

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH MAGAZINE



Summer 2019

A Word from the Editor:



Hello and welcome to this, the Summer 2019 edition of the KMC Magazine. It seems a long time since the last Magazine was issued, but in fact it was only in the Autumn of last year. However, it's now back to stay with the hope that we can publish it four times a year, so covering all four seasons. I hope you enjoy reading this issue as well as using it as a source of reference for dates of services and other events coming up.

Something I would like you to take particular note of is the feature on local preachers. Have you, like me, seen the name of a local preacher due to take a service on a Sunday and think "I'm not sure who that is?". Well, in forthcoming issues I hope to be able to publish short profiles of the local preachers who are due to visit KMC in the period covered by the Magazine, as a way of introducing themselves to us. As it turns out, the current Circuit Plan only extends to the end of August so in fact, for this issue, there is only one lay preacher who can be included this time and that is Rosemary Lee. However, one is better than none so I hope you enjoy reading what Rosemary has written about herself (*see page 10*). Of course, there will come a point when all the local preachers will have been featured, but as there are nearly 20, it could take some while! Meanwhile we look forward to having Rosemary lead our service on Sunday 25th August.

The picture on the front of this Magazine neatly copies the weather at the moment for as I write this we are enjoying (or not!) the hottest day of the year so far. If you are off on holiday soon have a wonderful time. Whilst you are on your travels, if you experience anything that you think others would like to know about, why not consider putting pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, and send what you write, to me, for the next issue of **our** KMC Magazine.

Robin Spice, Editor.

KMC MAGAZINE

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Copy to: Robin Spice - magazine@knaphill-methodist-church.com

Message from Dave:

Dear Friends,

The other day my daily Bible reading notes took me back to a passage that was very significant to me in my early twenties. The passage was Deuteronomy chapter 1, and through a sermon on that text I heard the first sign of a calling into Christian leadership.



In Deuteronomy, the children of Israel are on the verge of the Promised Land. Moses knows he won't make it in with them, and so he takes this opportunity to preach their recent history back to them. His 'sermon' lasts for most of the thirty-four chapters of the book – so are you sure you've heard a long sermon? 😊

In that first chapter, Moses goes back to one incident in particular that set the people of God back years, if not decades. This wasn't the first time they had been close to the land, they had been within touching distance in the past. Before moving in, they sent spies to check out the land. Of those spies, Caleb and Joshua reported back that Israel should certainly invade the land, in accordance with God's will. The others, however, told stories of frightening giants. This scared the people. They backed off from invasion. But with this disobedience to the will of God, the presence of God was withdrawn from them and they were condemned to wander aimlessly in the desert for years.

I think of that account when we face major challenges in the church. It is so easy to be scared by the giants. Our giants might be finance, shortage of personnel, or property issues.



But God does not call us to consider the giants. He only expects us to answer one question: has he called us to do this challenging thing that is before us? If our eyes are on him, then even if the task facing us is difficult, he will bless us and we will prosper.

On the other hand, if we focus on the giants instead of on Jesus, there is only one outcome: aimless wandering for year upon year, and little or no sense of God's presence in our midst.

Which future do you want? For my money, the Christian church has spent too much time keeping its eyes on the giants in the land instead of on the Cross, the Resurrection, and the Empty Tomb.

Isn't it time we listened to the voice of God and went his way, slaying the giants?

Your friend and minister,



New Style Service at KMC

By the time you read this we will have experienced a new style service because the first one was held on Sunday 30th June.

For those of you who were not at church on that day, this is how the new service will work in the next couple of months.

Pre-service refreshments will be served from 9.30am on Sunday 28th July and Sunday 25th August. On these days you are invited to come along earlier than usual for a coffee/tea and chat before the service. If you have not been able to drink your refreshments by 10am, you can take it with you into the service!

On these Sundays the service will start with a longer period of Praise & Prayer, and should be joyous occasions.

Please give your feedback to the Stewards.

Oh, and don't worry, refreshments will still be available after the service as usual.



Reflection

- by James Geard

In sitting down to prepare this report, and having read it now a number of times, I'm hopeful that you may allow me a little license as the report may seem to wander a bit.

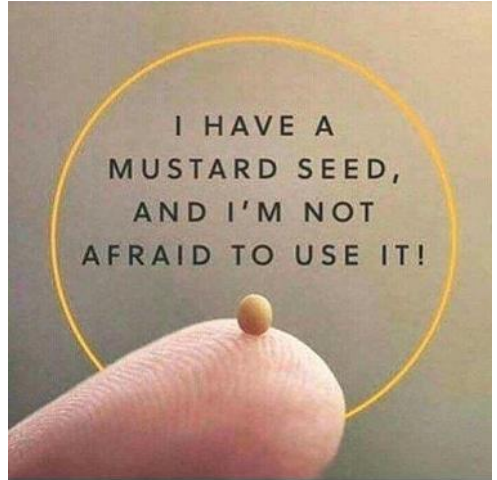
The first thought really was whether this article should focus on the past 3 years and what has already been achieved, due to the seemingly unending commitment of some of our church family, or the next 2 to 3 years and what is still to do.

While we can most certainly learn from the past, and it's important that we do, to continue to live in the past is unlikely to help to arrive at a reinvigorated vision capable of delivering God's word. A vision that demonstrates beyond doubt the continuing importance of the teachings of Christ possibly more now than at any other time in this technological age.

As a church family I believe we continue to embrace John Wesley's vision of helping those most in need, the disadvantaged, those people forgotten by most. The challenge we face today is that in some instances we are also still trying to use the same methods.

I recently heard someone say that if John Wesley were alive today he would be engaging in every source of legitimate technology available, and style of worship, in order to reach out to as many people as possible, and introduce them to the love of Christ .

You may now perfectly reasonably be asking yourself what does this have to do with the work of Broadway Group as it sits within KMC.



With your help KMC has climbed a number of pretty sizeable hills over the past 2 to 3 years. We now have a number of mountains ahead, which also need climbing if KMC is going to be here to continue to care for our community in the years ahead.

One question raised at the most recent BG meeting was do we, at KMC, currently have sufficient resources to continue to develop in order to permit us to progress with our work in the community.

The answer from a human kind perspective was a resounding no.

We also looked at whether there is a shared vision of how we should be serving our community in the years ahead; this vision created from a central base and embraced with an undiluted Christ like passion.

Again the answer was no.

So are the mountains too big for us? Yes, for us; but never for God.

Many of us question our suitability to take on some form of new role to break new ground for which we do not feel we are suitably qualified.

I do realise that sometimes we need genuine encouragement to believe that all things are possible through Christ, which strengthens us; that faith the size of a mustard seed can move mountains.

Who believed that a young boy would not only take on, but also defeat the best the Philistine's had to offer, or that Moses would lead his nation to ultimate victory, when from the outset he was convinced that he was unsuitable for the role.

Saul, one of the fiercest critics of Christianity, ultimately became involved with so much of its development.

From AD 40 to AD 67 Paul's epistles, of which there are 13, encompassed such meaningful works as Romans, Galatians and Ephesians and these continue to educate and inspire us today.

We could go on. Joseph, Gideon, Job, Joshua apparently facing hopeless situations, but through believing in God and having that mustard seed of faith, exceeded all earthly expectations.

KMC has a number of mountains to climb. Broadway Group will

(almost certainly not without concern) continue to serve Jesus through our brothers and sisters in Christ, in order that KMC be able to continue to serve the wider community for long as we are able.

In finishing perhaps you would allow me to present two relevant examples of what really matters, given they are over 2000 years apart.

“Consider it pure joy, my brother (and sister) whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

From the book of James chapter 1 verses 2 - 4. (AD 45 - 56)

“Even you who have never achieved anything of substance in your life, when placed with the right team and under the right inspirational leadership, and a little belief in yourselves can also be part of a championship team.”

David Piddick President and CEO of Purdue – 21 June 2019.

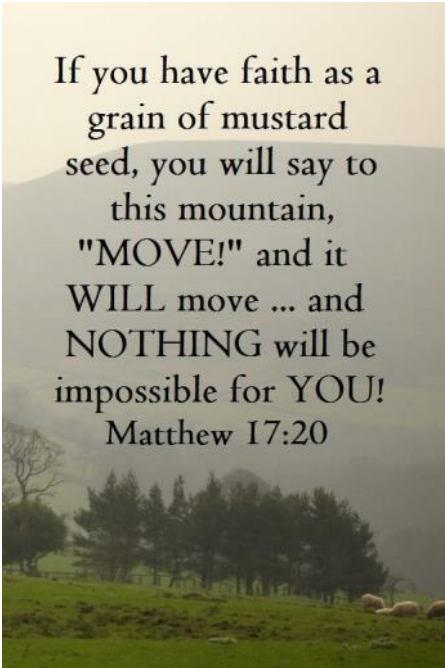
Who is David Piddick? He is a Canadian business colleague who took part in a golf tournament hosted by the business in which I am a partner.

By his own admission Dave was an inconsistent golfer, occasionally getting close, but never actually achieving the prize, until last Friday. In competition with 40 other golfers and as part of a fun loving and enthusiastic team, Dave won last Friday.

To continue to win others to Christ, our mission at BG & KMC remains to “change lives for good through the power of God’s word.”

With love in Christ.

James Geard.



If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "MOVE!" and it WILL move ... and NOTHING will be impossible for YOU!
Matthew 17:20



We have jobs to fill - please help if you can - volunteers needed!

If God is calling you to take on a role within the church and you can spare an hour or more a week or month, please speak to Yvette Wright for more information. We need your help to assist with the smooth running of KMC. Jobs can be shared. If you think a friend might be interested please ask them, every little helps!

These are the main roles to be filled:

- † **Church Steward**
- † **Property Steward**
- † **Fire Health & Safety Representative**
- † **Safeguarding Officer**
- † **GDPR Officer**
- † **Junior & Youth Church Leaders**
- † **A person to manage the KMC Facebook page**
- † **Someone to control the church heating remotely from an app on a smartphone.**

You can speak or send an email to Yvette.

admin@knaphill-methodist-church.com or telephone 01483 475858.

Yvette is looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Coffee Mornings

Our most recent KMC monthly Coffee Morning happened on Saturday 22nd June and was a great success, raising £353.37. In May, we had our special Coffee Morning and Plant Sale, which raised a record sum of £682.02 for Church funds thanks to the extra attraction of dozens of lovely plants. In total, so far this year with one more Coffee Morning to go, we have raised £2787.79 for KMC. Last year, our total for the year was £2908.12, so we may exceed that by the end of this year.

These are very substantial amounts and I would like to thank all who run the stalls, set up and pack away, bake, make jams and marmalade, give lovely items for the bric-a-brac, grow plants, make teas, coffees and bacon rolls and come along to support the event. When I suggested the idea of Coffee Mornings 5 years ago to help boost our finances, I did not anticipate that they would become such a popular meeting place for a number of local residents, as well as supporting the KMC finances.

In general, we have a team of regular volunteers, plus some occasional helpers, which works well. However, there are occasions when a number of the “regulars” are committed elsewhere and we can be a bit short-handed. So, if you don’t usually assist, but would be happy to be called on as a reserve, please let me know. Very many thanks.

Lynda Shore

KMC

COFFEE MORNING

BACON BUTTIES!

- ✓ PLANTS
- ✓ CAKES
- ✓ BOOKS
- ✓ DVD/CDs
- ✓ CARDS
- ✓ BRIC-A-BRAC

TEA
COFFEE
CAKE

FREE MOVIE!

Movie starts at 10.15am

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

**Saturdays 27th July, 24th August,
28th September & 26th October**

10am to midday

LOCAL PREACHER PROFILE:

ROSEMARY LEE

I was sitting at the back of church during an evening service at Woodbridge Road, Guildford when I first felt prompted about becoming a local preacher. I ignored it but God had other ideas. This year will be my 25th year of serving as a local preacher, first in the old Guildford circuit, and now in our new Wey Valley circuit. It is the most tremendous privilege to share and lead worship and it never ceases to amaze me how God has guided me through these years. Looking back I can see his hand in so many different circumstances in my life.

I live in Wood Street Village near Guildford with my husband Mick whose support I value beyond words. Following the closure of Woodbridge Road in 2014 we have been members at St Mary's in Guildford where Christians have been worshipping for over 1000 years! We have 2 amazing children and 2 wonderful grandchildren, the youngest just 3 months old! There are many things that I love doing but just one I will mention here! Together with my son I am a passionate Tottenham Hotspur fan/season ticket holder and was lucky enough to go to Madrid for the Champions League Final in June!





12th to 18th May saw Christian Aid Week 2019. This year, the focus of the campaign was on maternal and child health in pregnancy and childbirth in Sierra Leone.

The citizens of Sierra Leone have had a very difficult time over the past 30 years, with 11 years of Civil War (1991 – 2002), followed a few years later by a devastating outbreak of Ebola in 2014. Sierra Leone is slowly recovering from these disasters, but it remains one of the most dangerous countries in the world in which to give birth, with little support for women in labour in many parts of the country. Monies raised from Christian Aid Week 2019 will be used to build health facilities. I am, therefore, delighted to report that we raised **£2122.97** from our collections in Knaphill, supported by a number of very generous individual donations. This is a fantastic amount.

It is increasingly difficult to recruit collectors, but those who do volunteer and heroically plod round Knaphill knocking on doors can feel immense satisfaction at the results of their efforts. I am extremely grateful to them, and to those who deliver envelopes and count the money we are given, as well as to those who were not visited by a collector, but who gave individual donations directly to me.

The results of the past 5 years are below:

**2019 - £2122.97; 2018 - £2123.55; 2017 - £1870.85;
2016 - £2111.05; 2015 - £2521.79.**

In my 38 years of organising this collection in Knaphill, we have raised nearly £75,000 for Christian Aid. Thank you so much to all my helpers – I couldn't get anywhere near this figure on my own.

Lynda Shore

Thank You!

CAMEO

Come And Meet Each Other



CAMEO meets on the first and third Wednesday afternoons of each month at KMC. It begins at 1.30pm for a 2pm start.

Our programme covers a wide range of interesting subjects and in the last couple of months has included a talk on wild life and in particular hedgehogs, reminiscences of an English summer and a bring and buy sale for Leprosy Funds.

All who can come along are welcomed warmly. Every meeting finishes with a thought and prayer and often a hymn or song.

There are no meetings in August and we start again on 4th September.

Prayer & Share @ THE VYNE

You may have noticed reference to this meeting in The Notices, but you may not be aware of exactly what it is about. Although referred to as a meeting it is more like a service which is fairly informal with just a bit of structure to it.

It began as an initiative by the Baptist Church but is now run collectively by those who attend from all four churches in Knaphill. It is held on the



first Wednesday of every month at 10am in the Orchard Room at the Vyne. Those who attend regularly take it in turns to lead the service and prepare a service sheet and choose two hymns to be sung. The person leading gives a short welcoming address after which prayers are shared by all. The service also includes a bible reading or psalm and will finish with a blessing.

Everyone is welcome to attend this ecumenical service which lasts for just under an hour. At the moment the number who attend is quite small so there is plenty of scope and room for more people on either a regular or occasional basis.

A Day Out with Eileen & Friends



A train to London Waterloo and then a bus to Greenwich was how we travelled on Wednesday 29th May to visit the Royal Naval College. A glance at the Cutty Sark, a picnic at the Old Brewery and a walk to the College, where we visited the marvellous Painted Hall. This was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and painted by Sir James Thornhill in the baroque style of art.

Afterwards we enjoyed refreshments in the Undercroft Café before returning home.

Thanks to Eileen for a wonderful day out showing us another of London's hidden gems.

Marilyn Meller



History of the Painted Hall



The Painted Hall at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich is one of the most spectacular and important baroque interiors in Europe. Its ceiling and wall decorations were conceived and executed by the artist Sir James Thornhill between 1707 & 1726 just at the moment when the UK was created and became a dominant power in Europe. The artist drew on a cast of around 200 figures to tell a story of political change, scientific and cultural achievements, naval endeavours and commercial enterprise against a series of magnificent backdrops. The composition covers 40,000 square feet and reflects the importance of the space the paintings adorn. At that time it was the hall of a new Royal Hospital which was established at Queen Mary's instigation in 1694 for men invalided out of the Navy. The Painted Hall was intended as a grand dining room for the Naval pensioners but it soon became a ceremonial space open to paying visitors and reserved for special functions. As it took 19 years to complete the various contemporary political events that happened during those years, meant that Thornhill was required to rethink the design of his paintings in the Hall several times. Thornhill's preparatory sketches for the Painted Hall (today held in a number of London Galleries and museums) reveal how carefully he experimented with and planned the content.

In January 1806 the Painted Hall saw the laying-in-state of Admiral Lord Nelson on his long journey to St Paul's Cathedral following his death at the Battle of Trafalgar. Large crowds queued up to view the body of Nelson over 3 days. The exact spot where the coffin lay is marked by a plaque on the floor.

The Hall re-opened earlier this year after being closed since 2016 in order to clean and safeguard the paintings which cost over £8m and was funded by the National Lottery. During the period of closure over 80,000 people witnessed the restoration work in progress as part of an open access scheme.

The Royal Naval College

It was 1873 when the Naval College in Portsmouth acquired the buildings of the old Royal Hospital. The College quickly became the most highly rated naval officers' training college in Europe, with a reputation for academic rigor and its training of staff leaders in their fields. Not just British Naval Officers trained here but also the elite of foreign navies, many from British colonies or countries within the British Empire's sphere of influence.

In 1983 the Government decided to amalgamate the training of officers of all three Armed Services together in Wiltshire and so the Navy left Greenwich in 1997. The Greenwich Foundation, an independent charity, was established to conserve the site for present and future generations, and create enjoyment, learning and unique cultural experiences for everyone.



Today this historic landmark is open to the public and is the home of three unique and free to visit attractions: the Painted Hall, the Chapel and the Visitors Centre.

A Message from the



Garden Gnome

Dear Friends

Well it must be a few weeks now since we held our annual gardening extravaganza at KMC. And what a great time we all had! Sales were very active well before 10am with vegetable and bedding plants just disappearing to very satisfied customers. However, I suspect the smell of bacon butties wafting through the village was more of a pull than “beans and brassicas”.

We enjoyed interacting with people, giving tips on plant care and encouraging them to grow more for themselves as



you can't beat the flavour and satisfaction of eating your own produce. I was so pleased to see so many children interested in gardening that I will put some thought into developing a children's section next year of quick and easy to grow pots to keep their interest alive.

The weather was kind to us – by that I mean it did not actually rain but it is a bit of a draughty corner. However, that did not deter our enthusiasm to provide a service to the community whilst adding to church funds. A stonking £682.02 was made over the weekend, of which £300 to £350 was from the sale of plants!

A great BIG thank you to all who contributed their goods, service or talents to such a successful event.

By now everyone will have their plants in and are watching with interest as they grow and develop, watering them and awaiting the crop.

This is a time of reflection for me as I remain in awe of God's bounty in helping us to provide for ourselves and others by sharing the harvest and the love that it brings. He really is a generous Father.

After all the activity and hard work now is the time for me to give some attention to my own garden. There are always plenty of jobs to do. I also like to give some space just to be in the moment, watch the wildlife, listen to the birdsong and enjoy the occasional BBQ or just to be quiet and know that He is there. I look forward to seeing you all again next year gardeners, same time same place and remember – keep calm and keep gardening!

**With love and God Bless
from your Garden Gnome
(aka Christine)**



Clothes4U

Pre loved clothes with TLC
from

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH
Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey. GU21 2DR



When the KMC Broadway Group decided to open a clothing bank two years ago, none of us realised how successful it would be for the community and the surrounding area.

On Saturday 15th June, one lady arrived who told us that as she was pregnant she was in need of maternity clothes. Luckily, we had a number of maternity items for her to select from plus baby clothes too, and she was delighted and very thankful.

A Syrian man whom we know from his previous visits came looking for clothes for himself and his grandchildren who, at present, are living in Egypt.

An African gentleman arrived and the first thing he asked was the price of the clothes and shoes. He was so surprised to find out that everything was free of charge!

Finally, an amazing thing happened on Tuesday 11th June. Jane Ing received a call from a gentleman named Sean. Sean works for Surrey Disabled People's Partnership in Staines as an Advocate. Advocacy is taking action to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need. Advocates and advocacy schemes work in partnership with the people they support and take their side. Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice. Advocacy in Surrey where Sean works is specifically for people who face difficulties in being involved, having their voice heard, and who have no other independent person to help them do so.

It transpired that a homeless man who we shall call Jacob, was referred to Sean by Cornerhouse which is a charity in Woking, Runnymede and Spelthorne that offers emotional and wellbeing support. It appeared that Jacob has been living in a hut on an allotment in Mayford for a

number of years and was desperately short of clothes. Despite being known to various organisations/charities in this locality including the Abraham Cowley Unit at St Peter's Hospital, nobody it seems had thought of putting him in touch with the Advocacy Service until very recently.

As a result of Jacob's contact with Sean, Jacob not only has clothes from us, which Sean collected from Jane on 11th June, but now has a roof over his head. This was achieved so quickly because Jacob has a mental illness and as a result of Sean's contact with Woking Borough Council, they were able to offer Jacob bed and breakfast accommodation in Woking immediately. After all the years of homelessness Jacob now has somewhere he can call home that is safe, dry and warm. As you might imagine Jacob was overcome with emotion, unable to believe people could be so kind.

Sean was very interested in Clothes4U and if he is able, he will come along in July to see if he can be of assistance to any visitors who are in need of housing advice or have issues with responding to correspondence.

Jane Ing and Helen Brice

2 - 4pm Saturdays:
20th July, 17th August, 21st September & 19th October
To claim your FREE clothes, vouchers are available from
over 35 local outlets - ask for details

clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com



www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U

My Quest for Forgiveness of Sins

My journey into Christianity was triggered by the untimely death of my elder sister who was a victim of a progressive brain tumour in her early 40s. Devastated and bewildered by such loss of the sister who brought me up whilst our mother, as a Midwife and nurse for Gurkhas' families, worked day and night. I began to experience all the signs and symptoms of clinical depression. I was then in-charge of a female acute admission ward Redding A, which later became the site for Sainsbury's. As guilty feelings and suicidal thoughts invaded my mind, I sought forgiveness for my sins whilst a psychiatrist dealt with my mental ill health.

Only one religion provides an unconditional FORGIVENESS - CHRISTIANITY. From 1959 to 1965 my Midwife mother used all her savings to pay fees for me to be educated in English language at a medium local school in Malaya and Singapore. Then I began to attend schools run or owned by Christian Missionary groups. We were, in addition to our academic subjects, "fed" on the Gospels of John and Luke and then on Mark and Matthew. Later, in my final year for the School Leaving Certificate, a bit of the Act of Apostles. But, I never realised until... 11 years later in 1976 I would seek Jesus for the forgiveness of my past sins. To the weary body, mind and soul He gives rest and relief from the burden of sins - unlike some airlines that impose baggage charges. The ministry and healings by Jesus Christ is free not just at the point of contact, as in the NHS, but continuously FREE.

There are days I still struggle as the battle rages between dark forces and God seeking thought in this conscious and unconscious mind. But Jesus' unconditional love and His assurance - I will be with you. . .even to the end of the world, is indeed a non-drug therapy that continuously salvages – heals mind, body and spirit of the believers with unquestioning faith. Jesus Christ's healing power is from God the Father. God Almighty had empowered Jesus who as the Word

(LOGOS) existed before the world was created.

Jesus in his human existence went through the earthly ordeals and overcame the "human demise" – physical death. His Resurrection gives us hope that on His return for the judgement day, we will be raised from the darkness of death - to meet our saviour God Almighty save us mortals. Amen.

Some hymns I turn to as my shelter and inspiration to face trials and tribulation in the earthly sojourn are:

- ✝ **Give me Joy in My Heart.**
- ✝ **I Cannot Tell Why.**
- ✝ **Amazing Grace.**
- ✝ **God Forgave My Sins in Jesus' Name.**
- ✝ **Freely, Freely You Have Received.**
- ✝ **Beauty for Brokenness, Hope for Despair.**

Also the Psalms 139 and 103 amongst many other soul and mind soothing hymns and psalms, as my spiritual medicine to sustain my sojourn on this earth.

AMEN.

Rajendra (Raj)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Amazing Grace" by John Newton. The score is written on a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The title "Amazing Grace" is prominently displayed at the top of the score. The composer's name "John Newton" is on the left, and "Traditional" is on the right. The lyrics include: "A-maz-ing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re- lieved. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shin- ing as the sun." and "How pre- cious days I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see. We've no less days to sing grace to God's praise Than when we'd first be- gun." The score includes musical notation such as notes, rests, and a triplet of eighth notes.

A Debt We Can Never Repay

Although it is well over a month ago now since the D-Day commemorations, it is never

going to be too late to write about the sacrifice so many made in June 1944 which we will never be able to repay. After all this time there is now a British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer overlooking Gold Beach, which will ensure the legacy of those who died lives on. It will be engraved with the names of those who gave their lives in the liberation. The memorial consists of three bronze sculptures of soldiers overlooking Gold Beach in Normandy.

It is very hard for us to envisage how it must have been for all those who died after landing on the Normandy beaches. It is likely that none of them knew what to expect as they crossed the Channel on that fateful day in June 75 years ago. Perhaps this is just as well given the outcome for 22,442 members of the British Armed forces who died in the D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy that raged throughout the summer of 1944.

It is likely many of the men involved would have written letters to loved ones whilst waiting for their unknown mission to start. They would have been perhaps fearing the worst but hoping for the best and the time when they would be reunited with their families. One such letter was given prominence during the commemorations last month. Three days before D-Day invasion, Norman Skinner, a former insurance salesman, and then of the Royal Army Service Corps, wrote a letter to his wife Gladys.

This letter was found in Norman's pocket when he died the day after landing at Sword Beach. A telegram informing Gladys of Norman's death was sent on 14 June 1944.

We may not be able to repay the debt we owe Norman and all those who perished but we can and must remember them now and for ever.



My Darling,

This is a very difficult letter for me to write. As you know something may happen at any moment and I cannot tell when you will receive this. I had hoped to be able to see you during last weekend but it was impossible to get away and all the things I intended to say must be written.

I am sure that anyone with imagination must dislike the thought of what's coming. But my fears will be more of being afraid than of what can happen to me.

You and I have had some lovely years which now seem to have passed with lightning speed. My thoughts at this moment, in this lovely Saturday afternoon, are with you all now. I can imagine you in the garden, having tea with Janey and Anne, getting ready to put them to bed.

Although I would give anything to be back with you, I have not yet had any wish at all to back down from the job we have to do. There is so much I would like to be able to tell you. Nearly all of which you've heard many, many times. But just to say, that I mean it even more today. I am sure that I will be with you again soon and for good. Please give my fondest love to my Anne and my Janey. God bless and keep you all safe for me.

Norman



News from Ruth Pugh in Dragapur

Ruth is working in India for the Diocese of Durgapur. This Diocese comes under the Church of North India that the Methodist Church is part of. Ruth's main role is to teach children music, and specifically to learn to play string instruments. She also trains them to be Cathedral musicians enabling them to play for all the services at the Cathedral. Ruth also coaches them to take The Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM) and Trinity College London (TCL) exams. The ultimate aim is so they can get jobs as teachers teaching Western Music or playing professionally in orchestras. Ruth also works as a music teacher at a school in Perulia and at another school to help with music in pre-primary classes.



The priests welcoming them back

Dear friends and family,

Great News. Our prayers have been answered, someone to fill the space of Bishop here. Our own Bishop – Bishop Probal Dutta – has been sent back to Durgapur and we are all very happy. We had a wonderful Thanksgiving service for his return on Friday with representatives from across the Diocese, followed by a short cultural programme and dinner. The Diocese sprang back into life. We await how God will work in the Diocese now.

Next weekend we have the Youth Convention on the Diocese compound. It will be so full of life here next weekend. They will be talking about the digital age and how we can use it in our Christian lives and spread God's word. I shall be preaching for this service and using power point and mini video to help with the message and of course leading the music as well.

Enjoying
splashing!



In May we had a wonderful weekend of Summer Camp for all the centres of the Diocesan Womens' Fellowship for Christian Service, (DWFCS). This Christian service operates a number of projects in North India including all those involving children plus doctors' clinics, eye clinics and hospital and sewing centres. Just under 200 children from nine centres attended the Summer Camp. It was an extremely hot weekend but lots of fun with the children enjoying activities. The theme this year was "God speaks through animals". We introduced this with acting out Balaam's donkey and also another 13 animals in the Bible and how we can learn from them. We had aerobics and games at 6am each day!! That's because it is the coolest time of the day. While the older children had a chance to do some pottery and use a wheel the little ones (7 and under) were given swimsuits and a paddling pool and had great fun. I got very wet sitting just outside the pool, as they splashed me and I splashed them back. They thought it was great fun.

Being animals
at Summer
Camp



The Camp extended to Sunday this time so I was privileged to put together the first part of the service based on the theme before it went into the usual communion. It was lively and very much enjoyed using drama and video to help with the teaching. It is useful that the cathedral has an AV system which is so different to the smaller churches.

We had great news, all three of the Mahatos passed their Board Class XII exams. They are now seeking college admission, so please pray for them at this time.

Summer vacation for all schools is just ending, I am sitting in Purulia typing this as I start teaching here tomorrow. I travelled back with Mrs Sen, the principal, as she had been in Durgapur for the



The children singing a special song

Thanksgiving service, and have found a shorter route, less than 2½ hours instead of the usual three. As well as teaching music at St Peter's School in Purulia, I am still helping in St Peter's Durgapur with the pre-Primary teaching, including a playschool this year. I will also be going to St Michael's Baramara, to do music activities with them. This is a very small branch school that is just into its second year. I shall not go there weekly as again it is 2½ hours away.

Over the summer vacation I have worked on many new pieces with the orchestra as I have been able to have them all at every class, so preparing for programmes that will come during the next six months. Also teaching them new techniques and preparation for their exams later in the year.

This is the first time I have stayed through the heat and humidity. It saps your strength and energy. I spend most of my time working in my room as it has air conditioning, but the music room doesn't. The music room is fine for the morning class but after the sun has been

beating down for 12 hours on the roof it is like a hot house by the evening.

The one good thing this year about staying is I haven't missed the mango season. I'm now an expert at making mango milkshakes. Very yummy! Mango mousse. As well as just eating a mango as a mango.

- ✠ Pray please for the following:
- ✠ That I will cope with all my work and the heat.
- ✠ For Puja and Bidhan as they sort out college admission and their future.
- ✠ For Sanjay as he prepares for his final exams towards his degree later this year.
- ✠ For the children as they prepare for this year's practical exams probably to be taken in October.
- ✠ For the Youth Convention next weekend.
- ✠ For Bishop and Rita as they settle back here and take up the reins. For wisdom and guidance to continue to move the Diocese forward.
- ✠ For programmes that are lined up in the coming months.
- ✠ For all the children as they return to school and their studies.

Thank you for your continued and love and prayer support.

Yours in Christ.

Ruth



I'm leading a Hindi welcome songs with people from different parts of the Diocese

People in Profile:

Allan & Yvette Wright



When I think of Allan & Yvette the following words always come to mind. Loyal, committed, dedicated, flexible, willing and reliable. Nothing it seems is too much trouble. That is wonderful given that they both do such a lot behind the scenes. Allan is the master of all he surveys as far as the AV equipment is concerned, and his creative flair is obvious every Sunday when viewing the screen at church. He is also able to demonstrate that creativity with the KMC Magazine, as this issue confirms. Equally, Yvette ran the Toddler Group here at KMC for some years very soon after they first came to our church 20 years ago. For most of the last 17 years she has been KMC's very own Administrator keeping everything on track. The time and effort that this couple devote to the work of KMC can get taken for granted, so this article I hope will go a little way to rectifying the situation.

Yvette hails from Perivale, near Ealing in West London. Shortly afterwards she, with her parents and 2 siblings moved to Ashford. No not in Kent, the one just the other side of Staines! Yvette regularly attended Ashford Methodist Church together with her mum and it was where she would marry Allan in 1984.

After their marriage they moved to Goldsworth Park and from that time up until the birth of their daughter, Juliette, Yvette had a number of admin/secretarial jobs. After the end of her maternity leave, Yvette returned to work full-time due to Allan being made redundant. Following the running of the Toddler Group at KMC Yvette decided to set up her own childminding business. This involved a lot of work in order to become registered, and ultimately meant studying for a diploma in childminding over 2 years, which Yvette obtained with flying colours.

Apart from a recent short break, Yvette is the KMC Administrator. She is the person we have to thank for The Notices for example, but there is much more to the job than that! In addition Yvette is on passenger assistant duty with Bustler (Woking Community Transport)

every weekday, accompanying those who use these buses to various places within the borough.

So Yvette is a busy person, but a great person to know because as the saying goes, if you want something done ask a busy person!

When I tell you that Allan was born in Brighton you will immediately start to wonder how he and Yvette met. Well I can tell you that they met neither in Brighton or Ashford, but on a holiday. Yes theirs was a holiday romance which started in Corfu! However, unlike many holiday romances and, contrary to what Allan's friend with whom he went to Corfu predicted, their romance has lasted. They have been together for 40 years this summer.

Allan grew up in and around Brighton. With his parents and his brother and 2 sisters, they moved house a number of times, firstly within Sussex and then finally to Pyrford. Despite this, however, by the time Allan met Yvette, Allan was already familiar with Ashford because he was working in the area as an insurance agent.

After taking his A Levels Allan started work as a trainee draughtsman but this occupation was destined not to last and he changed direction by entering the insurance industry. Allan worked for a few insurance companies until 1999 when made redundant, and so changed direction again by joining MFI as a kitchen designer in 2000. Seeing the writing on the wall, job wise, he left MFI to join the trade kitchen company Benchmarx in 2008, 6 months before MFI collapsed, and the rest is history.

Allan was a regular church attender in at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Henfield, Sussex where as a young boy he was an acolyte i.e. he assisted the minister during the services. On moving to Pyrford the family attended United Reformed Church in Woking where his father became treasurer. Allan also attended Woking Baptist Church for a while and it is remembering those days that Allan's favourite hymn is 'And Can it Be' by Charles Wesley. He and Yvette both attended Ashford Methodist Church until they moved to Woking. A favourite hymn for Yvette? 'Walk in the Light (The Spirit Lives to Set Us Free)' by Damian Lundy, is one that she enjoys singing.

To call Allan & Yvette the backbone of KMC might be overstating the matter, and apart from anything else it does not sound particularly attractive. But it is not an exaggeration to say that if they were not around to do all that they do on a weekly basis we would all soon notice and miss them very much! So our thanks go to both of them for their time and commitment to KMC. If you didn't know exactly who they are, you do now, having seen their splendid photo opposite!

The Editor

Coming up at KMC



SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER
HARVEST FESTIVAL
10AM



Knaphill Methodist Church's 
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER
10AM TO 2PM
MANY STALLS
REFRESHMENTS
RAFFLE
FREE ADMISSION 



COVENANT
SERVICE
Sunday 8th September 10am



CHRISTMAS
Afternoon Tea & Carols
Sunday 8th December 3pm - 5pm
at Knaphill Methodist Church

The Wey Valley Methodist Circuit's *third*

V3RS3: & VOIC3

"Sing to him a new song; play skilfully, and shout for joy." Psalms 33:3

**Christmas
is Coming!**



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Sunday 29th September

6.30pm

(Refreshments from 5.30pm)

at Knaphill Methodist Church





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minister@knaphill-methodist-church.com

www.knaphill-methodist-church.com

SUNDAY SERVICES

10am - Morning Worship (includes facilities for children)

Our services are warm and cordial. We include traditional and contemporary hymns and songs, led by our Worship Group.

The sermons are Bible based and are sometimes themed over several weeks. Holy Communion is generally on the 2nd Sunday of every month. After the service everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments; a time for a chat and to get to know each other.

We have a special Family Area at the back of the church with lots of things for children to do.

6.30pm - Monthly Evening Holy Communion

This is usually the 4th Sunday of the month, and is a small intimate service of Communion with about 15 or so people, some from other churches in the village. You are welcome to join us.

If you would like to worship on a Sunday evening when we do not have a service, our local Anglican church, Holy Trinity, Chobham Road, has a service at 6.30pm on the 1st Sunday of the month.

For further information see the notice boards outside the church or contact:

admin@knaphill-methodist-church.com

This is a Q code - scan it with your Smartphone to go straight to our website



Services July, August, September



| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| 21st July | 10am | Morning Worship with Dave Faulkner |
| 28th July | 9.30am | Coffee & Chat |
| | 10am | Morning Worship with Elizabeth Gurd |
| | 6.30pm | Holy Communion with Julia Monaghan |
| 4th August | 10am | Holy Communion with Dave Faulkner |
| 11th August | 10am | Morning Worship with Patrick Coad |
| 18th August | 10am | Morning Worship with Dave Faulkner |
| 25th August | 9.30am | Coffee & Chat |
| | 10am | Morning Worship with Rosemary Lee |
| 1st September | 10am | Morning Worship* |
| 8th September | 10am | Covenant & Communion with Dave Faulkner |
| 15th September | 10am | Morning Worship* |
| 22nd September | 10am | Harvest Festival* |
| | 6.30pm | Holy Communion with Dave Faulkner |
| 29th September | 10am | Morning Worship with Dave Faulkner |
| | 6.30pm | V3RS3 & VOIC3 III - “Christmas is Coming” |

*The “Circuit Plan” for September to November was not available prior to publication of this issue of the KMC Magazine. For full details of the preachers for these services see The Notices or service posters nearer the time.