

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH MAGAZINE

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



Psalm 107:1

Autumn 2026

A Word from the Editor:



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

What a summer! Whether due to climate change or not, it cannot be denied that we have had some beautiful days in the last few months. However, I have to admit when the temperature goes above 30 degrees not much gets done, it is then just too hot!

Regretfully, though we had due notice, we had to say farewell to Paul and Janet Glass last month, as Paul reduces his working hours with a consequent reduction in responsibilities. Of course, the good news is he is not leaving the Circuit (yet) as you will read on page 4.

So it is that this month, we are saying hello and giving a very warm welcome to Rev. Paul Tabraham, his wife Claire and their two boys Matt and Evan. For those of you who have been members of KMC for a number of years, Paul will be no stranger to you as he was a regular local preacher in this Circuit over 10 years ago. You can read his introductory Message to us on page 3. Paul will also have responsibility for the churches in Merrow and Stoughton as well as becoming Methodist Chaplain at the University of Surrey. We wish him good luck as he takes up his new role which also includes leading the Circuit as Superintendent.

Last month we were fortunate to have Father Nicholas Edwards with us to take a service and he is due to visit us again in September. My thanks to him for producing a very interesting article about himself at fairly short notice. I hope you will enjoy reading about his life and that it will not be too long before he finds his way to us again. (see page 5)

As you will see, I have been out and about in the Circuit as well as further afield this summer and I hope you will find the resulting articles of interest. My thanks to all those members at West Horsley Methodist Church who made us so welcome during our visit to them in July.

My thanks to those of you who have contributed to this issue and in particular Ena Corrah who was a delightful interviewee and made me very welcome when I visited her at home earlier this year. (see page 24)

At the time of writing Harvest is on the horizon and we must hope and pray that the very hot weather has not caused too much damage to the growing crops that we all rely on for our food. We pray God will give us strength to endure this challenge and any others that come our way in the coming months. God bless.

Robin Spice, Editor.

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KMC MAGAZINE

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

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

Message from Paul 1:

Greetings!

It's a real pleasure to be able to write a little something for our church magazine for the first time! I thought I would begin my first one with a little introduction.

Although it's a first for me to be a minister in this Circuit, a first for me to have a university chaplaincy and a first to be superintendent – so lots for me to learn and get to know – I am coming back to an area I've lived in before and knew pretty well. I was sixteen when I moved to Woking back in 1990 and years later when Claire and I got married we lived in a flat in... Knaphill! So you could say I am back home! Claire and I later lived in Guildford where our boys, Matt and Evan, were born – they are now 22 and 18, (Matt is on the left, Evan on the right). After training for Methodist ministry, I was stationed to Eastbourne where we have been for twelve years. Although I will miss the sea, I am looking forward to the rolling Downs again!

I am sure that as I worship with you, share fellowship with you, and minister with you in Knaphill, it will be a joy to re-acquaint with familiar faces and just as good meeting new ones.

So, God-willing, as Knaphill's minister you'll have someone who isn't completely brand new to either ministry or the local area, but it'll take me a little bit of time to get up to speed with everything. For me, the best way to do that will be through meeting you, speaking with you and finding out what's important in Knaphill to the community that surrounds our church, the community that we're already a major part of. It's been really exciting to prepare to come to Knaphill and to hear from Rev. Paul Glass and others what's been going on, to read the website and magazine and to see the various ways Methodists in Knaphill live out their faith day by day and week by week. What better way is there of fulfilling our calling to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, than to simply live it out each day in the way we think, speak, make decisions, and care for one another?

As I write this article and am about to begin ministry here, I have a beautiful Bible text in my eyeline above my desk. It's the famous line from Jeremiah: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11). I don't believe in destiny at all, but I do believe with all my heart that God desires nothing but good for us and all creation, and that we can go into the future with hope that the love of God is always with us, prompting, shaping, guiding us forward.

I am really looking forward to the coming years, to see all the possibilities that God has in store for us all – and plenty of coffee and bacon rolls with you too!

Grace and Peace, **Rev. Paul Tabraham**



A report about Paul's Welcome Service appears on page 27.



Message from Paul 2:



This letter from Rev. Paul Glass first appeared as a Circuit Letter in August and is now reproduced here for those of you who may have missed it.

Dear Friends,

One of the NHS five steps to mental good health and well-being is saying 'thank-you', smiling and offering to help others.

Four years ago, Janet and I arrived in Guildford, 11 miles away from where I was born in Leatherhead. As we arrived in the Circuit it was 15 years since my first Superintendency and in that time the goal posts had changed significantly.

I inherited a Circuit that needed to cut staff and where some significant book balancing had to happen. The Circuit was also still coming out of Covid and some restrictions were still in place. Four years later and new Local Preachers, a church on the verge of joining the Circuit, SMART targets, two new ministers, a Circuit encouragement role, a new Circuit Administrator, staffing issues and a general mindset reset later – not to mention loads of events in local churches and most quarters having a Circuit event of some sort – and we are in a different place.

That does not mean everything is rosy – there are still all kinds of things to face...unpick...deal with...There are always issues which can seem to be problems or opportunities – it depends on your outlook. There is still reshaping to be done.

However, I can say that the people of the Wey Valley Circuit have been absolutely wonderful to me in their support, care, love, and willingness to go the extra mile.

- ✙ To our wonderful Circuit Administrator Lucy who goes the extra mile almost every other day – thanks are not enough. Your calm willingness to jump into the issues and keep me on the straight and narrow is amazing.
- ✙ To our Circuit Stewards (and I'm not going to let this pass without a plea for others to step into this important role) – HUGE thanks. Supportive, caring, filled with ideas and a willingness to serve.
- ✙ To Dave and David who between them deal with money and property – what you have achieved is nothing less than stupendous. Thank you is too little a phrase.
- ✙ To our Supernumerary Ministers – time and again you have stepped up to the plate – the Preaching Plan and so much of Circuit life would not happen without you. You are all the most supportive and generous of colleagues.
- ✙ To my staff colleagues – both past and present – I have felt myself in your prayers as you have been in mine. We have travelled this road together and we have shared responsibility and collegiality. I couldn't have asked for a better team to be part of.

- ✙ To the Circuit Safeguarding Team, both past and present. Thank you for everything you have done over the past few years. I know safeguarding is not always easy work, and I have a huge amount of appreciation for the time, care, patience and professionalism you have shown throughout.
- ✙ To the members at Cranleigh, St. Mary's, Knaphill (and West Horsley to come)

Thank you for your continuing love, care, support and hope. You're the best.

It sounds like I'm leaving and of course I'm not. I'll be half time for my final year in the Circuit, with shifting responsibilities which hopefully will prepare me for what 'sitting down' from a 42-year active ministry looks like in the Summer of '27. Don't worry – there's no end of things I want to get stuck into in my final year. God has been and continues to be good. And in the meantime – I'll praise him for all that is past and trust him for all that's to come.

Peace be the journey. **Paul Glass**

Paul & Janet - It's not goodbye just au revoir!

This is because although we will not be seeing so much of Paul and Janet, because Paul is reducing his working hours from September, he will still be working in the Circuit until he retires in August of next year. However, he will no longer have responsibility for KMC and I am sure I speak for us all when I say we will miss seeing him on a regular basis and we thank him for his leadership and support over the last 3 years.

We send all our good wishes to Paul and Janet at this time.



Introducing Father Nicholas Edwards

I am a retired Church of England Priest attached to St Nicholas Guildford and for the past few years it has also been my privilege to conduct services in this Circuit.

I am a 'Moonraker' and spent my early years roaming the countryside of Wiltshire with my friends in a First of the Summer Wine way and then in London in the 'Swinging Sixties'.

After school I worked for ATD Fourth World in France, an international NGO founded by a French priest and dedicated to



working with people living in extreme poverty. This changed the course of my life and I have continued to work with them for over 50 years.

I studied sociology at the University of East Anglia, thinking to go into social work, but God had other ideas and I was called to ministry amongst the excluded. I studied theology at Cambridge.

I went on a placement to Tower Hill, Kirkby, one of the notorious Liverpool housing estates in my first year of training. This led to two more life changing events. I was invited to do my curacy there and I also met my wife, a midwife in Fazakerley Hospital.

After this I moved round to the next estate, Cantril Farm, affectionately known as 'Cannibal Farm', full of derelict flats, where we lived under siege and under a sign 'No excuse'! This was the first estate in the country to be remodelled, albeit a rose by any other name, because the problems remained.

These were the turbulent times of mass unemployment, urban chaos, deprivation, the riots and Hillsborough. They also saw visits by the Queen and the Pope and the ascendancy of Liverpool F.C. What sustained us was the humour and generosity of the remarkable people who have an extraordinary resilience and capacity to celebrate in the face of triumph and tragedy.

The next ten years were spent in Waltham Forest in London in the era of 'Cool Britannia', a very different cup of tea, full of challenges and excitement as we struggled with the problems of urban living and the huge disparities in people's life experiences. This was also an opportunity to become involved in Community Organising and the Interfaith Dialogue.

Finally, we were called to Colyton, 'The Most Rebellious Town in Devon' (during the Monmouth Revolt in 1685), where my introduction was the famous wreck of the container ship Napoli at Branscombe and the challenge of trying to run four rural parishes simultaneously as well as developing Mission Communities.

Our last eight years were spent on the pastoral reorganisation of the parish on the west bank of the river in Exeter, an area with significant deprivation and extraordinary history where an erstwhile predecessor had been hung from the Tower for treason for being on the wrong side during the Prayer Book Rebellion in 1549. Happily, I survived!

During my time in Liverpool, I was involved in developing Local Ministry Teams and since then it has also been my privilege to train many clergy and laity for ministry and work in ministerial development.

Retirement has given me the opportunity to branch out into volunteering at the Watts Gallery and become involved in the work of Zero Carbon Guildford. I support Liverpool FC, enjoy travel, music, speaking French and also work on translations.

It has been an extraordinary, exciting and challenging journey, and we feel so fortunate to have made many friends and been supported by so many remarkable people along the way.

We are blessed with two wonderful children and three grandchildren, and the greatest pleasure now is to be able to spend more time with them.



Family News

Remembering Nelly Ford

I was introduced to Nelly on my first visit to KMC. Together with 3 other people, I was new to the church and from that day my friendship with Nelly grew. Not only did we meet up at church but also at the Vyne because Nelly and her husband enjoyed going on the outings which were organised by the Vyne at that time.

During the pandemic I kept in touch regularly by phone, and as soon as I was able, I started a small coffee group at my house which has continued ever since. Nelly enjoyed coming until the walk got too much for her.

Nelly was an avid reader and latterly read 3 books a month. Our friend Vicki Drake used to choose at least 3 books for her each month from the Coffee Morning book stall.

Nelly was renowned for her knitting – always making garments for the youngest members of her family. If anyone was stuck with a pattern she would be happy to help. Nelly knitted figures for a nativity scene at KMC and more recently knitted a number of poppies to cover a cushion for an everlasting Remembrance Sunday memorial. (see pictures right)

My last memory of Nelly is when Vicki and I popped into see her for a quick visit during which she won the bingo prize.

Thank you Nelly for a wonderful friendship – you will never be forgotten. Rest in peace.

Eileen Lane



Knitter Nelly does it again!

Nelly Ford has been busy knitting, as ever, and in the last month or so she has produced the Nativity scene as pictured below with a friend making the stable. This item was one of a number of prizes which were raffled on 5th December at the Christmas Tea. So by now some lucky person is the proud owner of Nelly's handiwork. With many thanks to Nelly for her hard work and making this donation to KMC.

(This article first appeared in the KMC Magazine Christmas 2021)





Many congratulations to **Mitchell Campbell** who became a member of KMC on 28th June.

It has been a pleasure to get to know Mitch over the last year or so and we look forward to welcoming him at future services and other scheduled events in the coming months.

The Question of my Faith

At 12.45am on Thursday 23rd July I was woken up by profuse sweating and shivering and gasping for breath as I was struggling to breathe. This was a repeat of how I felt in the early hours of the previous day. I told my wife to call an ambulance. Instead, she woke up our son and he took me in his car to A&E at Royal Surrey Hospital in Guildford.

It was decided I should be admitted to a medical ward but within a few hours I was transferred to the Coronary Care Unit and attached to a heart monitor. I was given an intravenous drip with an antibiotic. I was also catheterised. On the following Monday, I was transferred to Merrow Ward as they had decided I no longer needed the heart monitor. I continued to receive antibiotics intravenously until my fever stopped. On 4th August I was taken to Frimley Park Hospital for an angiogram and was returned to Royal Surrey Hospital by 5pm.

I was treated for an acute urinary tract infection. Also, a CT scan showed fluid in my lungs so a diuretic therapy was started. This treatment affected my sleep as the observations regime continued at regular intervals as part of the medical intervention.

Two weeks prior to being hospitalised, due to continuing problems with my bladder and to reduce the pressure on my kidneys, I had had to learn to self-catheterise every day. It was the result of doing this that I suspected I had an infection which proved to be the case and was the start of my becoming ill and being admitted into hospital. I felt the Almighty God had abandoned me and was punishing me. My wife and son reassured me God Almighty had not abandoned me. So, I turned to Him for healing.

On Sunday, 16th August I desperately wanted to participate in the Holy Communion service for the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Saviour. My son kindly gave me a lift to KMC. I was very relieved that I was able to attend the Holy Communion service as I believe in the Holy Communion for its healing power.

I am grateful to Reverend Paul Glass for visiting me and for the get-well cards sent to me by some members of KMC. Hopefully, I will be able to continue attending the church services on Sundays to strengthen my Faith. **Raj Chhetri**





Recipe Corner

Blackcurrant Crumble Traybake

Preparation: 15 minutes

Baking: 45 minutes (approx) at 180c using a tray 28cm x 18cm

Ingredients for the base:

115g (4 oz) soft margarine

175g (6 oz) granulated sugar

1 egg

280g (10 oz) self-raising flour

150ml milk

200g (8 oz) blackcurrants (fresh or frozen)

For the crumble:

115g (4 oz) granulated sugar

115g (4 oz) plain flour

50g (2 oz) soft margarine

2tsp lemon juice

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 180c.

Grease and line the tray bake tin.

For the base, cream the margarine and sugar together until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Whisk in the egg; then fold in the flour and milk until combined. Spoon into the tin and spread evenly.

Sprinkle over the blackcurrants.

To make the crumble, rub the margarine and flour together to form fine crumbs. Add the sugar and lemon juice and mix until well combined. Sprinkle the crumble over the blackcurrants.

Bake for approximately 45 minutes until the crumble is golden and the blackcurrants start to burst through.

Cool on a wire cooling rack.

When cool cut into slices.



Harvest

God provides – in days of Autumn
From the early light of dawn
See the farmer and his helpers
Reaping fields of golden corn;
How they toil from morn till sunset,
Working hard with might and main –
Thank you God for sending farmers
To secure the precious grain.

God provides – in bitter weather
While we sit at home at ease
Men will work in tiny trawlers
For the harvest of the seas;
We at home do not go hungry
And we're grateful for their deeds
Knowing well that through their efforts
God provides for all our needs.

God provides – that is the keynote
Of this song of praise we sing;
God provides – because He loves us
So to Him our thanks we'll bring.
All the flowers that bring us gladness,
Gentle rain and blessed sun;
All the ripe fruits in our garden
God provides – since earth begun.

One glad day we'll stand before Him
Live for ever in His love,
When he calls us from our labour
To His "Harvest Home" above.
Till that day, O Lord, we'll serve Thee
In your fields on earth below;
Give us grace to labour truly,
More like Jesus let us grow.

John Langston (former member and Steward at KMC)



KSS COFFEE MORNING

AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY
KENT SURREY SUSSEX

SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2026



Congratulations to Tarina Berry on another successful Coffee Morning in aid of the Kent Surrey & Sussex Ambulance charity.

At the time of writing the event had raised over £1100.00. The Coffee Morning, which is the 4th one held in support of this great charity, was opened jointly by the Mayor of Woking, Cllr Rob Leach and our very own Saj Hussain. The raffle was particularly popular with so many prizes not many people left empty-handed! The Silent Auction will continue until the end of the Coffee Morning on 24th October. Thanks to everyone who helped and gave their support.

Christmas Tea Party 6th December 2026

It is not too early to mention that this event will be happening again this year.

It is open to everyone and will be held **on Sunday 6th December**.

You will need to sign up so look out for the sign-up sheets which will be available in due course to either confirm you would like to come as a guest or to offer to help.

Any enquiries to **Helen Chamberlain** or **Liz Funning** please.



CAMEO

Come And Meet Each Other

CAMEO meets in Room 3 on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, from 2pm until about 3.30pm.

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. All welcome.

Barbara Humphries

16th September

Leprosy Mission

7th October

A talk about the Basingstoke Canal

21st October

Duncan Twigg - local artist

4th November

Ricardo Estee-Wale - percussion artist

18th November

Mike Kirtley - Birds

2nd December

CHRISTMAS!

Mosaic Artwork in the Dramatize Community Garden

Dramatize is delighted to be collaborating with students from Art Venture on an exciting creative project for our community garden.

Together, the students and members of the Dramatize community have been designing and creating a collection of colourful mosaic artworks that will become a permanent feature of the garden. The project has provided an opportunity for everyone involved to share ideas, develop new skills and work creatively as a team.

The mosaics include a vibrant range of colours, textures and shapes, with each individual piece carefully selected and positioned to form a larger design. From bright orange and red tiles to shimmering blues, greens, purples and yellows, the artwork reflects the energy, imagination and individuality of the people who have contributed to it.

Creative projects such as this are an important part of the work we do at Dramatize. They enable adults with learning disabilities to take part in meaningful activities, build confidence, express themselves and contribute positively to their local community. Working alongside the Art Venture students has also encouraged collaboration, friendship and shared learning between the groups.

The artwork is being created especially for our community garden, which is a welcoming space for people to relax, socialise and enjoy the outdoors. Once installed, the mosaics will add colour and character to the garden and serve as a lasting reminder of what can be achieved when people come together.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work, creativity and enthusiasm shown by everyone involved. The project has already produced some beautiful and eye-catching pieces, and we cannot wait to see the finished artwork in its new home.

A special thank you goes to the Art Venture students and their tutors for their time, creativity and support, as well as to everyone at Dramatize who has contributed to the project.

The big reveal is coming soon, and we look forward to sharing the finished mosaic artwork with our community. Keep an eye out for further announcements and photographs of the completed installation!



West Horsley Methodist Church

Following my visit to Merrow Methodist Church as featured in the last issue, I have continued my travels around the Circuit by alighting on this beautiful church in West Horsley.

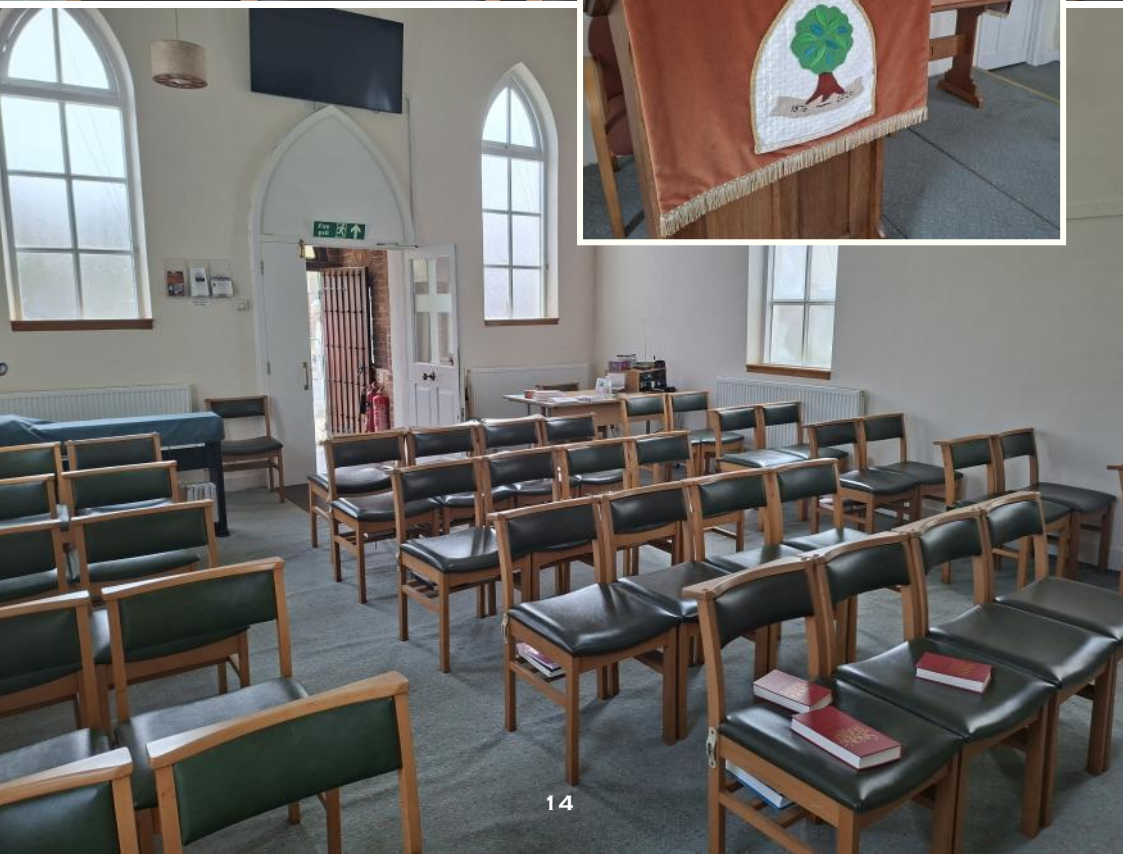
It was way back on 8th September 1872 that the first recorded Methodist service in West Horsley took place on the village green under the oak tree pictured here. But it was not until February 1876 that land was purchased for the building of the chapel which subsequently opened on 28th June that year. So it is that the West Horsley Methodists are celebrating their 150th anniversary this year with a series of events to mark the occasion. Also one of the members has made the lectern fall on which, as you can see from the photograph, and on page 14, is a depiction of the venerable oak tree.

Services have continued from that time to this with many preachers in the early days coming from Effingham, by horse, pony and trap, or even walking. Some even stayed all day to be able to provide two services. Today preachers come from across the Wey Valley Circuit usually by car!

There have been continuous improvements to the church over the years – electricity was installed in 1929, gas in 1938 and central heating in 1991.

From 1936 there was a separate wooden structure known as the schoolroom located close to the church which could only be reached by going outside. This was remedied in 2002 when a “link” was built that connected the church with the vestry and





schoolroom so enabling weather-proof access. However, in 2011 the schoolroom was replaced with a new building now known as the Wesley Room which incorporates a kitchen area and is regularly used by a variety of church and community groups. Solar panels have been installed on the south facing roof of the Wesley Room too.

There are currently 19 members though only 15 are active members at the moment.

There are various regular events held including weekly Coffee Mornings on a Thursday, Songs of Praise evenings on a Saturday twice a year and a Carols for All at Christmas plus occasional lunches and teas.

Several members are able to play the keyboard/organ though on some occasions CDs have to be relied on too.

For this special 150th year events already held included the Anniversary Service in April at which Rev. Conrad Hicks was the preacher. Coming up soon is a special Songs of Praise evening. In September is a Heritage Week with archives on display and a service under the Village Oak on the Green followed by a walk and picnic; in November a visit by Matthew Forsyth (the current Vice-President of Methodist Conference) who will take the final celebration service.

The members are very much looking forward to Paul Glass being their Minister for 1 year who will replace Uncle George Quarm who left in July. Needless to say I put in a good word for Paul!

My thanks must go to the people at the Coffee Morning who so warmly welcomed Maggie & I and in particular to Margaret Faulkner, one of the Stewards, who took us on the obligatory guided tour.

Editor



Worcestershire Churches

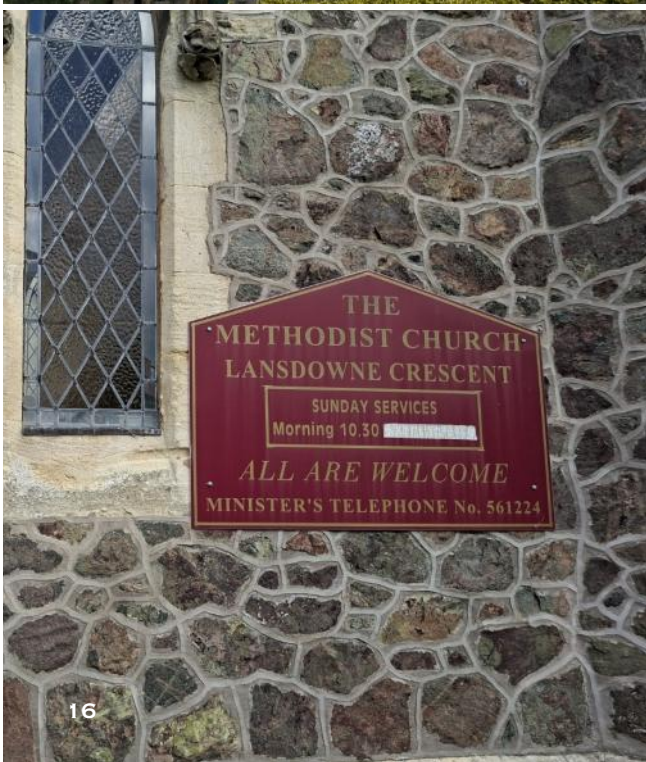
On our travels this year we came across two Methodist Churches in Worcestershire that could not be more different from each other from the outside but within no doubt one would witness the same faithful dedication to worship. Plus, as you might expect, and as we experienced, a great friendly welcome with an emphasis on reaching out to the community....

Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church, Great Malvern

This church was not far from where we were staying. Situated in a cul-de-sac off the main road but one could miss it if you did not see the signage.

The foundation stone was laid on 1st August 1865 by philanthropist Mr Francis Lycett who donated £400 to buy the land. It opened on 28th June 1866 following further injection of funds by Mr Lycett who became the church's first treasurer. The church was built in the decorated Gothic style using local Malvern granite and the total construction cost £2,680 to seat 500 people. This despite the fact that at the time there was only a congregation of 30 members! An additional grant of £850 came from the Wesleyan Watering Places Chapel Building Fund.

Much more recently the church underwent a £100,000 project which saw the addition of a new glazed entrance vestibule and a meeting lounge for community use.





The church celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2016 with special community events.

Worcester Methodist Church

Methodism in Worcester began when John Wesley



first visited the city in 1760. From that time the church operated in different parts of Worcester within various buildings until 1968 when a new church was built and became known as St Andrew's Methodist Church. As you can see from the photograph the church has a very narrow frontage, sandwiched as it is between two retail outlets. However, the clever positioning of the cross, facing up the street, together with the recent addition of stained-glass windows ensure people are aware it is a place of worship.

Inside it opens up magnificently, with a very large sanctuary on the second floor which can seat 200 people, the pews and chairs arranged in a semi-octagonal form round the central





Communion Table. There is a large community hall (as pictured above) on the first floor that includes a kitchen and a prayer room on the ground floor with a lift plus stairs to reach the other levels.

The church is open for refreshments on most days and is open to all. We had no sooner made for the front entrance than someone was coming out and as, you would expect being a Methodist Church, we were cordially invited in. In addition, not only did we have coffee but were given a tour of the Sanctuary too.

Editor



The Church

What does the Church really mean to you?
We all have different ideas and views it's true.
Never really gave it much thought until a boy aged 5
on being given a toy, his face and eyes came alive.
"Where did you get it?" he said, his face still aglow.
"From Church", I replied, "we had a sale you know".
"Do you go to Church and what do you do there?"
I thought, he's 5, my answer must be honest and clear.
I told him we prayed, sang hymns, the Bible we read
Then quietly listened to what the Minister said.
This set me thinking, do we come to Church to keep warm,
for company, for shelter, protection or because it's Sunday?
Or do we feel a covered building is the only place to pray
and we can perhaps reach our Lord easier in Church?
Whatever the reason, our Lord never leaves us in the lurch.
I myself pray indoors, in the street and on the bus.
Still feel near my maker, also his love, yet no fuss.
But in Church I feel I'm in His house,
closer in His presence, can think, quiet as a mouse.
Surrounded there by His love and all my friends
what more can one want when the day ends?

Joyce Ing (former member of KMC)



Lord of Life

You are the Lord of life,
The source of life,
The strength of life,
The sustainer of life.
The focus, way and direction,
The Creator, purpose and meaning of life.
The grit to keep going,
And the oomph to face those hills.
You are our comfort and encouragement,
Our light and our truth,
Our hope and affirmation.
Everything descends from you.
You're the one who understands our present, past and future,
The one who has fashioned forever for us,
You are the Lord of our life.

Reproduced by kind permission of Dave Hopwood

From Darkness...to Light

From Darkness... to Light, was the name given to the exhibition of paintings from the Methodist Modern Art Collection (MMAC) that were exhibited at St Mary's Church in Guildford from 9th March to 5th April this year.

The Art Collection is actually a curated assembly of over fifty modern artworks depicting Christian themes, created to inspire faith conversations and showcase contemporary artistic perspectives.

The Collection was initiated in the 1960s when two Methodist individuals began collecting artworks to encourage dialogue about faith. They later donated the collection to the Methodist Church which continues to expand it to include current artists and ideas.

The Collection is not permanently housed in one location. It is displayed at various venues across Britain including Methodist churches, cathedrals, schools, and art galleries.

So it was in a blaze of publicity, including an advertising banner across the High Street, that two big trucks arrived in Guildford at the end of March with twenty-five selected paintings from the Collection. On hand was a very helpful team who unloaded the paintings and hung them in position in St Mary's Church.

There was a series of events held plus specific days when the paintings were available to be viewed by the public. Overall during the period of the exhibition, more than four thousand attended with a number of people visiting more than once.

If you did not manage to get to the exhibition, below are photographs of nine of the paintings that were on display with notes on each one.



Crucifix and Candles: Night - Patrick Heron (1920 – 1999) Oil on Canvas, 1950

Patrick Heron has used flat washes of oil colour over bold charcoal drawing, leaving large areas of white canvas exposed. Although pictorial, the work was painted shortly before Patrick began experimenting with abstraction in 1953. The artist identified the reliquary crucifix and candles in Titian's "The Venramin Family" in the National Gallery as an inspiration for this work.

Judas Iscariot betrayed our Lord Jesus - John Muafangejo (1943 – 1987)

Linocut on paper, 1972

The right-hand panel shows Judas kissing Jesus, as figures with spears and swords look on. The wording in the left-hand panel,



which shows Judas hanging from a tree with Rand notes amongst the leaves, draws attention to the risks of love of money and the fatal consequences for Judas of his betrayal. The relevant Bible text is in Matthew Ch.26.

The Washing of the Feet - Ghislaine Howard (b.1953) Acrylic on canvas, 2004

Ghislaine Howard is known for her strong physical portrayals of the human figure and was approached by MMAC to do a painting of the washing of the feet story. In this massive yet intimate work based on John Ch.13, Ghislaine uses a restful green/blue background to give prominence to the figures and mixes sand with the paint to give a sculptural texture to the painting. The ordinaries of the actions and workman-like figures contrast with the significance of Christ's action in washing the feet of his disciples.



The Healing of the Lunatic Boy - John Reilly (1928 – 2010) Oil on Canvas board 1958

This painting is 1 of 2 by John Reilly in the Collection and is based on Matthew Ch.17 and is to be read from right to left. On the left John depicts Jesus in a warm yellow glow which also covers the healed boy. This contrasts with the dull grey of the right side of the painting where the boy is shown in the middle of a fit between two people who cannot heal him. Their posture and expressions clearly convey a dark mood and hopelessness before the miracle is performed. The 1950s title is now considered to be archaic and offensive.



Storm over the Lake - Eularia Clarke (1914 – 1979) Oil on Canvas on board 1963



This painting is 1 of 2 by Eularia Clarke in the Collection. Here Eularia depicts the story of the calming of the sea in Luke Ch.8 showing the extent of the danger and fear, with many already swept overboard. Her modern interpretations are intended to help us see the relevance of the Bible stories to our ordinary lives today. This painting was inspired by a difficult day when Eularia felt she was going to drown under stormy waves and needed to reach out to Christ – it was the first time she felt able to paint the adult Jesus.

The Crucifixion - F. N. Souza (1924 – 2002) Oil on Board 1962

F. N. Souza uses an expressionist style with elements of Cubism in the depiction of the character on the left of the painting. The extreme pain Jesus is suffering is powerfully apparent. By painting the Crucifixion against a dark sky, Souza is perhaps referring to a solar eclipse at the time of Christ's death suggested in the Bible. It was traditional to portray the sun and moon in Crucifixion paintings since these pre-Christian symbols were adopted by the Church. The identity of the figures on either side is unclear but may be John on the right and Mary (in Cubist style) on the left. The robust, colourful style of Souza's work reflects his Catholic faith and Goan Indian heritage.



The Empty Tomb - Richard Bavin (b.1957) Watercolour on paper, 2023

Drawing on Luke Ch.24:1-3, Richard Bavin uses light and shade to capture the emptiness and stillness of the tomb after Christ's resurrection.



The Supper at Emmaus - Roy de Maistre (1894 – 1968) Oil on Board 1958

This painting may be one of several paintings of the Emmaus story in Luke Ch.24 commissioned by St Edmund Hall Oxford, for the college chapel. Roy de Maistre, who was a devout Roman Catholic, painted many religious themes numerous times so it is not as clear. The image of Jesus clearly shows the wounds in his side and on his hands. Roy was particularly interested in the use of colour and tone and was influenced by Cubism as can be seen in the segmentation of this painting.



The Ascension - Peter Rogers (1933 – 2018) Oil on Board 1963

In this work, reminiscent of the style of William Blake, Peter Rogers depicts Christ already off the ground reaching heavenwards in a cloud of white light while 2 people to his left stand amid flames (the flame of the Holy Spirit to come perhaps) and Mary and the disciples look on as he ascends. Peter said that his Ascension paintings are intended to embody Christ as “the channel of awareness” through whom the Father acts. Peter believed that we all have our own “channel of awareness” by which we can find God and do His will. This work is his most graphic illustrations of the concept.



At Home with: Ena Corrah



After several attempts to catch up with Ena earlier this year and last year too, it was a great pleasure to visit her even though it was during the June heatwave!

Ena and her husband, Tumani became residents of Knaphill in 2020 having decided to buy a property in England so they can be much nearer to their family who reside in London.

Ena hails from The Gambia where she was born and mostly raised by her mother who Ena describes as a very strong woman. Ena has three Gambian siblings, 7 Ghanaian siblings, 2 Swiss siblings and numerous cousins whom she regards equally as brothers and sisters, so strong is their bond which formed in early life and continues to this day.

The Gambia, so named after the Gambia River, is a small country in West Africa and was a British colony until 1965. The colony was known as British Gambia from when Britain established control over the area around the Gambia River during the 19th century. Perhaps not surprisingly English is the official language.

Today The Gambia is the smallest country on mainland Africa and remains a member of the Commonwealth.

The majority of the population are Muslims with only 10% being of Christian denomination. So Ena has many Muslim friends as a result. Ena herself and family attended an Anglican church when she was young which included Sunday School every Sunday afternoon.

Ena started at nursery school at the age of 4 and kindergarten age 6 then onto primary school from the age of 8. Shortly after this time her mother decided to come to England to train as a nurse so made arrangements for Ena, who was considered to be a bright child, to go to boarding school in Sierra Leone where she was guaranteed a quality education and as an added bonus would have an



aunt and family friend accompanying her. Sierra Leone is just 1 hour 15 mins flying time from The Gambia and at that time was considered to have a much better education system than The Gambia.

Ena boarded for 3 years whilst making regular trips home to see family. On her return to The Gambia, she took an entrance exam so she could attend a Catholic Secondary for Girls and at the age of 17, took 8 O'levels which she passed successfully.

Ena was particularly keen on learning science subjects but had not been afforded the opportunity to do so, up until the age of 16, as the Catholic school concentrated solely on the arts.

However, with 8 O Levels she was accepted into the 6th Form and allowed to study the science subjects, physics and chemistry from scratch and A'Level Biology. After 3 years in the 6th Form and with her additional O'Levels in Physics and Chemistry, Ena was able to start at the University of Sierra Leone on a 4-year course. She graduated with a BSc in General Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

Not being particularly interested in teaching in a secondary school, Ena entered the world of veterinary medicine and having won a British Council scholarship, Ena travelled to Glasgow where she studied Animal Health and Production and later to Edinburgh University (Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine) where she obtained a Higher Diploma in Tropical Animal Health and Production. A few years later, she was admitted to Dublin University for a Master's degree graduating with an MSc in the Management of Environmental Resources.

In 1977, before moving to Edinburgh, on a trip home Ena married Dr Tumani Corrah and it so happened that he was also going to Edinburgh as well to undertake a post graduate course in Internal Medicine – the MRCP (Member of the Royal College of Physicians). A very happy coincidence! So it was they spent their first eighteen months of marriage in Scotland.

At the end of her course, Ena returned home to work in Animal Health & Production as an Animal Husbandry Officer (Nutrition) and later to Gambia College where she was involved in the training of livestock inspectors and assistants. She took voluntary retirement at the age of 55.

After working for a number of years, Tumani also returned to the Gambia to work as a clinical physician and researcher at the Medical Research Council (MRC) – a British research institution and hospital. He retired as the Director of the Institution and founded the AREF (African Research Excellence Fund), a charity that focuses on strengthening health research capacity in Africa. To date, the AREF has nurtured over 900 post doctorate scientists from over 42 African countries. Tumani is also retired but still active as the Co-President and Founder of the AREF.

Ena & Tumani have 3 children, two girls and a boy. One daughter and their son live and work in London whilst their eldest daughter teaches in China. They now have four grandchildren, the eldest of which is 19 and the youngest 5!

Tumani is still active and works hard to ensure that many African scientists are

able to compete and secure research grants working in Africa and improving the lives of Africans.

When Ena moved to Knaphill she was delighted to find KMC within a short period of time. She says she felt so at home that she was more than pleased to become a member at Easter 2024. She very much values the friends she has made in the last 5 years.

Ena's favourite hymn is "In Christ Alone" which was sung at her son's wedding in 2018. Ena finds the words are so appropriate to the way she tries to live her life.

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

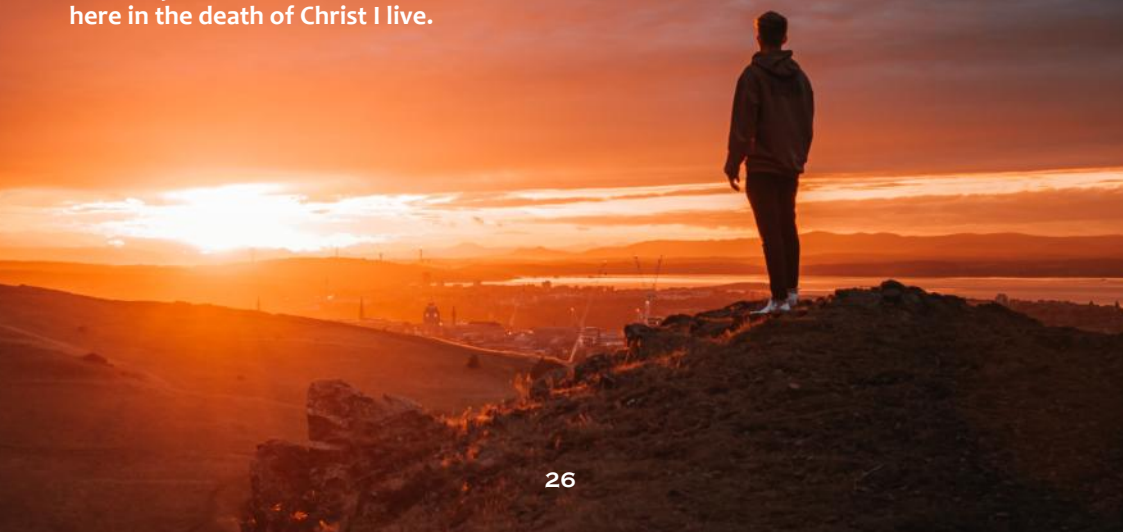
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend



WHOSE JOB IS IT?

Church Editor Ideas Forum

This is a story about four people named **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody**, and **Nobody**.



There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was asked to do it.

Everybody was sure **Somebody** would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but **Nobody** did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job.



Everybody thought **Anybody** could do it but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it.

it ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

The Welcome to Rev. Paul Tabraham

The Welcome Service for Paul held in September was terrific. With the Worship Group supported by the band from Trinity Methodist Church and Janet Glass on her double bass, the roof was raised with the singing of great hymns by a packed church. Members from a number of churches in the Circuit attended to welcome Paul who is to serve as Superintendent Minister for the Circuit with pastoral care for Knaphill, Merrow and Stoughton Churches and as Methodist Chaplain to the University of Surrey. During the service he was welcomed specifically by Conrad Hicks, Chair of the South-East District, Will Forster, MP for Woking, Rev. Canon Robert Esdaile who is part of the Roman Catholic team ministry in Woking and the Rev. Andy Wells who is a member of the chaplaincy team at the University. Prior to the service tea and cakes were served and enjoyed by all. The KMC Stewards would like to thank those who helped make the event so successful and to everyone who came and supported Paul on what was a very special evening.



Harvest Festival

WORD SEARCH



APPLES
AUTUMN
BREAD
COB
EAT
FEAST

FESTIVAL
FIELDS
FRUIT
GRAINS
HARVEST
HAY

OAT
PASTA
PEAS
PONGAL
REAP
SUKKOT

Harvest Prayer

A time for reflection during "Harvest Festival" celebrations

Dear God,

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

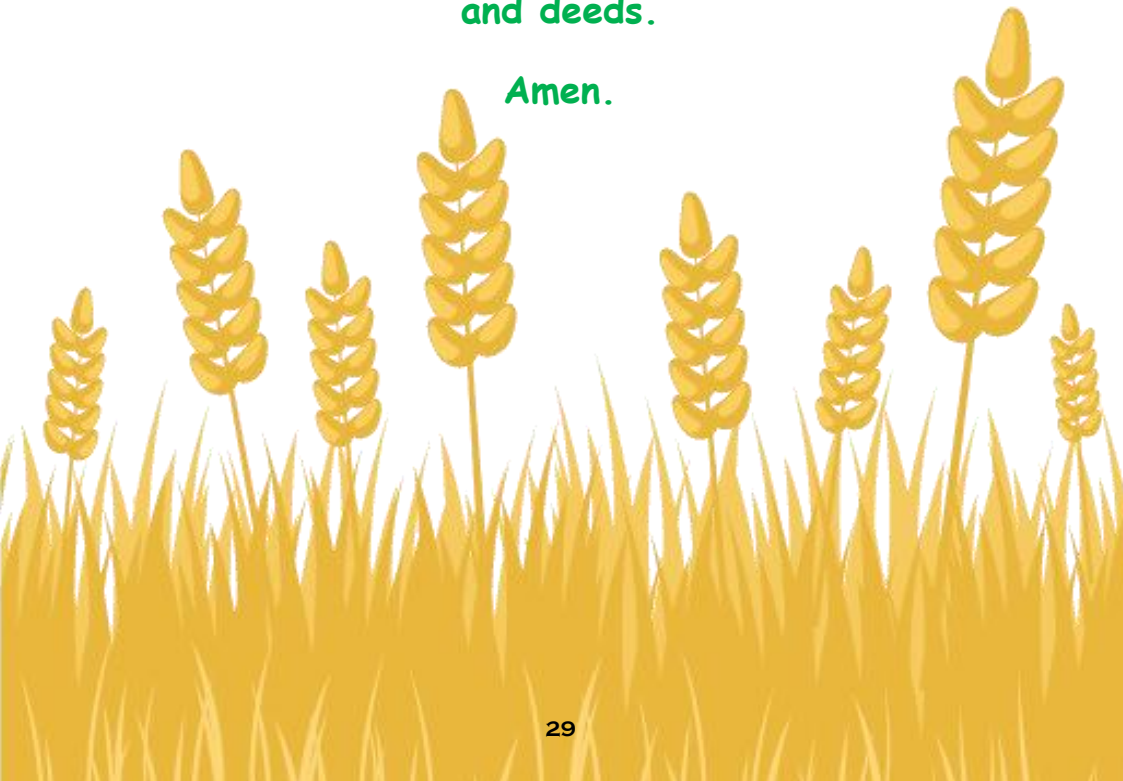
With sunny days and rainy days, our crops grow
larger,

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 COLOURING



KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH



Knaphill Methodist Church, Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey. GU21 2DR
The Minister with Pastoral Charge for our church is Rev. Paul Tabraham.
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@knaphillmethodist.co.uk





Services @ KMC

13th September	10am	Morning Worship with Elizabeth Gurd
20th September	10am	Morning Worship with Nick Edwards
27th September	10am	Harvest Festival with Paul Tabraham
4th October	10am	Morning Worship with Jane Briggs
11th October	10am	Morning Worship
18th October	10am	Holy Communion with Allan Taylor
25th October	10am	Morning Worship with Paul Tabraham
1st November	10am	Morning Worship with Rob Gill
8th November	10am	Morning Worship with Ross Richardson
15th November	10am	Morning Worship with David Paterson
22nd November	10am	Holy Communion with Paul Tabraham
29th November	10am	Morning Worship with Philip Beastall

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

MINISTER@KNAPHILLMETHODIST.CO.UK

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