

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

MAGAZINE

Changing lives for good through the power of God's word



Autumn 2025

A Word from the Editor:

Hello and welcome to the Autumn issue of the KMC Magazine.

We will shortly be celebrating Harvest Festival, and it reminds us of all the demanding work that is involved in getting food onto our plates. Whether that work is by those farming the land on a professional basis or those who adopt the more amateur approach by maintaining an allotment. Whilst having an allotment can still be hard work it can also bring great satisfaction as three of our members explain on pages 15 – 17.

I am indebted to Raj Chhetri for bringing to our attention the recent difficulties he has experienced with depression. Talking about mental health is still not spoken about as often as it should be and Raj has been brave in opening up about how the illness affected him and how he is managing to overcome it, not least through his faith in God. (see page 7)

For those of you who may not know too much about the lives of John and Charles Wesley, I hope you find the article on Wesley's Chapel both interesting and informative. (see page 18)

Currently there is much to think and pray about. At the time of writing the war in Ukraine continues despite recent peace talks and the conflict in Gaza also rages on with starvation becoming a further threat to the Palestinian people. Perhaps there is less focus on Sudan where civil war, which began in 2023, is also causing famine, displacement of people and great suffering. In all three situations we are urged to pray for all those affected and do what we can to help bring about everlasting peace.

The *Fearless Girls Club* made its debut in our premises on 9th September and will continue to meet every Tuesday in term time. I mention this in case you have not heard of this organisation before. It is for girls aged between 8 & 12 years and is designed to help them improve their confidence and self-esteem and make them more resilient and capable of dealing with life in the modern world. We wish them all the best in their venture. Once they become established in Knaphill I hope to find out more about their activities for the KMC Magazine.

Whilst we have all enjoyed good summer weather this year it has not been so good for farmers who have found the lack of rain challenging. This makes me think that in the future, due to climate change, it is not only the Fearless Girls who are going to have to learn to be more resilient but all of us too including those of us who garden or own an allotment. Let us hope and pray that with God's help, we will.

Robin Spice, Editor.

editor@knaphillmethodist.co.uk



KMC MAGAZINE

Editor: Robin Spice. Layout & design: Allan Wright. Proof Reader: Yvette Wright

NEXT ISSUE: Look out for information about the copy deadline in The Notices.

Copy to: Robin Spice - editor@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

Message from Paul:

Harvest...

I was preaching to our lovely Chinese Methodist congregation recently and I had a really interesting chat with a family after the worship where they shared something that chimed in with my experience recently.

They were pleased because I had underlined hope, kindness and encouragement in my sermon and had talked about acting on our Christian faith in the world outside. They were saying that recently their experience of online Christian content on YouTube was that there has been a lot of material predicting dark and difficult days and making predictions about the end times.

There is indeed an abundance of very gloomy stuff online. It predicts all kinds of terrible things. Of course, that is almost bound to happen at times when we are very aware of the tensions and difficulties in the world at the moment. But the harvest of this kind of doom-laden gloomy talk is fear, anxiety and a kind of a 'circling of the wagons' approach where we tend to look at everything with suspicion and anxiety.

My faith tells me that we need to keep on looking outwards to the world all the time, sharing as much kindness, love and care as we possibly can. That might only be in small ways - but in every way that we can impact on the world for good - that is a kingdom thing that we are doing.

I think we do rather more of that from our church than we imagine. I think Clothes4U, the Coffee Mornings and CAMEO are major ways in which we reach out and share love, peace, care and hope.

Our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides are also major ways in which we impact on other people's lives. In September KMC became the home to a new group in Knaphill - *The Fearless Girls Club* - now that sounds fantastic! It is really easy to underestimate all the good that flows from our building into the world every week.



fearless girls club

**KNAPHILL CLUB
OPENING IN SEPTEMBER!**

TUESDAYS, 5.30PM TO 7PM
KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

BOOK ONLINE NOW

A club for girls aged 8 to 12 to have fun, explore the big questions, make new friends and learn to love being themselves.

Reaching out - enabling people, empowering people to be all that God wants them to be - not allowing ourselves to be overcome by fear and anxiety. That is the way of Jesus. That is the harvest of good Christian living, working and praying. Let's spend all our time focusing on the wonderful things that we have to give thanks for everyday, and the beautiful harvest of sharing love, kindness and hospitality with all whom we meet. In Jesus' name.

Paul





Dramatize: Community Garden



You will recall the article on the Dramatize Community Garden in the Easter issue of this Magazine. Since then, the garden has come on in leaps and bounds with the assistance of volunteers and students under the guidance of the RHS Community Gardening initiative.

The RHS believe that plants and people have the power to create lasting change and this is why they are passionate about celebrating growing projects. Whether that is growing herbs with a neighbour or developing a space for wildlife. These gardening activities can create new social connections, transforming people's wellbeing and environment for the better.





The garden space at Dramatize has existed for a number of years but not on the scale

that has now been achieved. The RHS visit once a week to offer their help and the result is what can be seen today.

In July Dramatize celebrated their garden by having a grand opening and invited people to come and take a look as well as participating in seed swapping and making mandalas. Mandalas with their circular and often symmetrical designs can be created using natural materials often found in a garden or park. This activity is seen as a calming and contemplative practice, encouraging focus, appreciation for nature and creativity.

Dramatize are very keen for people to use the garden whether that is to just come and sit and relax with a drink, or to pull the odd weed or two. Please do visit when you can and enjoy the benefits of the existence of their garden.





Family News

New Members

Earlier this year, our minister Rev. Dr. Paul Glass welcomed two new members into our congregation. **Karen White** and **Victor Rones**. Our congratulations to both of them.

(There's more about Karen White on page 24)

Visit to Princess Christian Care Home

On 23rd July, **Vicki Drake & Eileen Lane** were invited to a Garden Party at the Princess Christian Care Home in Stafford Lake, Knaphill. This event was being held to open their new Sensory Garden. On arrival they were warmly greeted and escorted to their new garden area. They were offered a welcome drink and then entertained by very talented staff who performed some wonderful Filipino dancing. Following this was a barbeque and we enjoyed an amazing spread of food – salads, burgers and chicken. As it was a hot day a local ice-cream vendor attended and was kept very busy. The garden was formally opened with speeches and later there was a raffle, but Vicki & Eileen were unlucky on this occasion! It was an excellent afternoon and they felt quite privileged to be there.



The Question of my Faith - Raj Chhetri

On Monday 12th May as I woke up, I realised my mood was down and heading towards rock bottom. As a former Registered Mental Nurse/RMN, I recognised the signs and symptoms which can lead towards clinical depression – an illness that I had experienced 50 years ago after my elder sister died from a progressive brain tumour in August 1975.

My mother, who was a midwife and nurse in the British Colony of Malaya, worked almost all day and night meaning my sister brought me up. In June 1975 I was a newly promoted Charge Nurse designated to the Female Admission “Redding A Ward”, in Brookwood Hospital.

At that time I began to feel the adverse impact of anxiety causing insomnia. The increasing tiredness and low mood I experienced was affecting my ability to concentrate effectively. My anxiety level worsened and I was afraid of making mistakes in the clinical environment. At this juncture, I turned to the invisible God who had answered my prayer for me to get to the United Kingdom to be trained as a Registered General Nurse.

I was edging towards a complete breakdown. So, I confided in one of the Consultant Psychiatrists who invited me to his office. He assessed me and told me, "Raj you are suffering from delayed bereavement, and this is causing the signs and symptoms of clinical depression". He provided me with a letter for my GP. The GP granted me sick leave and prescribed psychotropic medications. I was on sick leave for nearly 12 weeks. Thankfully, now I am a pensioner I do not have to worry about losing my job. However, the fear of the 1976 episode still haunts me. This time my GP prescribed a small dose of an antidepressant. But, for emotional relief and healing I still prayed to the Almighty God for complete healing from this ordeal.

In 1976 I had turned to the Almighty God to rescue me and that led me to meeting the vicar of Holy Trinity Church in Knaphill. In addition to my psychotropic medications, seeking the Divine Intervention effectively became my therapy. Thus, the sad experience of 1976 has now generated the desire for pardoning of my sins and generating a path to recovery.

So now, once again, I am praying for a full recovery. In May, I missed my Reading during Sunday morning service. But I was determined to attend the Communion Sunday service and be able to continue Reading. I find hymns comforting and inspiring. On 3rd August two hymns impacted on me to "carry on" living because I believe Almighty God responds to earnest prayer. The hymns on that Sunday were "Father I place into your hands" and "Faithful One so unchanging." Both hymns reassured me and strengthened my hope in divine intervention.

After the Local Arrangement Service held on the following Sunday, I managed to walk home despite the temptation to take the bus instead. During this walk I realised that the hymns sung at this service and on 3rd August answered my nagging question of faith.



The first hymn reminded me of the “Faithful One, so unchanging”. The second hymn reminded me of this temporary life, “All I once held dear”. The third hymn, “Father I place into your hands the things I cannot do”, reminded me that I am being taken care of in my ordeal regarding my struggle with this ageing body and restless mind. The fourth hymn in fact steadied my mind, “Jesus, all for Jesus, all I am and have and ever hope to be”, causing me to think over my ambitions and desires. Finally, the hymn “How great is our God - Splendour of the King, clothed in majesty”. This reminded me of my mortality and my dependency on His grace and mercy upon me. Altogether I realised I am a mortal depending on my existence and wellbeing upon my faith and creator, Almighty God.

Now, many of you may wonder why I am open about this dreadful clinical depression's effect on me. Well, I just wanted to share my experience and faith in the healing Almighty God, and to defeat the stigma that exists around the subject of mental illness. My mantra is: “A Human Being is 3-Dimensional – Mind, Body & Spirit”. (Spirit = Belief/Faith/Religion). Amen.



Correction:

In the Easter Magazine Allan Taylor was described as being a Local Preacher. Whilst Allan was indeed a Local Preacher at one time, he subsequently became an ordained Minister so is in fact the Rev. J. Allan Taylor.

My apologies to Allan for this error which I am pleased he brought to my attention and to be able to correct in this issue.

Robin Spice, Editor

A festive poster for a Christmas Coffee Morning and Sale. It features a large brown banner with the text "CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING AND SALE" in green and red. To the left is a green Christmas tree with white lights and a star on top. In the center is a white cup of coffee on a saucer. To the right is a cartoon illustration of a person in a green shirt and orange cap serving tea from a blue teapot. A sign next to them lists "TEA COFFEE BISCUITS BACON BUTTIES". Below the banner, there are various Christmas gifts like a lamp, a bicycle, and a box. At the bottom, a black banner contains the text "KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL", "Saturday 22nd November", "CHRISTMAS SPECIAL", and "10am to Noon".

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING AND SALE

TEA COFFEE BISCUITS BACON BUTTIES

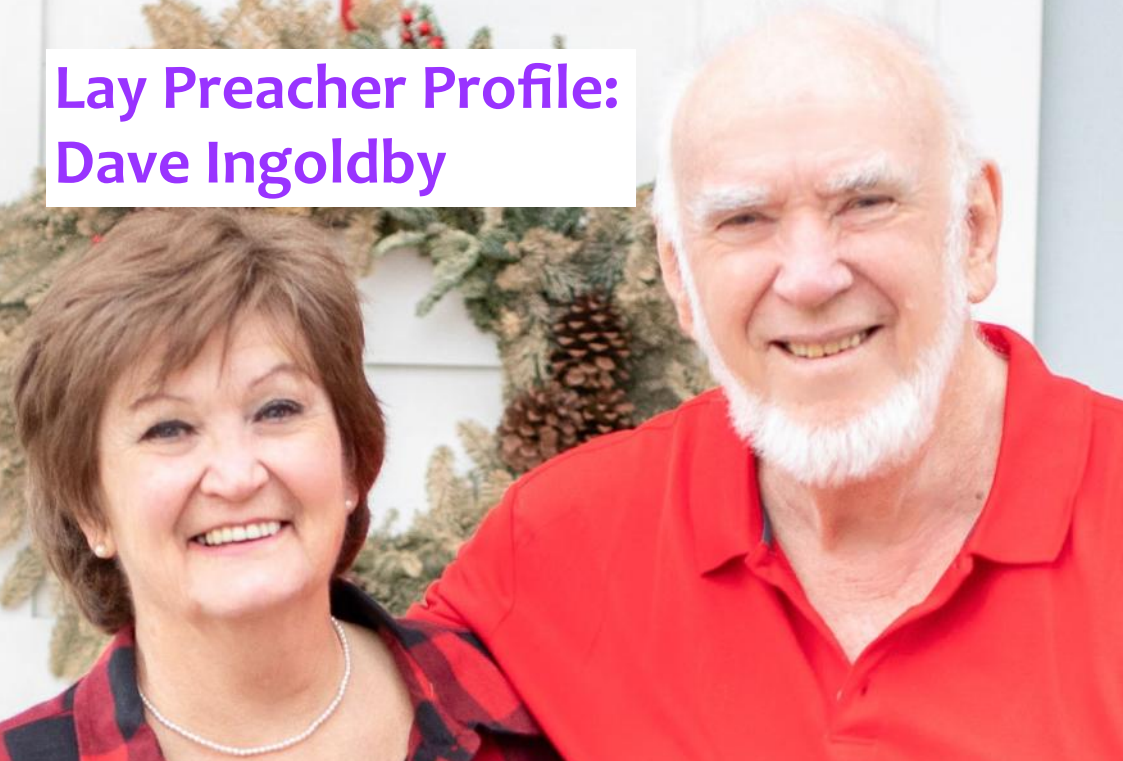
BOOKS, DVD, JIGSAWS & BRIC-A-BRAC

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Saturday 22nd November CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

10am to Noon

Lay Preacher Profile: Dave Ingoldby



I was born in Norwich in Norfolk, the son of a market gardener and a shop manager.

A few years after that my dad responded to a call to full time ministry in South Africa, so we sold up. We packed up and boarded the Landoverly Castle mail boat and sailed to South Africa in 1952.

Dad's ministry took us to quite a few different towns in South Africa and I finished my schooling in the town of Barberton in what is now Mpumalanga. During my time there I had a wonderful Christian experience and gave my life to Jesus.

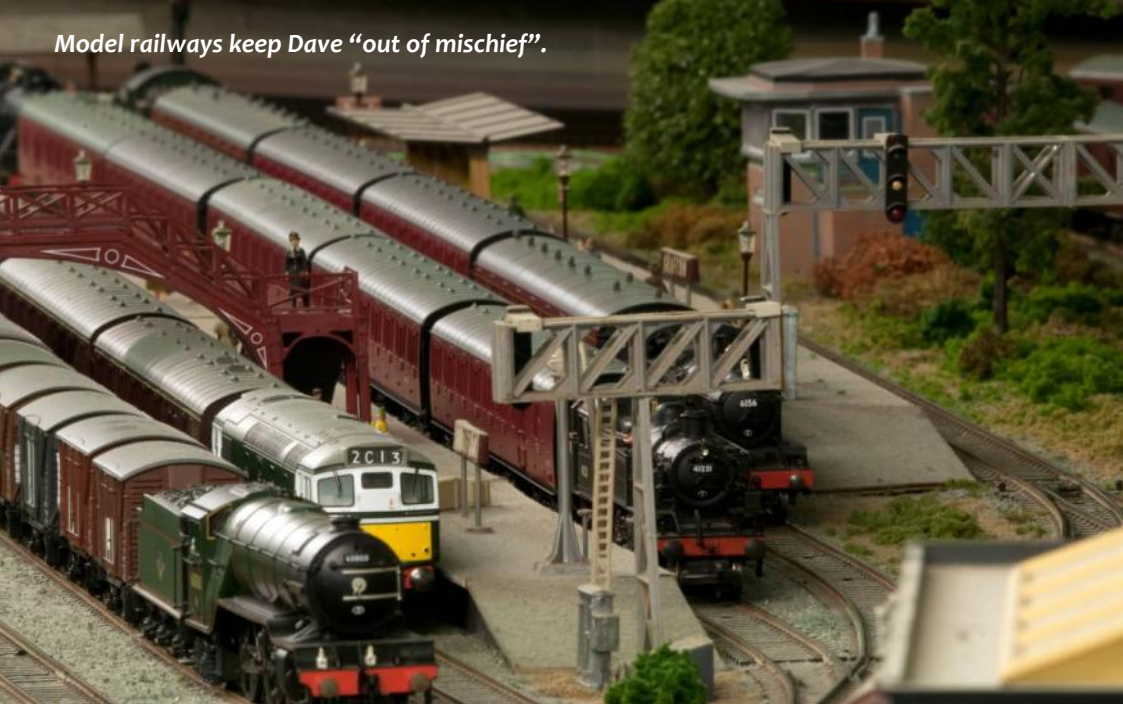
I went to Uni in Johannesburg which did not go well, and I had to walk away from that. However, one evening in church, God touched me on the shoulder and called me to preach. I reluctantly decided to have a go and the rest, as they say, is history. I answered the call in 1968 and was accepted on full plan in 1971.

Interestingly, it was at a service in Knaphill when I was awarded a certificate for 40 years of preaching. The older I get the more passionate I become about the gospel and try hard to make Christianity real and understandable to others.

Work wise, I started out doing land surveys, moving into electronics a few years later. I then got invited to join a nameplate company where we made aluminium labels and nameplates as well as a bit of signage.

I worked for a few different companies in this field, until I was able to buy out a small company when the owner retired and ran it quite successfully for a number of years.

Model railways keep Dave “out of mischief”.



Due to a downturn in the economy and a loss of interest in the products we were making, we lost the business in 2003 and decided to come back to England and start again.

Since being back, I have worked in a bedding company, a contact lens company, a glass company and finally a precision metal working company.

I am now retired and spend a lot of time making components for model railways.

This involves going to model railway shows around the country selling my wares as well as selling through my website. It keeps me out of mischief.

On a personal front I married Rosemary Watson in 1969, and we had 23 years together until she passed away from cancer at the tender age of 48.

Sometime later I met and married Caryl who was also recently widowed and we have been together for 33 happy years. Between us we have 4 children – 3 boys and a girl and now 3 grandsons.

God has been incredibly good to us, and we often look back over our lives and praise Him for all that he has done for us.

We serve a wonderful God. In the words of the Bethel song “The Goodness of God”

*'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Dave Ingoldby

Recipe Corner

Cream of Broccoli Soup

Here's a recipe to use up the broccoli but includes other vegetables too. With thanks to Sally Allison for sending it in.

Ingredients:

255g broccoli
1 tbs vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
1 medium potato, diced
1 pint vegetable stock
Grated rind of ½ lemon
Salt and pepper
150g single cream
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Method:

Prepare broccoli by trimming stalks and dividing into florets. In a large pan of water heat the oil and fry the onion for 2 – 3 minutes. Add broccoli, potato, stock, lemon rind and seasoning. Cover and simmer for about 20 minutes until the vegetables are soft. Blend until smooth. Add single cream and nutmeg and return to the pan and heat gently. Garnish with freshly chopped chives and croutons.



Five-a-day Cake

You can choose **any 4** of the following fruit and vegetables listed below to include in this cake which is another great recipe for using up any produce that you may have grown or if you have too much.

Ingredients

4 of any of the following:

Chopped apple (washed and with peel on for extra fibre)

Chopped pear

Banana, mashed with a squeeze of lemon juice

Grated carrot

Grated parsnip

Grated courgette – squeeze if very moist

Grated pumpkin or squash

Sweet potato

End up with about 750g – 900g maximum with up to 450g of this being apple which will be good, but you can try any combination. Note that if you pack in lots of moist fruit and veg your cake will have a consistency reminiscent of bread pudding. If you want a more traditional cake texture reduce the amount of moist fruit you include.

To add to your chosen fruit/vegetables you will need:

220g soft margarine

220g granulated sugar

4 eggs

330g self-raising flour (you can add oats and reduce the amount of flour)

220g dried mixed fruit

Toppings: any of sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds, sliced apple or glaze with apricot jam immediately after baking.

Method:

Pre-heat oven to 180 degrees.

Line a baking tray (23cm x 30cm) with silicon paper folding the corners in rather than cutting.

Cream margarine and sugar, add eggs one at a time and beat in, then add the flour.

Add the prepared fruit/vegetables and keep stirring until mixed thoroughly. If needed you can add a little milk or orange juice, but as the fruit can be very moist it is better not to add it with the egg but to wait.

Depending on the ingredients selected it will take an hour or more to bake. When done the cake will be shrunken away from the sides, and a skewer inserted should come out clean.





We Believe

We believe in light rather than darkness.

We believe in hope over despair.

We believe that people are unique in this world,
designed by God, and valued and precious.

We believe that good news is better than gossip.

We believe forgiveness is more healing than blame.

We believe grace is better than bitterness.

We believe flowers are kinder than bombs.

We believe a smile is a thing worth sharing.

We believe freedom is better than chains.

We believe in one who gave everything for us.

We believe that mustard seed faith
can move mountains of cynicism.

We believe that prayers are precious, and love is eternal.

We believe that kindness has the face of a man on a cross.

We believe in the new dawn of resurrection.

May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loved us and in his special favour gave us everlasting comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and give you strength in every good thing you do and say.

(2 Thessalonians 2: 16-17)

Reproduced by kind permission of Dave Hopwood

A Prayer for Our Time

Lord, you told Martha that she was anxious about many things, and you might as well tell us the same thing.

It is so easy to be anxious in this life, about money, about the future, about the past, about what we don't have, about what might happen, about the news, about our own strength and resources, about what we can do and what we can't. Anxiety reigns in our minds, at times obliterating all other thoughts, so we pray for your help.

You told us not to worry, you told us to look at the flowers and the birds.

You told us that, even though they seem small and passing, yet God cares about them, and so you care about us.

Help us Lord, you know how often we get anxious, and you understand how much we worry, help us with all of this please, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Luke 12: 22-30)

Dave Hopwood



We meet in Room 3 on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. We have a mix of members - some from our church, some from Woodhill and other churches, some that have no affiliation with any church at all. Our meetings usually include a hymn/song, a talk and always close with prayer, followed by tea and biscuits.

The speakers we had in the spring term were very varied. Rev Paul Glass spoke about how he came to be a Methodist minister, whilst Bob Bailey gave an interesting talk on the history of buses.

Finding speakers is becoming more difficult because some charge so much. On one occasion Sheila Mynard kindly stepped in and gave a talk on the Joy of Colour – her talks are always different and interesting. Allan & Yvette Wright showed photos of their holiday in USA and Canada and some of them were amazing! Finally, we had a Desert Island Discs from me which was finished off with afternoon tea!

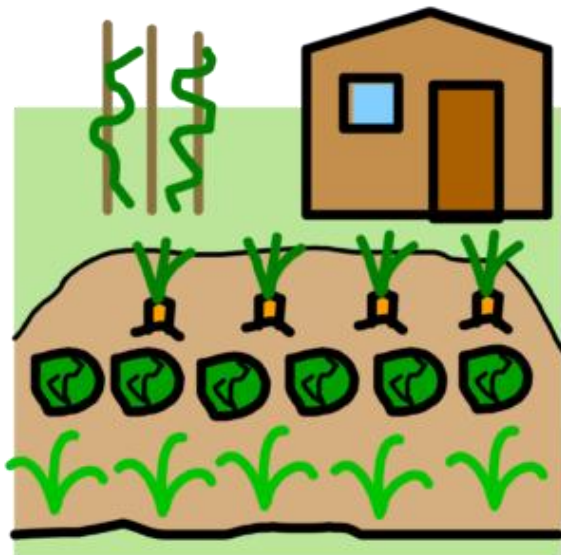
Barbara Humphries

Programme for September to December 2025:

1st October	Your Sanctuary	A women's refuge in Woking
15th October		Member's Afternoon
5th November	Amie Humphries	The Perils of Being an Ecologist
19th November	Dee Roberts	Austrian Advent
3rd December		Christmas Celebrations

Allotments

It is harvest time and for all those who work on the land it is a busy period, not least for all allotment holders though there is never nothing to do when you have an allotment! Here, Maggie Spice, Vicki Drake and Mike Allison describe their individual experiences of growing fruit and vegetables on their allotment plots in Knaphill & Brookwood. You will read that despite the hard work it is a very enjoyable activity and creates a great deal of pleasure.



Maggie Spice

Robin and I got our first allotment plot about 10 years ago. We'd been told we would probably be on the waiting list for about 2 years but in fact we were offered a plot after only a few months. About 4 years ago the plot next to ours became very overgrown and the owners could not continue with it so we asked if we could take that on too, so now we manage two plots! The allotment site is just round the corner from our house so we can easily walk there with a wheelbarrow. We have a shed on one of our plots and we acquired a greenhouse too when another plot holder was moving and wanted to dispose of it.

For my birthday last year I asked for a box of vegetable seeds and having retired this year I went a bit mad and tried growing lots more than I would usually.

The allotment site is a real haven, and I call it my secret garden as you cannot really see in, and it is secured with a padlocked gate. I found during Covid that it really helped my mental health to just go up there (as allotments were one of the few places you were allowed to go to) and also in my lunch hour when I was working from home. Now that I am retired, I have a lot more time of course and I like nothing better than popping up there first thing in the morning to water or pick whatever is ready.

I am still learning new things all the time and as all allotment holders will tell you (and gardeners) each year is different where some things work and some things don't. This year my broad beans failed despite putting them in really early and my spinach, peppers, blueberries and French beans didn't come to anything either. Mike Allison kindly gave me some mange tout plants but I'm afraid the

sun got the better of them (sorry Mike). However, we've managed to grow the following on our two plots this year: blackcurrants, pink currants, strawberries, rhubarb, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, apples, pears, courgettes, runner beans, beetroot, potatoes, radishes, onions, garlic, leeks, cucumbers, cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, lettuces, chard, celeriac, kale, pak choi, tomatoes and spring onions. We also have lavender and marigolds too – phew!



Vicki Drake

I acquired my plot in January 2021. It was very overgrown with rubbish thrown in over the fence. This took a good 2 months to clear through snow, wind and rain. I then rotavated it ready to plant out. I also inherited some apple, pear and plum trees so I cut them right back to start afresh. They are all now thriving and heavy with fruit.

Very important was to have a shed erected and this was done by a local trader whose name was passed on to me. This was to

house tools etc (and a place to dive into if it rains)!

I then planned my garden veggie plot around the shed.

I had frames put together which made for easy weeding, growing and watering. Bricks, to make a border and for many other uses and paving slabs for a little patio, which I collected from anyone who had them up for grabs. Even woodchips and weed suppressor sheets for covering my paths around the plot were 'acquired' freebies. I spotted a seedling box with lid not being used in my sister's garden, so I had that too. I was also given 2 plastic greenhouses and equipment for cloches.

Over the last 4 years I have got used to what I do like to grow, rotating my frames as necessary. So in go potatoes, beetroot, corn on the cob, leeks, carrots, parsnips, cabbage, lettuce, radish, sweet potato, butternut squash, onions, shallots, spring onions, spinach, cucumber, tomatoes, courgettes etc.

One year I was given a Galia melon seedling from which I grew 13 melons.....

It is very important to consistently weed, water and generally keep your maintenance up to scratch. When the season is over and harvesting done, I like it to be left tidy and ready for the next season.

I find having an allotment plot is very satisfying and also a great place to relax, read and enjoy the view.



Mike Allison

About 10 years ago Sally saw a local advert for vacancies for plots at the Goldsworth Park Allotment Society based at Sheets Heath, Brookwood. The Society was formed in 1977, three years after

Goldsworth Park was developed. Sally thought it would be a good idea to keep me occupied for my impending retirement. Thank you Sally!!

Overall, it has been a great success, and we have both benefited from cultivating various vegetables and fruit. We started with half a plot at the costly amount of £11 per year plus £10 (joining fee), which includes an annual BBQ and a cream tea and easy access to water. It is now £25 for a full plot. We have changed plots several times and now have had our final plot since earlier this year.

I have been on the Committee, which helps run the site, for 4 years. This involves trying to help members enjoy growing vegetables and fruit in a manner which obeys the myriad of rules, and letting go of people who will not or cannot look after their plot. To do this the committee have regular plot inspections and issue letters to those that need to improve! There is a mowing team of 4 who cut the grass strips adjoining the plots and the committee also issues seasonal newsletters and holds an annual AGM.

Benefits of being at Brookwood is that it is a quiet location, vandal free, friendly people and low fees. I enjoy meeting other plot holders, discussing what they are growing or not, and sometimes I spend too much time talking rather than cultivating my plot!

There are 90 plots with a number of half plots. During Covid we had a waiting list of 30 plus, but now we have just one or two. The soil is of poor quality and requires constant compost / manure. We have good/ poor years for growing, last year it was a slug invasion, brassicas in particular got hit, but there is always next year!

This year in our new plot, Sally & I put in a lot of effort to grow our vegetables as we did not want to let down the previous owner who had high standards and it has been very successful. We had a good harvest of gooseberries, black currants, rhubarb, plums, beetroot, broad beans, onions, potatoes, runner beans, butternut squash, with hopefully Brussels Sprouts later in the year.

Of course, it is difficult to go on holiday for long this time of year as you need to water and collect the produce as it ripens and to discourage pests. We managed to get Highly Recommended in the site competition this year which has been our best so far and we have plans to diversify with more vegetable varieties next year.

If reading these articles inspires you to try and grow fruit and vegetables and you are local to Brookwood, please contact by email:

secretary@gpasbrookwood.co.uk; for more information. If you are in Knaphill you can contact the secretary of the Knaphill Allotment Association at: knaphill.allotment@outlook.com





Wesley's Chapel: The Cathedral of Methodism

The Cathedral of Methodism is the name given to Wesley's Chapel which is in East London in the busy area of City Road. However, when you enter the confines of the Chapel, as Maggie and I did in August, it is despite the surrounding area that you find yourself within an oasis of peace and calmness. It is a very attractive place to be too, with its beautiful décor and wonderful stained glass windows.





John and Charles Wesley were two of nineteen children born to Susanna and Samuel Wesley when Samuel was rector of St Andrew's Church in Epworth, Lincolnshire. Regretfully, only ten of the children survived to adulthood.

It was John and his brother Charles, both originally Anglican clergymen and instrumental in the development of Methodism in the UK and further afield, who were responsible for the building of the Chapel in 1776. Although John had been using a building known as the Foundry in Moorfields for some years, its lease was running out so the need for a new site became necessary. John was successful in applying to the City of London for a new site and raising the required funds too. The Chapel opened and held its first service in 1778.

When it was built there were no stained glass windows, no organ and no monuments. The original pulpit was constructed on 3 levels for preacher (at the top), reader (in the middle) and precentor who led the singing (at the bottom), but it was lowered to its present position, in 1864.

Electric lighting was installed in 1898 and the first electric organ in 1906. However, the organ was replaced by the current organ in 1938.

Over the years a number of stained glass windows were installed in the Chapel. A stained glass window on the north side of the Chapel is called the Conversion Window (*see picture at the top of page 20*). This depicts John & Charles Wesley singing Charles' "conversion hymn," "Where shall my wondering soul begin?" It commemorates their conversion experiences which took place in the Aldersgate area of London in 1738. The story goes that at the time, whilst both men were



ordained and both preached, taught and wrote, they lived by good works but not by faith. It was at a service in 1738 that both men experienced a profound assurance of God's love and salvation through faith in Jesus Christ that became the turning point for both of them.

The communion rail (see below) which now surrounds the communion table and pulpit was donated by none other than Lady Margaret Thatcher in September 1993. It turns out that Lady Thatcher was married at Wesley's Chapel and that both her children, Carol and Mark, were baptised there too.

The Chapel survived two fires in 1780 and 1879, but it came under serious threat during the blitz of World War II and

particularly during the air raid on the City of London on 29th December 1940. However, the biggest problem to be faced by the Chapel was the effect of decay. The Chapel was built on swampy ground reclaimed by moving



earth from the site of St Paul's Cathedral in the 17th century. In 1891 it was found that the original piles had rotted and so had to be replaced by concrete. The foundations had to be strengthened further in more recent times too.

Charles Wesley, of course, is best known for the hymns he wrote which includes, "Love Divine all Loves excelling," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" and "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." However, it was John who apparently had very fixed ideas on how hymns should be sung. John's instructions on hymn singing are considered to be plain talking and enthusiastic. He saw the singing of hymns as a self-improving, but also holy part, of worship.

Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please. Sing them exactly as they are





printed here, without altering or amending them at all:

Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can...

Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep, but lift up your voice with strength.

Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony...

Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it...

Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you

sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature...

The most important and first official hymn book published in Wesley's lifetime "A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists" was produced in 1780. This replaced many smaller hymn books in use at the time. Wesley felt it would be more economical if people needed to acquire one hymnal only; this particular hymn book drew on the many shorter hymn books the Wesley brothers had published in the preceding forty years. It was probably the most significant work Wesley published, and certainly a hymn book with the widest and longest-lasting appeal. The hymnal contained 525 hymns, many by Charles, with some written by John. Other hymns he had translated from German (especially Moravian hymns) and from other languages.

The official hymn book has been republished many times over the last two centuries. Many of the hymns can still be found in "Singing the Faith", the most recent Methodist hymn book published in 2011.

In the 1970s the Chapel was at risk of closing. This was because of damage caused by a fallen coping stone that as a result suspended all activities within the Chapel. The congregation was forced to worship in another City church and for a while it seemed unlikely there would be sufficient support to make the necessary repairs needed to keep the Chapel open. However, an appeal to the worldwide Methodist family was successful in raising the finance needed and the Chapel reopened on 1st November 1978 in the presence of the late Queen Elizabeth and the late Duke of Edinburgh. (See the photo right which commemorates this event.)





Today the Chapel has over four hundred registered members with an ethnic and cultural mix at Sunday services that reflects the global nature of the Methodist family.

In the Crypt can be found the Chapel's Museum which was opened in 1984. It houses displays showing the 18th century origins of Methodism, the continuing story and many different aspects of an organisation which is known worldwide. It also includes details of John Wesley's life and the story of the Chapel via objects from its collections and an audio-visual presentation.

Also within the Chapel is a small late Victorian chapel known as the Foundry Chapel (*see above*) that was created and dedicated to the original Foundry in Moorfields. This chapel contains some of the wooden benches from the Moorfields Foundry as well as Charles Wesley's single manual pipe organ.

The building next door to the Chapel (*right*) is Wesley's four-storey house. He moved into this house around twelve months after the Chapel opened and lived there during the last eleven years of his life. It is a grade 1 listed building and a rare surviving example of a middle-class 18th century London home. Wesley occupied the three first-floor rooms. The rest of the house was a home to preachers of the London Circuit and their families. When John was at home and not on his travels during the winter months, apparently he always made sure everyone was in bed by 9pm and up in time for morning prayers at 5am!

In 1898 the house became a museum. On display, in what was probably Wesley's sitting room and study on the first floor, are his bureau, library chair, long-case clock and other furniture. Some of Wesley's books in the glass-fronted bookcase have his direct and outspoken comments in the margin.



Unfortunately, we did not have time to visit the house on this occasion so will have to rectify this omission during our next visit.

John Wesley died at his home on 2nd March 1791 and was buried in the garden of his Chapel. He was the eight hundred and forty third person to be buried in the Chapel grounds. He shares his tomb with his sister Martha, his physician and biographer Dr John Whitehead, and 6 of his preachers.

Charles Wesley died three years earlier than John on 29th March 1788 and was buried in the churchyard of St Marylebone Parish Church. A memorial stone to him stands in the gardens in Marylebone High Street close to his place of burial.

Services are held every Sunday in the Chapel at 11am with the first Sunday of the month being a Communion Service. On every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month a Communion Service is held in the Foundry Chapel. A short Communion Service is also held in this small chapel at lunchtime on a Wednesday. In addition, there are prayer services and music recitals at various times whilst the Chapel is also home to the Boys' and Girls' Brigades, fellowship groups, community group meetings, training days, book launches and charity events. Wesley's Chapel is therefore a very well used resource where the preaching of the gospel and serving the community continues as it always has done since the Chapel opened its doors for the first time way back in 1788.

I hope the photographs on these pages taken during our visit give you some idea of the splendour of the Chapel. Of course, the best way to appreciate it is to make a visit yourself. It is a bit of a trek but well worth it, and once you arrive at Old Street tube station is only a short walk down City Road.

We will certainly be returning, not only to visit the Chapel again but to visit other sites in the City and East London that are associated with John Wesley's family life and ministry in the 18th century, all of which are within walking distance of Wesley's Chapel. Watch this space!

Editor

Pastoral Groups

Following on from the previous article, Ella Allen makes this timely contribution into the part played by John Wesley in the development of the pastoral group as she explains below:

Someone who starts to worship and take part in the activities of a Methodist Church may wonder why they are placed into a pastoral group.

This has a long history because John Wesley started such groups during his lifetime in the 18th century. He called these groups classes, and they are still called by this name by some of our older members today. Wesley felt it was one way of being able to keep an eye on folk and in his time, he appointed his most reliable members to oversee each group.

Today KMC members are divided into 8 groups each with a pastoral leader. The leaders take an interest in the folk within their respective group and will visit and/or keep in touch with each member with a view to informing the minister of any problems or illnesses, as appropriate.

It really works quite well and was one of John Wesley's brilliant ideas, all that time ago.

Ella Allen (Pastoral Leader)

People in Profile:

Karen White

Although Karen has recently become a member of KMC, she is no stranger to our church given she attended church parades here when she was involved with the Brownies and Guide packs in this area.

Karen was born in Cobham and was educated both locally and in Esher until the age of sixteen. Her intention was to study nursing at Guildford College. However, after

obtaining a Saturday job at an engineering firm which she enjoyed, Karen changed course, quite literally, to work full time for this firm in Byfleet whilst also undertaking a college course on engineering for two years. Karen remembers working on a lathe making aircraft parts which included parts for Concorde at the time.

In her spare time, Karen became involved with the Brownies followed by the Guides and Cubs too at one stage, all of which she thoroughly enjoyed. This interest continued too after moving to Knaphill and it was through the Guide and Scout movement that Karen met her future husband.

Karen and Tony married in 1977 and set up home in Victoria Road. After starting a family, they moved to their current address in Robin Hood Crescent.



Karen worked at an engineering company where she made parts for Concorde



Karen left her job at SSL Engineering when she found commuting to Byfleet by bike too much, and it was not long after this that Karen had her first daughter, Helen, followed by Sarah.

Whilst becoming a full-time mother Karen also found time to work part-time in the evenings at Sainsbury's in Woking, of which she has fond memories.

Taking over a Guide pack in Pirbright proved to be the last leadership role she would take within the movement and whilst she had great fun, she eventually decided it was time to have a well-earned rest.

When the children were older and more independent, Karen took a part-time job at the Trustee Savings Bank [TSB] which was subsequently taken over by Lloyds Bank. During this period, she worked both in Guildford and at the now closed Knaphill sub-branch finally retiring on health-grounds in 2013.

Karen's grandchildren are no longer babies with the eldest who is twenty at university and the other children, one girl and a boy, who are eighteen and seventeen respectively, both nearly at the end of their school careers.

Karen is loving her closer relationship with KMC and worshipping regularly on a Sunday. She enjoys many of the hymns sung and one in particular is "Love Divine All Loves Excelling", by Charles Wesley which was sung at her wedding.

Love divine, all loves excelling,

Jesu, thou art all compassion,

Joy of heaven to earth come down,

Pure, unbounded love thou art;

fix in us thy humble dwelling,

visit us with thy salvation,

all thy faithful mercies crown.

enter every trembling heart.



Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

By Charles Wesley

Harvest prayer

A time for reflection during 'Harvest festival' celebrations

Dear God,

**Each season brings something new for
us to see and enjoy,**

**With sunny days and rainy days,
our crops grow larger,**

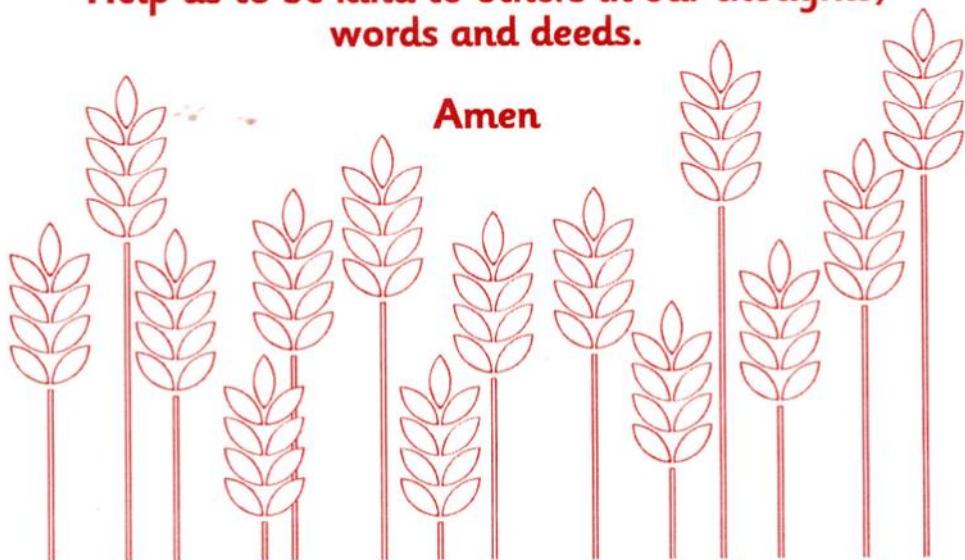
Fruit and vegetables ripen, ready for us to harvest.

Thank you for all of the food we have to eat,

**Let us remember people who may
not have enough.**

**Help us to be kind to others in our thoughts,
words and deeds.**

Amen



HARVEST

WORD SEARCH

S A C O I T I B R E F E M S P
O P O R E I F E A S T A D U P
P L H N O T S E I D I N C P O
A U O I M O G T A Z G P I H T
R M R L N N A D E O R F S A A
S S F R U I T K A T A E H W T
Q V E I A O H R N U I S A S O
U E A D T N E L C S N T U O E
A P P L E S R C R E S I T H S
S I T T P R I T O U M V U C L
H E S U R Y N A P A M A M E S
C N A S W I G E S N U L N U G
S H A R V E S T T I M B M Y S
U P I N E A P P L E S C O R N
S H A Y N T O M A T O E S I P



HARVEST
PINEAPPLE
HAY
TOMATOES
CORN
CROPS
FEAST
GRAINS
WHEAT
APPLES

PLUMS
POTATOES
ONIONS
SQUASH
GATHERING
BEET
FRUIT
MAIZE
FESTIVAL
AUTUMN



KNAPHILL & ST JOHNS OPERATIC GROUP
Come & Sing

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

The Pirates of Penzance



**REHEARSE AND
PERFORM A SEMI-
STAGED PRODUCTION
OF THE OPERETTA
IN A DAY!**

Sunday 14 September 2025
10am to 6.30pm

The Lancaster Hall, Send, Woking

OPEN TO EVERYONE - NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

**To take part, book a place for £20 at:
ticketsource.co.uk/kasjog or 0333 666 3366**

Audience welcome for the performance at 4pm - Tickets £5



**For more information see:
www.kasjog.co.uk**

Registered Charity No. 1047524

Can be seen
Supported by **HRTCT**
The Humphrey Richardson Taylor
Charitable Trust

DT The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust



JOIN US AT OUR

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

22/11/2025

10AM-1PM

**LOCAL STALL HOLDERS
MULLED WINE AND FESTIVE TREATS
LOCAL CHOIR**

**DRAMATIZE COMMUNITY CENTRE, THE
VYNE, GU212SP**



KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH



Knaphill Methodist Church, Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey. GU21 2DR
The Minister with Pastoral Charge for our church is Rev. Dr. Paul Glass.
Paul can be contacted via the Circuit Office on 01483 537655
or by email: minister@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

SUNDAY SERVICE : 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 things for children to do. For further information see the notice boards outside the church or contact:
admin@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

This is a QR code -
scan it with your
smartphone to go
straight to our
website



www.knaphillmethodist.co.uk

A NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

The KMC Magazine has a wider readership than just within KMC because it is published on the KMC and Circuit websites as we want to be able to share it with the other Churches. However, we recognise some contributors may be uncomfortable with being mentioned, particularly on the internet. I will therefore be happy to omit names and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so.

Editor editor@knaphillmethodist.co.uk





Services @ KMC

21st September	10am	Morning Worship with Allan Taylor
28th September	10am	Harvest Festival with Adam Payne
5th October	10am	Morning Worship with Holly White
	3pm	Circuit Service <i>at Godalming United Church</i>
12th October	10am	Morning Worship with Dave Ingoldby
19th October	10am	Holy Communion with Paul Glass
26th October	10am	Morning Worship with Sam Funnell
2nd November	10am	Morning Worship with Elizabeth Gurd
9th November	10am	Morning Worship - Remembrance 
16th November	10am	Morning Worship with Paul Glass
22nd November	10am	Holy Communion with Barrie Tabraham
29th November	10am	Morning Worship with Claire Hargreaves

MINISTER@KNAPHILLMETHODIST.CO.UK

WWW.KNAPHILLMETHODIST.CO.UK



MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING AND SALE

BOOKS, DVDs, JIGSAWS, CAKES, BRIC-A-BRAC & MORE

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

4th Saturday every month (except December)

10am to Noon