



ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE



THE GRAPEVINE



OCTOBER 2022

Volume 1 No 8



Borough Market, by Southwark Cathedral (all that's missing is Hodge the Cathedral Cat!)

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap  
but by the seeds that you plant."

attributed to Robert Louis Stevenson

## SERVICES AND OTHER KEY DATES OCTOBER 2022

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

*Coffee/Tea is served in the hall after the service.*

<b>Sunday 2 (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship with Holy Communion Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the URC Ordination of James Zhang as an Elder The Minister (see p13)</b>	
Saturday 8	all day	Meeting of Wessex Synod Woking URC	
<b>Sunday 9</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival and Church Parade</b> (see pp 15-16)	
Tuesday 4	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting Bill Topping Room ( <b>Note change of date</b> )	
Friday 14	12.30pm	People Who Lunch Church Hall (see p19)	
<b>Sunday 16 (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship The Minister</b>	
	3.00 pm	Messy Church (see p18)	
<b>Sunday 23</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship Anna Crawford</b>	
<b>Sunday 30</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship The Minister</b>	
	<b>11.45 am</b>	<b>Church Meeting</b>	

**COPY DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE: WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER**  
(Publication Date: 30 October)

*The Editor, Norma Reid, is stepping down temporarily while the problems with her eyes continue and material for the November issue should be sent to the Associate Editor – details below.*

*Items for the magazine are always welcome provided they do not contravene copyright regulations.*

**Associate Editor: Mollie Henham Email: [18amh65@btinternet.com](mailto:18amh65@btinternet.com)**

Front Cover Photograph by Norma Reid



Please note the national celebrations in London for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Reformed Church planned to take place on Saturday 1 October have been postponed because of the rail strike that weekend. Three years of planning have gone into this event and many people will be disappointed by the inevitable decision. Details of the revised date will be notified as soon as possible.

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### **Letter from the Minister October 2022**



Dear Friends,

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8<sup>th</sup> September. Her Majesty served our country faithfully for seventy years, strengthened by her Christian discipleship. We thank God for her example of

servant leadership and we pray for all those who mourn, especially her close family.

The United Reformed Church, on hearing this news, issued the following statement:

*The United Reformed Church shares in the grief of the nations following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, Elizabeth II.*

*Following the death of her father King George, Her Majesty succeeded to the throne on 6 February 1952 but was officially crowned in 1953. Queen Elizabeth was the world's longest-reigning living monarch and was a much-loved and popular royal figure.*



*The General Assembly of the URC, the church's governing body, sends a loyal address to the Queen each time it meets. At the 2022 General Assembly, the Assembly wrote to the Queen noting that in this year both Her Majesty and the URC are marking a jubilee.*

*The Assembly thanked Her Majesty for her "steadfast and faithful service" over the seven decades of her reign.*

*Praising her example of "duty, integrity and public service", the Assembly placed on record its appreciation of Her Majesty's public witness to her Christian faith and the way in which she has sought to live her life as a servant of Christ.*

*The Revd Dr John Bradbury, URC General Secretary, said: "Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II lived the most remarkable life of dedicated Christian service."*

*"As a devout Anglican and Presbyterian her faith shone from her words and deeds. Her contribution to the life of our nations, the commonwealth, and beyond will be remembered with gratitude for generations to come. She inspired respect from across the political spectrum and from monarchists and republicans alike".*

*"The United Reformed Church has always been aware that, as each General Assembly presents a loyal address to the throne, we have been addressing a fellow baptised sister in Christ. We give thanks for her life and uphold in prayer all who mourn for her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory."*

Dr Susan Durber, a former Principal of Westminster College, Cambridge, offers the following reflection, based on Isaiah 6: 1-5

*"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:*

*'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.'*

*"The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'"*

## **Reflection**

This year will be known by many as, 'the year that Queen Elizabeth died'. Whatever we think about the institution of the monarchy the death of our Queen has a huge impact upon us.

Her face, her presence, her being there have been part of all our lives for so many years. For most of us, she has been the only monarch we can remember. She has been part of our lives, our imaginations, our sense of who we are.

The writer of this Bible passage from the book of Isaiah shared this experience of the death of a monarch, after a reign of many years. It is probably no coincidence that it was in this year, the year that King Uzziah died, that he had an experience of the ground shaking beneath him, when the Temple shook and he felt lost.

Many of us now will also feel dislocated and shaken up, in ways we can't quite describe and perhaps hadn't expected.

But the monarch whose reign has just ended in our own land would be the first to say that the God whom she worshipped, and to whom she committed her life in service, the God in whose name she was anointed in a holy place, this holy God, is with us and the whole earth is filled with God's glory.

There are those who would say that what she provided above all was a kind of stability and reassurance. When times were painful and difficult for us as a nation, she was there. She always sought to comfort the suffering and to steady the anxious.

Above all, her own faith in God was sure and strong. She spoke with increasing depth, in her many Christmas broadcasts, about her own reliance on God. In the face of her death we can depend on the God, who is always with us, filling not only the temples of this world but also our families and communities with love and hope.

In the year that Queen Elizabeth died, we give thanks for a life of dedicated service to our nations and commonwealth. We give thanks for God's faithful servant, Elizabeth. We pray for her family and closest friends, for those who will mourn and miss her most.

We grieve for what we have all lost. And we also take heart and hope from the faith that we shared with her and that she shared with us, remembering that death is defeated and that God reigns above all.



## Prayer

*(Prepared by the United Reformed Church and used in our church on 11<sup>th</sup> September.)*

O God, our rock and our redeemer,  
we come to worship you  
and to give thanks for your servant Elizabeth.

We thank you for her long life  
and her dedicated service to commonwealth and nations.

We thank you for what she has meant  
to each one of us .....

We treasure memories  
of meeting her .....,  
of celebrating and marking moments in her life,  
of the opening of parliament,  
of her presence at significant times in our history,  
and of her speaking to us on radio and television.

We rejoice that she lived and shared  
the faith we hold  
and that she followed her vocation,  
hearing a call to serve.

We pray for those who will miss her most deeply,  
that they may find comfort and hope.

We celebrate and affirm our faith  
that death is defeated,  
that new life awaits your children,  
and that creation is renewed in Christ.

We pray for our nations at a time of change  
and for our new King.  
May he follow his mother in faithful service  
and may your blessing rest on him.

We pray too for our elected representatives in parliament,  
for our public servants  
and for all citizens, of all faiths and none.

And, in this day and time, we pray,  
as we are always glad to pray,  
may your Kingdom come. Amen.

Finally, a quote from *The Servant Queen*, a book published on the occasion of her 90th birthday:

*"Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God."*  
Queen Elizabeth II

With all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Photo of Queen Elizabeth II (from URC website):**  
**Noel Rouse/Ministry of Defence – nagualdesign, published under the [Open Government Licence 3](#)**

## News of the Church Family

### Celebrations across the Generations

Angela Woods writes: "The summer months have seen the Woods family celebrate some significant milestones. On 20<sup>th</sup> July Dad or Grandpa or Pops (aka the Revd Roy Bones) celebrated his Blue Sapphire Anniversary as a Minister – 65 years since his ordination." (Roy was ordained at St Paul's Congregational Church, Richmond-upon-Thames.)

"Then on 30<sup>th</sup> August our daughter, Rachel, 'facetimed' us from Italy where they were on holiday to say that her boyfriend, Tim, had proposed to her. We are all delighted to now formally welcome Tim into our family. No wedding date yet except that it may not be for a few years!"

### From all of us:

Many congratulations to Roy who still 'dons' his cassock to serve local churches.

Congratulations to Rachel Woods and Tim Barton on their engagement and all good wishes for the future.

### The Minister – A Time to Celebrate

Many congratulations to our Minister who has celebrated the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. Michael was ordained on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1987 at Bideford.

*Do you recognise these young men?*



*Michael in relaxed mode  
on the afternoon of his ordination*



*Roy at the time of  
his ordination*

### Messy Church and Beyond

#### Catching up with the 'young ones'

Many former members of Messy Church are off to university. They include three of Johnston and Susan Simpson's grandchildren – Ellie will be studying Psychology at the University of Leicester, Charlotte will be studying Criminology at the University of Sussex and Luke will be studying Psychology at Loughborough University.

Angus Fitzgerald, grandson of Anne and Keith, is going to the University of Birmingham to study Politics, Mathematics and Economics.

We wish all of them well as they take this important step in their lives.

Another former member of Messy Church has graduated this year. Our congratulations go to Sarah Ripley who has gained a degree in Forensic Science at the University of Southampton. Good wishes to her for her future career.



Her brother, Sam, (also ex-Messy Church) has recently returned from Canada where he has been working for two years and has now started a course at Brooklands College.

### Prayers

Please remember all these friends in your prayers – Brian & Kate Ashfield, Val Cave, David Cheeseman, Gwenda Cochrane, Chris Goddard, John Langdon, Lilian Smith and Michael Stevens.

### Church Meeting

The next Church Meeting is on **30 October** following the morning service. Please make a note of the date and do your best to be there.



### Wessex Synod – Prayer Calendar for October

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 2  | 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of the URC;<br>Meeting of Synod at Woking URC (8 October) |
| 9  | Fovant;<br>Marsh Gibbon;<br>Rowlands Castle  |
| 16 | Caversham Park, Reading;<br>Woking;<br>Swanage   |
| 23 | Aston Tirrold;<br>Avenue St Andrew's, Southampton;<br>Trinity, Bournemouth                               |
| 30 | Hungerford;<br>Verwood   |

### A Timely Reminder

British Summertime ends at 2.00am  
on **Sunday 30 October**  
when the clocks go back one hour.

### LADIES YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Beacon Hill URC collect used bras on behalf of  
'Against Breast Cancer'.

If you or you have friends who would like to donate any surplus bras  
I will take them down when I next take a service for them.

I will put a box in The Gateway for collection.

In anticipation, many thanks.

*Anna Crawford*

# LOOKING BACK → LOOKING FORWARD



Opened on 17 May 1865

*Commemorating  
the last service  
at our  
much-loved  
church in  
Weybridge  
in pictures  
and  
in words*



29 of the 1231 pipes (some of them very small) contained within the organ chamber



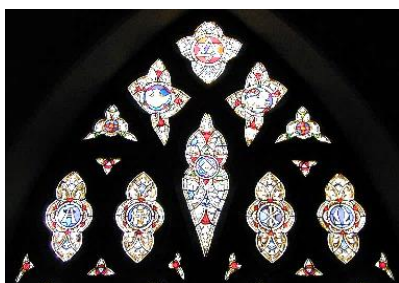
Open main door – a welcome to all



Benjamin Scott  
Chamberlain of the  
City of London and  
Founder of the church



Organ Console



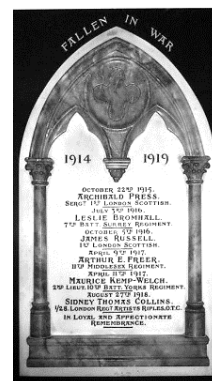
Rear window depicting the theme of The Trinity



Detail from window



View towards window



War Memorial





Communion Table with memorial plaque to a Deacon – Harry S Potter



Font in memory of Harry Copelin, Sunday School Superintendent, and his wife, Kathleen



Original Communion Plate given by Benjamin Scott in 1865

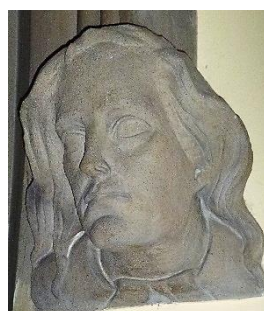


Pulpit with memorial plaque to the second woman elected Deacon, Nellie Cond



Lectern

WEYBRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH WEYBRIDGE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH		
MINISTERS		
1865	1890	François Baron
1891	1909	Horatio Pack ATS
1910	1917	Ebenezer Hitchcock
1917	1926	George Sydney Morgan
1927	1944	Harry Douglas Budden BA BD
1945	1950	Brian William Rowlands BA
1951	1959	Arthur Frederick Marsh BD
1960	1966	Andrew Hodgson MA
1968	1973	Gerald David Hallas MA
1973	1988	Norman Henry Kew MA BLitt
1989	1995	Robert Cecil Macaulay
1996	2002	Donald Alexander Stormonth Macalister BTh
2006	2011	Phillip Jones BD
2014	2016	Gerald Munro MA BPhil PhD
2017		Michael Alan Hodgson



John Milton (left) and Isaac Watts (right) look down from the chancel arch



The craftsman put his signature mouse on the memorial table for a 17year old boy



The cockerel weathervane 27.5 metres (90 feet) up on the spire

### Thoughts on Weybridge from some of you

My family has had Two Weddings, Four Baptisms and a Funeral in the church. (I approached Richard Curtis to write a screenplay about it, but, apparently, he's already done something similar.) I met my wife at Weybridge URC. The church has provided a lot of community events over the years: a drama group, badminton club, musical evenings, skittles

competitions, line-dancing, Everywoman group, Youth Club etc. We are glad to hear that the Uniformed Organisations wish to remain associated with the new church and we look forward to seeing them at the Harvest and Gift Services later this year. I have made so much music with so many different people in the church over the years, be it shows, social events, choral music or hymn singing. All of it has been extremely enjoyable and I am very grateful to all those who have helped me along the way.

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When I entered Weybridge URC for the final service on 21 August, it was hard to believe that this was for the last time. As I took my seat, I thought of the various services and events I had attended over the years, since I first entered the building in the late 1960s. It was lovely to see old friends, now moved away, in the congregation. As Michael took us through key points in the history of the church during the service, I looked at the familiar carvings and organ pipes, and could not help feeling sad. But the fellowship, and sense of mutual support, that has always been such an important part of Weybridge URC lives on as we worship at St Andrew's and gives us strong hope for the future.

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The Final Service was such a dreadful prospect that I had hoped another commitment would prevent me from attending BUT I received a clear message from above when that commitment was cancelled and I was free to attend. And I'm so glad I went, yes there was recognition of the sadness of one chapter ending but with over 70 in the congregation and the clear message to look forward, supported by our many happy memories in such a lovely building, it was a joyful celebration of past experiences, confidence for the future and new opportunities to witness to our faith.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unfortunately I was unable to be at the last service at Weybridge URC because of a family wedding. I was sorry to miss it. I remember so many happy times there – christenings, the XX-XL gatherings, Burns' Suppers, Ladies who Lunch, the many services given by all the ministers since I joined the church in 1968. Gordon playing the Willis organ which he always felt was such a privilege and he took such pride in looking after it. The many friends we made that I always felt made the church so special. However, life goes on and moving to Walton has been an easy transfer for me as we have been made so welcome. My mantra has always been to make the most of what you've got and that is what I try to do.

\*\*\*\*\*

I didn't want to leave the church after the service knowing that I would never be there again. So many memories of so many people across so many years. I will never forget them and am very grateful to have been part of such a wonderful church family. How lucky we have all been to have had such a beautiful building to worship in for so many years. Thank you Benjamin Scott for making it all possible. Even though we didn't want to see the church close it is up to us to continue the story.

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Returning to Weybridge was like coming home. On our first visit many years ago we were made very welcome and soon became part of a warm and loving fellowship. Services, social events for the whole family, organisations and meetings for all ages, helping with community activities were not just fun but led to friendships across the church's life. We feel sad to see this lovely church closing but wish everyone well for the future in Walton.

\*\*\*\*\*

Four generations of my family have been connected with the church so it has seen many of our family occasions and celebrations. I have known nine of the 15 Ministers and worked closely with seven of them. It has been sad to see the church and hall closing but we can be very proud of everything we achieved there not just within the church but also in the wider community. We made our mark! Now the future beckons.

## *An Important Occasion*

### **Two accounts of the service on 11 September**

#### **A Special Service**

Sunday 11 September dawned with the promise of a Special Service led by the Moderator of Wessex Synod, the Revd Clare Downing, to commemorate the union on 1 January 2022 of our two churches, Weybridge URC and St Andrew's. The unexpected and very sad news of the death on 8 September of HM Queen Elizabeth II meant that our service started out with a tribute delivered by our minister, Michael, giving us the opportunity to join in thoughtful silence as we remembered a much loved Monarch who had served her country with unequalled dedication and led by fine example for 70 years. We then sang 'God Save the King'.



Clare continued with our commemorative service, likening it to one of baptism. With our new church named and ready to embark on its future journey, it seemed appropriate to incorporate words from the Service of Baptism and have the congregation join in the responses, undertaking to guide it on its future path, in the same way as Godparents would make their promises at a christening. By way of illustrating both the joys and disappointments that we all face when setting out on Life's journey, Clare read, from a beautifully illustrated children's book, the poem by Dr Seuss 'Oh the Places you'll go'. Here is an extract.

*"You'll join the high fliers  
who soar to great heights.  
You won't lag behind, because you'll have the speed.  
You'll pass the whole gang and you'll soon take the lead.  
Wherever you fly, you'll be best of the best.  
Wherever you go, you'll top all the rest.  
Except when you don't.  
Because, sometimes, you won't.  
I'm sorry to say so  
but, sadly, it's true  
that Bang-ups  
and Hang-ups  
can happen to you."*

The poem delivered, in a light-hearted and charming way, this appropriate message: reach for the stars with enthusiasm and an inner faith in your capacity to win while having the courage to face and hopefully to overcome the obstacles that will certainly present themselves as we journey through life.

*"Step with care and great tact  
and remember that Life's  
a Great Balancing Act."*

Clare ended by reminding us that simply attending church does not make one a good Christian. There is a big world out there. It is important to look beyond four walls and to spread the word outside those boundaries.

*"Your mountain is waiting.  
So ... get on your way!"*

As always, it was a spiritual boost to have our friends from ArtPeace in Zimbabwe sharing in our service. One of the artists, Mike Masedza, read with great sincerity from

Philippians 4, verses 4-9. Christianity is alive and well in Zimbabwe on so many fronts and we could do no better than to have their faith which is the driving force that keeps them going through incredible hardship.

We enjoyed Teresa's organ accompaniment throughout and Elgar's 'Nimrod' at the end of the service found many of us shedding a quiet tear. We were delighted to have the Revd Clare Downing to lead our Special Service. Thank you, Clare. You have given us much to think about as we go into the future together as St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge.

.....Norma Reid

### **“Baptism” of our new church**

The service started off in a reflective mood as we marked the death of Queen Elizabeth the Second and her life-long service to the country. Many of the congregation had come wearing mourning as a mark of respect to the Queen. The tribute to the late Queen ended as we stood together to sing “God save the King” for the first time.

The reflective mood of the service continued as the Moderator of Wessex Synod, Clare Downing, invited us to consider this service as the baptism of our new church, St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge. Clare lightened the mood by congratulating Michael on the 35th anniversary of his ordination and suggested we might like to see the photo of the newly-ordained Michael.

This was a baptism service with a difference as we, the congregation, stood as both “the parents” asking for baptism of our child, the new church and the “candidate” for baptism.

Clare read a poem about starting on a journey. She reminded us that as we begin our life as a new church we will have success and failures, experience good times and sad times. Clare called upon us to be outward facing and to look at how we demonstrate our faith to the communities of Walton and Weybridge and beyond.

We were reminded that our church community stretches across continents when our ArtPeace friend, Michael, gave one of the readings.

The sombre start to the service reflected the period of national mourning for the late Queen. The second part of the service was a joyful celebration of our new church and a great start to our new church.

Carol Lee

### **A Note from the Minister**

#### **Where's it all gone?**

The mammoth task of clearing the Weybridge site has been completed and the Synod Trust has now taken over the responsibility and the liability there. Emptying a set of church buildings is rarely easy and we had no shortage of what I call “O little town of Bethlehem” cupboards – in other words cupboards in which “The hopes and fears of all the years are met”! Where's it all gone, though?

Some things have moved to Walton, including the ‘Mouseman’ table, the ‘best’ china, the white cups (now in the Bill Topping Room), the memorial plaques (the War Memorial could be in place by the time this is published), the cutlery and the IT equipment. So, a number of things have come over for ongoing use. Some other things have found new homes.

Some of the choir library has been added to the old St Andrew's library but some stuff which we will never use has gone to a group of Anglican churches in North Devon who have a monthly united choir to sing Choral Evensong and were delighted to be able to add to their library. Some more will be going to the choir library of Brecon Cathedral when I next go to Wales.

Some of our “Rejoice and Sing” have gone to the URC in Bideford to augment their stock and we've received a lovely card of appreciation.



The grand piano has gone to Great Chishill URC, Cambs who are delighted with it and are having some much-needed work done on it to overhaul the keyboard and action. They only had a very old, poor quality electric organ which they were over-joyed to see the back of. The piano from Room 3 has gone to a member's home there who is really pleased because she wants to learn the piano again.

The choir robes have gone to Farnham URC. 'Odd crockery' has gone to several charity shops, together with various other suitable items and a number of toys left behind by various groups. Small sets of china and the spare fridge/freezer have gone to the Besom Trust, a Christian charity helping people in all sorts of different circumstances. Surplus tables have gone to the Guide hut and will be used there. The dishwasher, cookers, warming cupboard and water boiler have gone to Melbourn URC, Cambs who are in the process of setting up a community lunch club. They are over the moon since their existing equipment is in no way adequate and when they knew that there was a dishwasher they nearly danced with delight.

The organ is hopefully being re-homed. We missed the 1<sup>st</sup> September deadline (through no fault of ours) but we believe it will shortly be removed and rehoused.

The above is not an exhaustive list but hopefully gives an indication of what's happened and where useful things have gone. We have also got rid of a number of skips of rubbish.

Sincere thanks to the small team of people who worked extremely hard on this enormous task. It was hot, dirty, heavy and physically demanding work. We are exhausted and are definitely **not** hiring our services out; but most useful/usable things have been found new homes, either with us or with others.

### **A Special Table**

The beautiful hand-hewn table (currently in the Gateway) was donated by Mr & Mrs Hadlow, members of Weybridge Congregational Church, in memory of their son, James Nelson Hadlow (Jimmy), who died in an accident with a chemistry experiment at home in 1938 aged 17. The table was made by a specialist firm in Yorkshire. Careful inspection of the top reveals a regular pattern in the wood with the suggestion of a 'dimpled' surface, and was seemingly carved with an adze. The top is made from planks of wood and dowels are used for the entire construction. On the base the craftsman has left his 'signature' in the form of a mouse which has intrigued generations of children at Weybridge.

*Alex Henham*



**Faith – Hope – Love – Since 1972**

### **A reflection from the Minister**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October sees the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the United Reformed Church. The initial union was between the Congregational Church of England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church of England and the hope was that it would be the first of a series of denominational unions that would gradually see the coming together of the protestant churches in Britain. The URC was to be a stepping stone for greater unity. Sadly, this hasn't happened although the URC has been widened by two more unions, the first in 1981 with the Re-formed Churches of Christ and the second in 2000 with the Congregational Union of Scotland. It has been said that the URC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is not one which was ever wanted and it certainly was never intended – but it is here.

To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the URC has produced two, quite different, books and it was my intention to say something more about these publications. With the death of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II I am holding this back until next month's magazine.

Our service on 2<sup>nd</sup> October will pick up and celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday and will begin with the hymn that began the union service in Westminster Abbey, back in 1972. We will end with the closing hymn from the service held locally to mark the union. During the course of the service

we shall think a bit about the URC's story and about its work and witness. We will hear again the Bible readings from the 1972 service and our other hymns will mark the contribution to ecumenical hymnody from both the Congregational and the Presbyterian Churches. So I hope that this will be a fitting service for our becoming 50 – the birthday we never wanted!

## **A Quiz Across 50 Years**

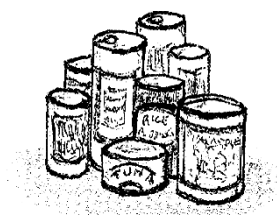
***This quiz has been set by the URC but also has a small input from the Associate Editor.***  
**(Answers on p22)**

- 1 The URC was created in 1972. Which one of these events also happened in 1972?  
 a) British currency was decimalised  
 b) The Beatles split up  
 c) The West End debut of 'Jesus Christ Superstar'
- 2 Where was the service uniting the Congregational Church in England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church of England held?
- 3 In which year was the Band Aid single 'Feed the World' released?
- 4 The UK's best-selling model of car was launched in 1976? What was it?
- 5 Where was our local service held to commemorate the formation of the URC?
- 6 Who were the Ministers of the local churches involved in that service?
- 7 The winner of the Best Picture category of the 1981 Oscars told the true story of a Congregational missionary. Name the film.
- 8 Put these soap operas in the order in which they started.  
 a) Brookside b) EastEnders c) Emmerdale Farm d) Hollyoaks
- 9 How old was King Charles III when the URC was formed?
- 10 Which British runner won the 10,000m race on 'Super Saturday' at the 2012 Olympics?
- 11 In which year did David J Evans write the words and music for the hymn 'Be still for the presence of the Lord'?
- 12 Every year the Oxford English Dictionary chooses a 'word of the year'. Put these four words of the year in chronological order:  
 a) post-truth b) selfie c) simples d) Sudoku
- 13 Solve these anagrams of these UK Prime Ministers' first name and surname.  
 a) hollowdrains b) rainyblot c) carvediamonds
- 14 In which year did the King James Version of the Bible celebrate its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary?
- 15 Which saint did Margaret Thatcher quote when she entered Downing Street for the first time in 1979?
- 16 Of which parish is the Revd Geraldine Grainger the famous incumbent?
- 17 In which year did 'man' first walk on the moon?
- 18 Which UK newspaper was launched in 1986 and ceased publication in 1995?
- 19 How many seasons of 'Dr Who' have there been since it returned in 2005?
- 20 Which hymn of Swedish origin won the 'Songs of Praise' favourite hymn vote in 2013 and came second in 2019?
- 21 In 1972, which US President ordered the development of the Space Shuttle programme?
- 22 Richard Adams wrote which book about a group of rabbits that was first published in 1972?
- 23 Who invented the worldwide web in 1989?
- 24 Who is the current Moderator of the URC?
- 25 Which other denominations joined the URC in 1981 and 2000?



# Celebrating Harvest

10.30am 9 October



## A Note from the Minister

As you know, our Harvest Festival service will be on 9<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am. It will be a Parade Service although, sadly, Cubs will be a bit thin on the ground, possibly non-existent, since the date clashes with a District Cub Camp at Walton Firs and trying to move Harvest Festival to accommodate them created problems with the Scouts! (One cannot win!) This will be our first Parade Service since the union of the two churches and I am hoping that the Brownies and the Rainbows will be able to join us, too, even though they are now meeting at the Guide Hut in Weybridge.

During the service we shall also be dedicating a new King's Colour (it seems really strange saying that). This much-needed replacement (the current colour is really tatty) was initially to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Presumably it will now also mark the start of the reign of a new King, but it does all mean that the new colour will have been dedicated in time for use at the Remembrance Sunday service next month.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Your Gifts

Once again we are glad to support the Walton & Hersham Foodbank. In the present financial situation more and more people in need (families and individuals) in our local area are becoming dependent on the foodbank. The foodbank relies largely on food donated by the community to give to its clients but currently it is experiencing a decrease in donations. A typical food parcel contains a minimum of three days' supply of nutritionally balanced tinned and dried foods covering all meal times. Below is a list of the most needed items. Please bring your gifts with you to the service or, if you prefer to bring them in advance, make arrangements to leave them at the church.

### Most Needed Items

*(Please check 'use-by' dates – long-dated items only)*

<b>FOOD ITEMS</b>	Pasta Sauce
Fruit Juice	Rice
Custard	Breakfast Cereals
Rice Pudding	Crisps & Savoury Snacks
Long Life Sponge Puddings	
Jam	
Ketchup	<b>NON-FOOD ITEMS</b>
Tea Bags – 80/100 bag/box	Shampoo
Coffee – small jars	Shower Gel
Instant Noodles	Deodorant
Tinned Spaghetti	Washing-up Liquid
Tinned Meat (not Corned Beef)	Washing Powder & Tablets
Tinned Tomatoes	Nappies – Large Sizes 5 & 6

**Please Note:** The Foodbank does not require Pasta, Baked Beans, Pulses (Dried Lentils, Chickpeas etc), Tinned Soup or Pet Food as it already has plenty in stock.

## **Trussell Trust**

The Walton & Hersham Foodbank is one of over 1,200 food banks operated nationally under the auspices of the Trussell Trust. For the first time outside the first year of the pandemic food banks in the Trussell Trust network distributed over 2.1 million food parcels in 2021-22. In April and May alone of this year these foodbanks provided more than 420,000 emergency food parcels to people facing hardship. This was an increase of 50% in comparison to food parcels distributed in April and May 2019, the year prior to the pandemic.

Supporting food banks to provide emergency help in their communities is a crucial part of the Trust's work but it is also campaigning to build a better future together – a more just and compassionate society, where no one needs to turn to a food bank to get by.

*Further information may be found at [www.trusselltrust.org.uk](http://www.trusselltrust.org.uk)*

## **Financial Contributions to the Walton & Hersham Foodbank as a Harvest Gift How to make your donation through the church.**

Some of you may prefer to make a financial contribution to the foodbank, rather than a food donation

### **If you decide to do this, please either pay by:**

#### **a) Bank Transfer**

(If you don't have the details of the church's bank account, please contact one of the Treasurers – Jem Ward or Jan de Kok.)

#### **or by**

#### **b) a cheque made out to "St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge".**

Please put this in an envelope marked 'Harvest' and address it to the Treasurers. It may be placed on the offertory plate as you leave.

#### **or by**

#### **c) loose cash**

Please put this in an envelope marked 'Harvest' and address it to the Treasurers. It may be placed on the offertory plate as you leave.

Please ensure you indicate that your donation (whether by cheque or Bank Transfer) is for the Walton & Hersham Foodbank.

The Treasurers will add Gift Aid (where appropriate) to your personal donation (making it worth 25% more to the charity) and your gift will then be included in the total payment made by the church to the foodbank.

## **Refreshments after the Harvest Service**

Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be available for everyone – children and adults – in the church hall after the service. Please come and join in and welcome the visitors who will be with us on this occasion.



# ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

Only a short update this month as my PC appears to have given up the ghost. I am therefore reduced to using my mobile. The artists requested I send some images of the Queen's funeral and it was interesting to note they still regarded her as 'their' Queen despite their country no longer being part of the Commonwealth due to the Zimbabwe government's failure to meet human rights and freedom of speech requirements.

**WHEN I MET HER MAJESTY:** Artist Fortune proudly recalls the time he met the Queen and other royalty when he worked at Meikles, the top hotel in Harare. He said: 'She stayed in room 1252. The various function rooms were named Balmoral, Glamis, Edinburgh, Windsor and Edward. Those were the days John'.

**FIELDS:** They are all busy clearing their fields (see photographs) – a back breaking exercise – in preparation for seed sowing although they currently have no money to buy



seed or fertilisers. Cherish, one of our couriers who brought back lots of small pieces, said the situation has worsened since her last trip to visit family.



**COMMUNICATIONS** are poor as most artists simply cannot afford to top up old mobiles with a few days data. However, two donations from St Andrew's kind members will arrive early October and hopefully ease this situation although food is the priority.

**MINI PROJECTS:** With our support, Ignatious has finally finished his chicken run and artist Fortune has agreed to start him off with two chickens. Also, thanks to these donations, I hope to be able to start Peter Kananji on his sweet street vending initiative.

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** Susan and I plan to run another sculpture sale in the Gateway either late October or early November and display some unique lovely gifts in good time for Christmas.

*Johnston Simpson*







## Messy Church

We talked about the lost coin parable and related it to the loss of the Queen. Activities included making a band with nine coins on it, experimenting with making a lava lamp, decorating a crown, making a hugging creature to remind us when we feel sad we need a hug, shining pennies to have a memory of the Queen's head and, of course, icing cakes. I also provided a set of pictures of the Queen from childhood onwards for colouring. I noticed adults quietly taking part in this. Please see me if you would like to have our spare copies.



Look what I did.



Will this make it work?



In the Celebration we talked about losing things and the children remembering the story of the lady who lost her coin related their version. We then said people mention the "loss" of the Queen but I maintained this was not the word I would use. I said the Queen has died as we all do to which I was told "Santa Claus" doesn't. We had hidden chocolate coins around the Church and the children enjoyed looking for them. We sang "My God is so big" and "Give me joy in my heart", the latter with some beautiful singing from the youngsters. I asked if anyone would like to say a prayer and one little boy said a thank you prayer for the mountains and rivers. He apparently got his inspiration looking at the memorial window to Richard McCullough.

We enjoyed some pizza and chicken dippers together before going home



Watching for bubbles  
in the lava jar



Working with Grandpa



Decorating a crown with  
help from Mummy

Anne Fitzgerald

## People Who Lunch Church Hall

**12.30pm 14 October**



Everyone is welcome at 'People Who Lunch' which is held on the second Friday of the month in the church hall. For just £4.00 the menu covers soup, roll, dessert, cheese and biscuits and coffee.


Everyone is very welcome and if you have not been before you might like to try it out this month. You will find yourself enjoying lunch in friendly company.

Please note that advance booking is essential as otherwise there might not be enough food to go round! To book your place contact Margaret Faultless by email [margart.faultless@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:margart.faultless@blueyonder.co.uk) or see her in church.

# Holiday Memories

This month's contribution is not about a holiday but a nearby historic walk. If you are able to get away for a holiday, a short-break or an interesting day out please share it with us all. 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.

## A Walk through History

If you do need somewhere to spend an enjoyable day out within easy reach of Walton and Weybridge, then the whole area of Runnymede is a good solution. Perhaps, like me, you have driven past Runnymede many times without giving it much thought. One sunny day,  however, Mollie and I decided to make it our destination



This historic site, owned by the National Trust but with completely free access, contains so many interesting items in a fairly small space. This is the place where the Magna Carta was sealed just over 800 years ago and which is sometimes described as the 'home of democracy' (although the Greeks may dispute that!). At the far end of the riverside area there is one lodge on each side of the road and the more convenient car park is behind the lodge on the left. These lodges themselves are architectural features, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in memory of Sir Urban Broughton MP, who generously gave the site to the nation. At the lodge you can pick up a free map of the whole area of Runnymede and Ankerwycke (the area on the other side of the river (also owned by the National Trust), and leaflets describing in more

detail the various places to see.

HM Queen Elizabeth II visited the Runnymede site in 2015 for the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John on 10 June 1215.

There are three suggested routes on the map and we chose to use the first part of the short route to allow time to explore the main items of interest. We started by walking south from the car park until we reached the signs for the Kennedy Memorial. This acre of land was given to the USA by the people of

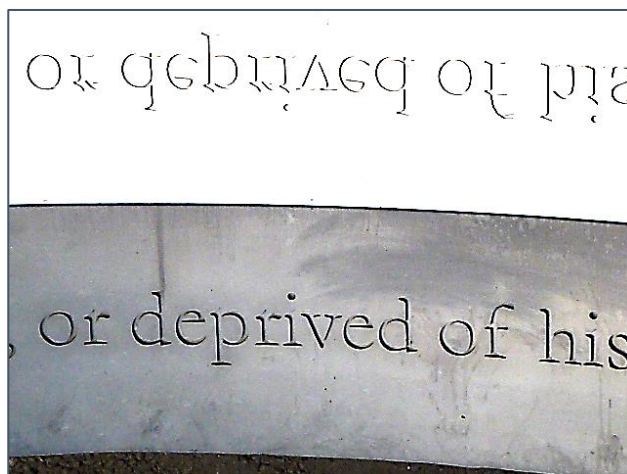




Britain in memory of the President. Taking the uphill path of hand-hewn stones we reached the simple inscribed stone bearing a quotation from the assassinated President's Inaugural Address given on 20 January 1961 – *"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend or oppose any foe in order to assure the survival and success of liberty."*

Shortly after re-joining the main route we reached a (shorter) paved path to a memorial commemorating the Magna Carta – a stone set under a small dome supported by pillars – donated by the American Bar Association.

Further along the main route leads to one of the latest features – 'Writ in Water' – an artwork by Mark Wallinger, (Crossing the meadows you may see some cows. No need to worry because they are more interested in munching the grass than in any passing people but do remember to shut the gates.) Don't be put off by the first sight of the cylindrical concrete building (housing the artwork) even though it looks like a WW2 pillbox. It is really worthwhile to go inside when, after following a circular passageway, you reach the centre. Here you can sit in a peaceful atmosphere and discover what it is all about. In the middle is a large pool of water, open to the sky, the low wall round the pool bears an inscription on the inside. Unintelligible at first as it appears to be upside down because, as the name suggests, it is meant to be read as a reflection in the water. It carries Clause 39 of the Magna Carta which deals with the freedom of people unless judged by their equals or by the law of the land.



The next stop requires a bit more energy. Those enthusiastic and fit enough to climb Cooper's Hill will see the Commonwealth Air Forces Memorial. This impressive building commemorates more than 20,000 men and women who died during operations from bases in the UK and North and Western Europe who have no known grave.



On our way back to the car park and the lodge (where there is a welcome tea room) we saw a work of art by Hew Locke – 'The Jurors' – representing the trial by jury as championed in the Magna Carta. This work consists of 12 bronze chairs, each with inscriptions representing events and people in history. You definitely need to read the leaflet to be

able to understand the meaning of every symbol. If your legs are tired by this point you are invited to sit on the chairs!

Definitely a few hours well spent walking through history and obviously getting some beneficial exercise of body and, hopefully, mind in a glorious place. In our imagination we could see the feudal Barons galloping through the meadows and haranguing a more than reluctant King John to seal the Magna Carta perhaps with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, and his fellow churchmen giving peaceful support.

Alex Henham



## Floral Art

These lovely arrangements were on display in the church in September.



Flowers (above) given by Val Cave in memory of her husband.

Flowers (right) given by Michael Hodgson to commemorate what would have been his parents' 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary



Flowers (left) given by Anna Crawford

## Tributes to Queen Elizabeth II in flowers

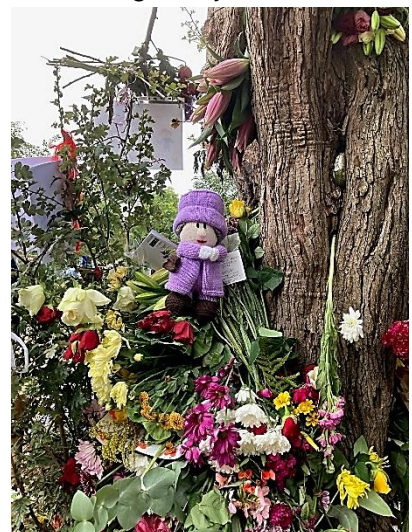


I went to Green Park to look at the floral tributes which were arranged not as a solid field of flowers but divided into separate arrangements so that you could walk around them and see them from every angle. It was a one-way system and there were stewards at every corner to guide you around and to answer any questions. The atmosphere was of quietness and respect. There must have been

hundreds of thousands of tributes and I particularly liked this prayer (written in its original form) from Annabelle aged 9 (Bedtime prayer 8 September 2022).

*"Lord Jesus, we are so sad that the queen died today. As I speak to you right now, you are likely to be speaking to her at the same time. Please could you make her feel very welcome in heaven. Would you tell her what an incredible job she did and that everyone in the world is crying and missing her. Amen."*

*Norma Reid*



## Answers to quiz on p14

- 1 The West End debut of 'Jesus Christ Superstar'
- 2 Westminster Abbey
- 3 1984
- 4 Ford Fiesta
- 5 Rydens School, Walton
- 6 Revd John French (Hersham – he was also Minister at West Byfleet)  
Revd G David Hallas (Weybridge)  
Revd William McCrorie (St Andrew's, Walton)
- 7 Chariots of Fire
- 8 Emmerdale Farm (1972) Brookside (1982) EastEnders (1985) Hollyoaks (1995)
- 9 23 years – almost 24 as he was born on 14 November 1948
- 10 Mo Farah
- 11 1984
- 12 Sudoku (2005) simples (2009) selfie (2015) post-truth (2016)
- 13 a) Harold Wilson b) Tony Blair c) David Cameron
- 14 2011
- 15 St Francis'
- 16 Dibley
- 17 1969
- 18 Today
- 19 13
- 20 'How great Thou art'
- 21 Richard Nixon
- 22 Watership Down
- 23 Tim Berners-Lee
- 24 Revd Fiona Bennett (Minister of Augustine United Church, Edinburgh)
- 25 The Churches of Christ (1981)  
The Congregational Union of Scotland (2000)

### **A Note from the Minister** ***The Grapevine***

I'm doing a little future planning and part of that includes thinking about the future role of our magazine. Prior to union both churches had a magazine, of somewhat different styles, probably for different purposes. The "old" magazines have now ceased and our new one, "The Grapevine" probably needs a little consideration and a little "reader-research" for the future so let me ask you some questions.

- 1) What do you think the purpose of a church magazine is?
- 2) Do we need one these days?
- 3) What format should it take?
- 4) What should it include?
- 5) What shouldn't it include?
- 6) Whom are we aiming it for?
- 7) What sort of articles are appropriate?
- 8) What's not appropriate?
- 9) If we are having articles, how long should they be?
- 10) Any other points?

I should be really interested in your responses so that as we move forward our magazine, if you still want one, can be tailored to meet the needs and interests of its readership and to meet any new criteria that have arisen. Many thanks.

## PRAYER CORNER

### *A Prayer for Harvest*

Thank you for the gift  
of sunshine and rain in due season,  
of seed, soil and harvest,  
provision for our needs  
and others, if in love we share.

Thank you for the gift  
of living water that does not run dry  
and the nourishment of your Word  
which feeds our souls  
and others, if in love we share.

For love which endures,  
blessings which satisfy  
and the opportunity to share  
all that you have given,  
we bring to you our thanks.

Amen

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

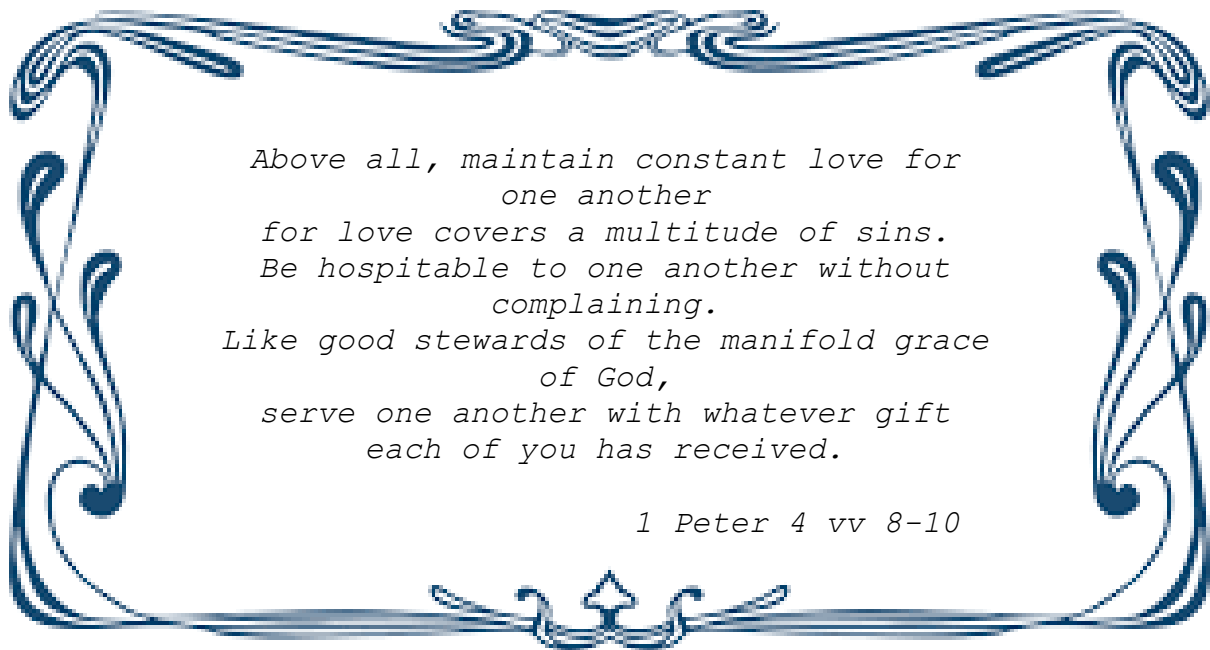


### *Thanksgiving*

For each new morning with its light,  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
For health and food,  
For love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends.

Amen

*Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)*



#### **MINISTER**

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Mrs Gwenda Cochrane  
Mrs Liz Grimsey  
Mrs Shirley Morley

Hall Hire at St Andrew's URC, Walton and Weybridge: [roomhire@standrewsurc.org](mailto:roomhire@standrewsurc.org)

Website: [www.standrewsurc.org](http://www.standrewsurc.org)

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 Minister who will send a link to enable easy participation.

You are all most welcome to join us!