has only 5\$ in his pocket! His current rent is 40\$ a month often in arrears, so he is continually fighting a losing battle especially when the estimate to finish the house is around 1000\$ (£820.) He is tired of living in wretched conditions. Mike's strong Christian faith is the glue that holds Artpeace together. Despite his own plight he has given so much of himself to others whilst helping many young aspiring artists outside the group.



If anyone sympathises with Mike's situation and feels able to help, please let me know. He is now fifty-five years old and average life expectancy for men in Zimbabwe is sixty-two.

*Mike deserves a helping hand to lift the family's morale and ease their hardship by radically improving their living conditions. There is no state aid in Zimbabwe.*

**THE SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL SHOP** is well stocked with Artpeace work at present but sadly footfall is light. I have lots of small pieces in my shed for sale so should anyone be looking for a unique present, I am sure I could oblige! Lots of talented artists – friends of Artpeace are adding their own style of work in stunning stones. From left: 'The Thinker' by Godwin Nasho, 'Elephant' in lepidolite by Friday Chingwaru and 'Dancing Couple' by Tawanda Mhandu. **Johnston Simpson**





*Image designed by Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.  
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## **A Royal Quiz**

*The Associate Editor has compiled this quiz for you to do as part of your Platinum Jubilee celebrations. You will find the answers on p18.*

- 1 When and where was the Queen born and what was her title at birth?
- 2 The Queen has three Christian names. What are they?
- 3 When and where did the marriage of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh take place?
- 4 Who designed Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress?
- 5 On which date did the Queen accede to the throne?
- 6 In which country did the Queen arrive as Princess Elizabeth and leave as Queen?
- 7 When and where was the Queen's Coronation Service held?
- 8 Who designed the Queen's Coronation robe?
- 9 What special natural emblems were embroidered on it?
- 10 How many prime ministers have served during the Queen's reign and what are their names?
- 11 In which year did Queen Elizabeth II become our longest reigning monarch?
- 12 Name two official residences in England associated with the Queen.
- 13 Name the four children of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.
- 14 What is the name of the Queen's official residence in Scotland?
- 15 What are the names of the Queen's eight grandchildren?
- 16 What is the name of the Queen's official residence in Northern Ireland?
- 17 What are the names of the Queen's 12 great-grandchildren?
- 18 The Queen's favourite meal is said to be afternoon tea, especially when it includes which cake?
- 19 How many countries form the Commonwealth?
- 20 How many of those countries are Commonwealth Realms where the Queen is Head of State?
- 21 Prior to the Queen who were the five longest-serving monarchs who reigned for 50 or more years?
- 22 How many monarchs have reigned since William the Conqueror in 1066 to our present Queen?
- 23 Which special honour did the Queen bestow on the Duke of Edinburgh in celebration of his 90th birthday?
- 24 Throughout her reign in which outdoor sport has the Queen actively participated for relaxation?
- 25 What is the Queen's favourite breed of dog?
- 26 At the Royal Variety Performance in 1963 (held in the presence of the Queen) who said "For our last number I'd like to ask for your help. Will the people in the cheaper seats clap their hands and for the rest of you, if you'd just rattle your jewellery?"

***These hymns are being used in the United Reformed Church  
Service to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee***

**Words:** Revd Ana Gobledale

**Tune:** O Lord, my God (How Great Thou Art)

Creator God, your love abounds forever;  
Creation's beauty fills the earth and sky.  
Your shining stars, the universe expanding,  
Amazing power, creation does display.

***Chorus:*** *Creator God, we lift our song to you,  
How great your love, how great your love. (repeat)*

When through the fields, and mossy woods we wander,  
we hear the birds, and rustling of the leaves;  
When we absorb the sunrays shining brightly,  
And feel the shade beneath the spreading trees,

***Chorus:*** *Creator God, we lift our song to you,  
How great your love, how great your love. (repeat)*

Walking the streets, through city ways and byways  
We hear the sounds of life and children's play;  
When justice rings from every church's spire  
We feel the hope of promises you've made.

***Chorus:*** *Creator God, we lift our song to you,  
How great your love, how great your love. (repeat)*

And when we think, how love and peace surround us,  
Eternal One, we scarce can take it in,  
Your truth, your realm, your justice spreading broadly,  
Our hearts are filled, for Love has entered in.

***Chorus:*** *Creator God, we lift our song to you,  
How great your love, how great your love. (repeat)*

**Words:** Revd Ray Stanyon

**Tune:** St Andrew's

Let us walk in love beside you  
All along life's dusty road  
Hearing, knowing every burden  
Let us help to share your load

Wounds and pain arise to rob us  
Of a love community  
Guard us from a self-importance  
Seeing you as less than 'we'

Let us rise and risk for justice  
Walk a mile within your shoes  
Striving for a world that's far too  
Precious in God's eyes to lose

Whether sitting or if active  
May we always do what's best  
God the focus of attention  
God our source, our work, our rest

## ORGAN CORNER

### *Organ Recital* – given at Weybridge URC on 11 May

#### **A Dip into Three Centuries of Organ Music**

The third in this year's programme of organ recitals was given by Alan Rapley on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Alan has performed for us in previous years and has also played for us at a church service.

As before, Alan delighted us with his varied programme and talented playing. He began with Johann Sebastian Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in E flat*, a virtuoso piece using all three keyboards with great dexterity. It was followed by *Unter der Linden Grüne* by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck and John Bennett's *Voluntary in D Major*. Alan introduced us to all the pieces clearly and concisely, the remaining five being by Robert Schumann, Josef Rheinberger, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Pietro Yon and Joseph Callaert.

In all we enjoyed an inspiring and accomplished performance, which made very good use of our much-loved Willis Organ.

*Shirley Morley*

#### **Organ Recital Weybridge URC site**

**12.30pm 8 June**

The original organist booked for the recital on 8<sup>th</sup> June has had to withdraw but we are very pleased that David Oldfield (bless him!) has agreed to step in as a replacement. Those of you who were at the recital he gave earlier in the series will know that he provides a versatile and exciting programme with a mixture of traditional and modern pieces. The regulars will no doubt be pleased to have another chance to hear him while those of you who missed him the first time round have the opportunity to catch-up. If you have not been before you might like to know that the audience is not only able to listen to the organ music but also to have an on screen close-up view of the organist actually playing. The dexterity of hands (and feet) is often astounding!

David Oldfield was born and educated in Sheffield where he attended King Edward VII School. He was offered an unconditional place at the Royal Northern College of Music where he studied organ, singing and choral training.

David worked in education for many years often as Head of Music in several schools and has had successful posts as organist and choirmaster teaching organ, piano and singing. He has worked in varying roles for the Royal School of Church Music since 1977 including Housemaster, Course Director and Examiner for Bishops' and Deans' Awards.

David specialises in early music, Baroque music and 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century music but has an eclectic taste and wide repertoire outside these periods. He made a special study of Tudor Church Music and the vast choral repertoire of English Church Music.

David directs the choir Coro Novus (giving concerts in various cathedrals) and continues to pursue his recital career – which later this year includes Wilmslow and Lincoln.

Please come along to support the organist and share in this event for church and community. Bring your friends and your lunch (if you wish to do so) – coffee, tea and soft drinks will be provided – and relax whilst listening to what is guaranteed to be an hour of superb music. Admission is free but there will be a retiring collection. After running costs have been deducted the balance will go to the Woking and Weybridge branch of Parkinson's UK.

*Brian Ashfield*



**Programme for Organ Recital  
by David Oldfield**

**12.30pm 8 June  
Weybridge URC**

Trumpet Minuet in D

Alfred Hollins  
(1865-1942)

Two Hymn Tune Preludes  
on Song 34 Op 105 No.1

Charles Villiers Stanford  
(1852-1924)

on Richmond

Healey Willan  
(1880-1968)

Fantasia & Fugue in C – BWV 537

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Elegy

George Thalben-Ball  
(1896-1987)

Prelude & Fugue (Voluntary) in G Op 5 No.9

John Stanley  
(1712-1786)

Hornpipe Humoresque

Noel Rawsthorne  
(1929-2019)

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*The Ian Engelmann Singers*  
*Musical Director: John Tudhope*  
*present*

*Songs for a Summer's Day*

*An Afternoon Concert*  
*of unaccompanied part-songs, with readings*  
*both serious and light-hearted*  
*at the*

*Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre*  
*Manor Road, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2PF*  
*on*  
*Sunday 5 June 2022 at 4:00 pm*

Tickets £12  
from the Riverhouse Barn Box Office  
E-mail: [boxoffice@riverhousebarn.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@riverhousebarn.co.uk)  
Tel: 01932 253354, or at the door

*Concert Proceeds to The Riverhouse Barn*

**CELEBRATE**  
A Selection of much loved music  
with  
**Treble Clef Choir**  
ON  
**JUNE 10 2022**  
At 8pm  
At St James Church  
Weybridge KT13 8DF  
and

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Emily Leather  
ACCOMPANIST Hannah Stanley  
GUEST SOLOIST Philip Lee, Tenor

Tickets Price £12.50 including after concert refreshments available from Treble Clef on 01252 326514 or from choir members.

Accompanied children up to 12 years free.

Retiring Collection: for Access For All - the St James Church Renovation Fund and Choir funds



## People Who Lunch 12.30pm 10 June

In April 2008 Margaret Faultless organised the first 'Ladies Who Lunch' at Weybridge URC following a request from the ladies in the congregation for an informal social gathering for them. An invitation was soon extended to the ladies from St Andrew's to share in what was to become a very successful fixture in the church diary. It was not long before the men of the Weybridge congregation were feeling a bit left out and so twice a year (August and December) the ladies kindly invited the men from both churches to join in the lunch. In recent times the men have become permanent fixtures each month and the title is now 'People Who Lunch'. Some of the founder members still attend regularly and are as enthusiastic about this monthly get-together as they were in the beginning. Although these lunchtime sessions are primarily for people in the congregation everyone is welcome to attend and over the years at Weybridge they have sometimes provided an informal introduction to the church fellowship. The recent gathering on 13<sup>th</sup> May was the last to be held at Weybridge (sadly the walls there will no longer resound to the chatter and laughter each month) but the venture continues at its new location in the hall at St Andrew's with the next meeting being held on **10<sup>th</sup> June at 12.30pm**. If you have not been before you might like to give it a try this month. You will not only find yourself in the midst of a very friendly gathering but for just £4.00 you will be able to enjoy a menu with a choice of two soups, roll and butter, a choice of five puddings, biscuits and cheese, coffee or tea! Note the date and new venue and reserve your place with Margaret Faultless by email [margaret.faultless@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:margaret.faultless@blueyonder.co.uk) or by speaking to her in church.

**NB** There will be no meeting of People Who Lunch in July but normal service will be resumed on 12<sup>th</sup> August.

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## A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

### Some dates to note over the next few months

Sunday	5 June	4.00pm	The Ian Engelmann Singers' Concert ( <i>see p13</i> )
Wednesday	8 June	12.30pm	Organ Recital ( <i>see pp12&amp;13</i> )
Friday	10 June	12.30pm	People Who Lunch ( <i>see p14</i> )
Friday	10 June	8.00pm	Treble Clef Concert ( <i>see p13</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10 July</b>	<b>11.45am</b>	<b>Church Meeting</b>
Wednesday	13 July	12.30pm	Organ Recital
Friday	12 August	12.30pm	People Who Lunch
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21 August</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Final Service at Weybridge</b> ( <i>see p6</i> )
Friday	9 September	12.30pm	People Who Lunch
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 September</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Moderator leading worship</b> ( <i>see p6</i> )

- NB**
- 1 There is no session of People Who Lunch in July.
  - 2 The Organ Recital at Weybridge scheduled for August in the original programme plan will not be taking place.

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## Messy Church

At Messy church today we talked about Pentecost. The children made windmills and paper aeroplanes representing the wind and the cakes had strawberries representing the flames. Thank you to Anne for preparing all the activities and to all the volunteers.



We then went into church and sang "He's got the whole world in his hands" and "The wise man built his house upon the rocks". My chimpanzee called Jack talked to the children on how important it is to be kind and to say sorry if you know you have been naughty. Jack asked if anyone had never been naughty and no one put their hand up not even the grown-ups. We talked about how God loves us and always forgives us.



*Flames made by blowing paint through a straw.*

*Jean Rigden*



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## Elmbridge Mencap Sensory Garden update

We are now about to start the fourth week of the Sensory Garden at Burview Hall. The project is due to be finished in another three or four weeks. The outdoor musical instruments have arrived and the laying of the paths will start next week (mid-May). Ella, the lady doing the tree sculptures, is hard at work and is making three sculptures in total. We are going to open up our

Sensory Garden to those who have had a stroke or have dementia as well as to our special needs' friends. We are very excited that our project is at last taking shape. *Jean Rigden*



## Flower Notes



### Flower Fairy Volunteer urgently needed!

Irene Pearson, who has distributed the church flowers at St Andrew's (now St Andrew's, Walton and Weybridge), is putting out a plea for someone to take over from her. She has loved this job but now has health issues which mean that she only drives when absolutely necessary and she badly needs to take a break. The flowers are normally distributed on Sundays after the service or on Mondays. It is a very rewarding job and enormously appreciated by the recipients of the flowers.

Please consider whether you could help!



### Where have all the flowers gone?

Do you remember the days when churches held two service each Sunday? After one evening service at Weybridge URC a lady in the congregation offered to deliver the church flowers to a member who was ill. Being a very kind lady she was also giving a lift home in her car to three friends. Before helping her passengers into the car she placed the bunch of flowers with the church card attached, signed by the Minister, carefully on the roof of the car. Once everyone was safely on board she got in the car and drove off. Having delivered all her passengers to their various homes she said to herself "Only the flowers left to deliver now and then I can go home and relax with a cup of tea." An awful thought flashed into her mind. She remembered placing the flowers on the roof of the car ..... Quickly she retraced her route but there was no bunch of flowers to be seen anywhere. She felt very guilty at being so forgetful and thought frantically about what she should do next. She would need to apologise to the intended recipient and could buy some flowers as a replacement. Perhaps she should confess to the Flower Secretary? Perhaps she should confess to the Minister? She went home to make the necessary phone calls. As she entered the house the telephone was ringing. It was the Minister calling. A policeman had arrived at The Manse carrying a bunch of flowers. "Have you lost any flowers, sir?", he said.

## *Holiday Memories*

Now that life is back to relative normality many people are thinking about holidays. If you are able to get away for a holiday or a short-break or to have an interesting day out please share it with us. Not everyone is physically able to get out and about to enjoy such activities and being able to read about your experiences brings great pleasure. Please send your contribution to the Editors – long, short or just a few lines – every article is welcome.

Both the following traditional poems are imbued with the delights of summertime – one of them also covers the pleasures of travelling and the other is a fun poem about childhood experiences. Perhaps the ideas they express will resonate with your ideas about 'summertime'. Alternatively, you could get into summer mode by dancing along to *Summertime* – the iconic tune from the musical *Porgy and Bess*.

### Adlestrop

Yes, I remember Adlestrop –  
The name, because one afternoon  
Of heat the express-train drew up there  
Unwontedly. It was late June.



The steam hissed. Someone cleared his throat.  
No one left and no one came  
On the bare platform. What I saw  
Was Adlestrop – only the name  
And willows, willow-herb, and grass,  
And meadowsweet, and haycocks dry,  
No whit less still and lonely fair  
Than the high cloudlets in the sky.  
And for that minute a blackbird sang  
Close by, and round him, mistier,  
Farther and farther, all the birds  
Of Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

*Edward Thomas (1878-1917)*

*An essential part of all poets' lives must surely be an ever-present notebook or, in these modern days, a smart phone or tablet/ipad, to jot down any thoughts and ideas as they go about their daily life. This is exactly what the poet, Edward Thomas, did when he was travelling on the train on the line going from Oxford to Worcester on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1914. The train was part of the express service with few scheduled stops at stations along the line but on this particular journey it stopped unexpectedly at Adlestrop. This must have been quite a surprise for the 100+ people in this little Gloucestershire village (formerly known as Tittlestrop) but it was a welcome diversion for Edward Thomas. It gave him the opportunity of studying the landscape and recording what he saw. The notes he made have meant that we, so many years later, are able to enjoy the delights of a summer's day in the English countryside – just a few weeks before the country was caught up in the beginning of what was to be four years of war in Europe. Although Adlestrop Station no longer exists – it closed in 1966 as part of the 'Beeching cuts' – the poem is featured on a bench on the station's site.*

### **Bed in Summer**

In winter I get up at night  
And dress by yellow candle-light.  
In summer, quite the other way,  
I have to go to bed by day.  
  
I have to go to bed and see  
The birds still hopping on the tree,  
Or hear the grown-up people's feet  
Still going past me in the street.  
  
And does it not seem hard to you,  
When all the sky is clear and blue,  
And I should like so much to play,  
To have to go to bed by day?

*Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)*



### **Answers to the Royal Quiz on p10.**

- 1 21 April 1926; 17 Bruton Street, Mayfair, London (her parents' residence); Princess Elizabeth of York
- 2 Elizabeth Alexandra Mary
- 3 20<sup>th</sup> November 1947; Westminster Abbey
- 4 Norman Hartnell
- 5 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952
- 6 Kenya
- 7 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953; Westminster Abbey
- 8 Norman Hartnell
- 9 Flower and plant emblems of the four countries of the UK and all the other Commonwealth countries
- 10 14 – Winston Churchill, Anthony Eden, Harold Macmillan, Alec Douglas-Home, Harold Wilson, Edward Heath, James Callaghan, Margaret Thatcher, John Major, Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, David Cameron, Theresa May, Boris Johnson
- 11 2015 (9<sup>th</sup> September)
- 12 Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle
- 13 Prince Charles; Princess Anne; Prince Andrew; Prince Edward
- 14 The Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh
- 15 Prince William; Prince Henry (Harry); Princess Beatrice; Princess Eugenie; Lady Louise Windsor; James, Viscount Severn; Peter Phillips; Zara Tindall (née Phillips)
- 16 Hillsborough Castle, North West County Down
- 17 Prince George, Princess Charlotte, Prince Louis, Archie Mountbatten-Windsor, Lilibet Mountbatten-Windsor, Savannah Phillips, Isla Phillips, Mia Tindall, Lena Tindall, Lucas Tindall, August Brooksbank, Sienna Mapelli Mozzi
- 18 Dundee Cake
- 19 54
- 20 14 in addition to the UK
- 21 Queen Victoria (63 years), King George III (59), King James I (VI of Scotland) (58), King Henry III (56), King Edward III (50)
- 22 40
- 23 The Title and Office of Lord High Admiral
- 24 Horse-riding
- 25 Pembroke Welsh Corgi
- 26 John Lennon (The Beatles)

## PRAYER CORNER



The prayer below comes from the United Reformed Church service to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The order of service was compiled by the Revd Dr Ana Gobledale, who is a member of the URC's Worship Reference Group and Minister in Salisbury and Andover. She says "I see the service as an opportunity to highlight URC composers and liturgists celebrating the vibrant and creative Free Church element of the realm."

(Official logo used by URC on the Order of Service to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.)

### Sunday 5 June *A Prayer of Praise & Thanksgiving*

Gracious God, how great your love!

We lift our song to you as we gather with praise and thanksgiving on our hearts.

We come, part of the rainbow of your family from the nations of this United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, rich in our diversity and culture.

We come as people of faith to give you thanks for Her Majesty The Queen – a leader, a mother, a wife, a servant.

Thank you for her life of service and the example of her deep sense of vocation.

May she continue to be blessed with divine guidance and find strength in her faith.

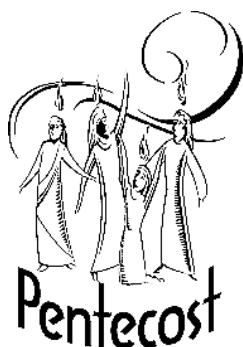
May she be encouraged by the widespread celebration of this Jubilee.

May we who gather today be enriched and strengthened by today's service.

May the words, spoken and sung, lift our spirits that we might leave this place steadfast in our role as your ambassadors and Christ's disciples.

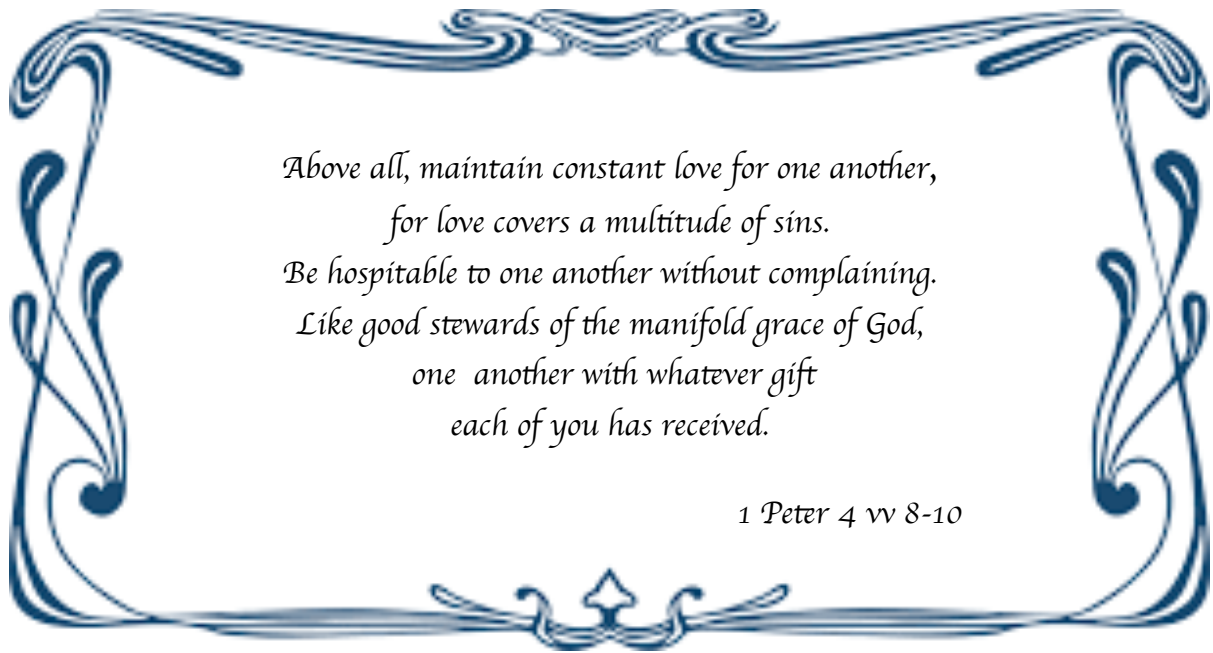
Amen

### Sunday 5 June *A Prayer for Pentecost*



We ask for your forgiveness, Lord,  
when we forget  
the power that lies within,  
and trust instead  
upon our human strength.  
Remind us of that glorious day  
when your Spirit  
transformed the lives of those  
who hid in fear  
into men of power.  
Renew these hearts which have grown cold  
with flames of fire,  
as on that Pentecost,  
that this might be  
the church that you desire.  
Amen

John Birch  
[faithandworship.com](http://faithandworship.com)



*Above all, maintain constant love for one another,  
for love covers a multitude of sins.  
Be hospitable to one another without complaining.  
Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,  
one another with whatever gift  
each of you has received.*

*1 Peter 4 vv 8-10*

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Covid-safe services start at 10.30 am.

Services are currently accessible on Zoom on the first and third Sunday of the month.

Anyone who wishes to take part in the Zoom service should contact the Secretarial Team who will be able to send them a link to enable easy participation.

You are all most welcome to join us!