

IN TOUCH DIARY

May 2017

Wed 31st – 6.00 pm Christian Aid – Counting the Collection - St. Nicolas Church Rooms

June 2017

Sat 3rd – 8.30 am First Circuit Birthday Walk
Sun 4th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion and Church Anniversary
Wed 7th – Wednesday Group – Social Evening (open)
Sun 11th – 10.30 am Mr Ziso
Sun 18th – 10.30 am Revd Treharne
Wed 21st – 6.30 pm Wednesday Group – Gardens Visit
Sat 24th – Lions Fair
Sat 24th – Cranleigh Choral Society – Summer Concert
Sun 25th – 10.30 am Revd Tabraham

July 2017

Sun 2nd 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Choir Anniversary
Sun 2nd – 6.00 pm Songs of Praise On The Lawn - United Reformed Church, Wonersh
Sun 9th – 10.30 am Revd Hulme, Holy Communion
Sun 16th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter
Sun 16th – 12.30 pm Churches Together Picnic - Cranleigh Common (opposite the Baptist Church)
Sun 23rd – 10.30 am Mr Pearcey
Sun 30th – 10.30 am Mr Bowerman

August 2017

Sun 6th – 10.30 am Revd Taylor – Holy Communion
Sun 13th – 10.30 am Mrs T Roberts
Sun 20th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter
Sun 27th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter

September 2017

Sat 9th 8.30 am to 3.00 pm – Book Sale and Cake Stall - United Reformed Church, Wonersh

I N T O U C H



June - August 2017

Cranleigh Methodist Church

LETTER FROM CLAIRE

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to be 'in touch'? I have a facebook account – which I look at when I remember! I have also set one up at the University because this is one of the ways in which students communicate. But I have very few friends (though you do not need to feel sorry for me – this is entirely by choice). It seems to me that the lower your age, the higher your number of friends on facebook. I wonder now what the idea of a 'friend' now means.

And yet there is no doubt that social media, skype, facetime and all the rest have revolutionised the contact that is possible between human beings. Millions of messages are sent and received every minute of every day and so people are in touch – often across continents. And that is marvellous. There is though a dangerous side to it. You cannot always be sure who you are communicating with, you cannot always know who is looking or what they will do with the information they see.

Jane asked in the last edition of 'In Touch' whether we still wanted this newsletter. The overwhelming response was 'yes'. The name of this newsletter is no accident. It keeps everyone in touch whether or not they are able to be in church for worship, or other groups or events. Long may that continue.

The first Sunday in June is the great festival of Pentecost. With all the explosion of celebration at Christmas and Easter, Pentecost is often the poor relation. This is the one that passes by almost unnoticed unless you are in church. And yet it is vital because at Pentecost we celebrate the fact that God remains in touch with humanity.

We have again sung 'Thine be the glory' to the rooftops on Easter morning. But the Resurrection, wonderful as it was, was also difficult for the disciples because it meant a separation from Jesus. He

CHUCKLES

The story goes that some delegates to a Church Conference in Scotland set off between sessions to explore the countryside. Presently they came to a stream spanned by a rickety bridge and started to cross, ignoring the warning to keep off.

A local inhabitant ran after them in protest. Misunderstanding his concern, one of the visitors called, "It's alright, we are Methodists from the Conference."

"I'm no' caring about that," was the reply, "but if ye dinna get off the bridge ye'll all be Baptists."

The Church members were meeting to discuss raising money to repair the roof. A wealthy member stood up and said he would donate £5. As he sat down a bit of ceiling fell on his head. He rose again and said he would make it £50.

Another member was heard to say, "Hit him again, Lord."

CRANLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

188 High Street Cranleigh GU6 8RL

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Minister; | Reverend Claire Potter 01483 575667 |
| Church Council Secretary; | Pam Newman-Horwell 01483 274148 |
| Senior Steward; | Jane O'Leary 01483 351651 |
| Lettings Secretary; | David Lipman 01483 278346 |
| Key Holder and Property Chair; | Jane O'Leary 01483 276100 |

MUSICAL NOTES

Cranleigh Choral Society are performing their summer concert on Saturday, June 24th, in the Village Hall. The programme includes Andrew Carter's Benedicite and Karl Jenkins' 'The Armed Man', two interesting modern pieces. Details from Teresa or Brian.



Our own Choir Anniversary is to be led by Claire on July 2nd. Anthems and readings will be based on three of Paul's Fruits of the Spirit, mentioned in his Letter to the Galatians. (love, joy and peace).

As always, I make my usual invitation to anyone who would like to join us, if only occasionally! Please speak to me or any choir member, or just turn up on a Friday evening at 7.45! My grateful thanks to our small band who continue to sing an anthem and an introit every Sunday. They are of course good musicians!

Glenda

CHRISTIAN AID

Thank you very much to everyone who once more knocked on doors during the week



May 14th-20th, with their distinctive red collection bags and envelopes. We hope for good results! Counting the collection will be on 31 May at 6.00p.m. at St Nicolas Church rooms. Our committee, which organises events from quizzes to snack lunches and male voice choir concerts, has this year raised almost £1000! Sadly, however, no one has come forward to organise Cranleigh's CA collection next year and this of course is the charity's main fund-raising time! Thanks are due to Gill and Jane who have been organisers for a number of years.

lived an earthly life and died a real death. He was, as Charles Wesley put it "contracted for a span". There was a limit, as there is to all of our lives on the earth. But when he left the earth at the Ascension, he left them with a promise – that the Spirit of God would come. This was the ongoing presence of God, in and through everything. Think of the images we have in the Bible for the Spirit – wind, fire, breath – all things that cannot be controlled, or tied down or limited.

And that means God is 'in touch' with us at all times – breathing through us, planting potential within us, giving us inspiration, courage, strength, guidance. We are never without him. It might sound a bit like social media – but it is always positive, always present, always trustworthy, and not limited to those who want to be our friends!

Wishing everyone a happy Pentecost and a relaxing and 'connected' Summer!

Claire

ROD SEWELL

Rod Sewell, who had been ill for many months, sadly died in the early hours of May 12th. The Thanksgiving Service is on May 30th at 11am in the church, following cremation for close family only at 9.45. All Welcome.

Next issue will cover September, October and November so the cut off date for submissions for articles and adverts etc., will be around 31st July at the latest please.
Our contact details are as follows:
Jane O'Leary - Cranleigh Methodist Church,
c/o The Old Forge, Smithbrook Barns, Cranleigh, GU6 8LH
joleary@oaktax.com and telephone 01483 276100.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CRANLEIGH

There have been several joint services during the Lent and Easter periods.

In March we were invited to St John's Seminary, Womersley for Vespers. This was well attended, and appreciated by all, and it is hoped that we may be able to take up the invitation to visit on other occasions.

Palm Sunday saw the usual procession from the Common, with each congregation going to its own church as the procession passed. This year Chester the donkey wasn't able to be there as he was 'performing' in Minehead!

On Good Friday morning the Open Air service in Stocklund Square attracted a large congregation of people from each of the churches, and in the evening the quiet, reflective service of Tenebrae at the Catholic church was also attended by members of other churches.

The committee wanted there to be a Churches Together in Cranleigh ecumenical event at some point between Easter and Harvest so this year there will be a picnic on Cranleigh Common opposite the Baptist church on Sunday 16th July, 12.30 (or in the Baptist church if wet).

At the Community Showcase event held in the Village Hall on 6th May Churches Together had a table to distribute information leaflets from each of the four churches in Cranleigh, and a leaflet about Churches Together itself.

With the forthcoming General Election in mind, Churches Together sponsored the hustings advertised around the village as 'General Election Question Time', at the Baptist church venue, on May 22nd. All six candidates for the Guildford seat were present, and as well as giving a brief outline of their intentions answered questions on a range of topics including housing, military interventions and foreign trade.

It is good that the churches are visibly working together within the wider community and that wherever appropriate the churches are seen to support each other's initiatives.

Pamela Newman Horwell

ANOTHER HUGE SECOND HAND BOOK SALE & CAKE STALL

Loads of books and some scrummy cakes at the
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
in Womersley
(sat nav code GU5 0PH)

SATURDAY
9th September
8.30am - 3.00pm

Come and take your time to browse round our NEW stock of used books, good quality CD's, DVD's etc.
Refreshments served.

All proceeds in aid of ongoing Church refurbishment projects.

Got some books you would like to donate?
Please bring them with you on the day or phone
01483 892579

REFUGEE WELCOME GROUP

Since the last edition of In Touch, the group has continued to build up knowledge and understanding of the needs of refugees settling here. In April Julie Shaw, the manager of Waverley Family Support Team came to a meeting and answered many of our questions about how Waverley is managing the process. The first need is for suitable housing from private landlords, and then a family from one of the camps is matched with the accommodation offered. The house then has to be made ready with everything we would expect to have in our home, from beds to toilet rolls. When Julie visited our group the first family for Waverley was expected to arrive very soon, with accommodation having been offered in Haslemere. The group was pleased to be able to help towards setting up the house by offering items of furniture, bedding, toys, toiletries, store cupboard items and fresh food. Some members gave cash gifts which would help towards such things as the television licence, or so that they could buy clothes on arrival.

Our next step is to find a local landlord who is willing to offer a property, and then we hope to be able to work with Waverley in helping another family to settle here.

The Conversation Group 'Friendly Voices', for people for whom English is not their first language, has now met several times. Although numbers attending have been small so far, it has been appreciated by those who come. The favourite topic of conversation seems to be food! Currently we meet in the church on Thursday afternoons in term time, 1.30-3.00 for our 'guests', with the organising volunteers (from the Refugee Welcome group) coming a little earlier to help set up.

CIRCUIT BIRTHDAY WALK

The River Wey Navigation has linked Guildford to the Thames for 350 years and even the extension of the Navigation to Godalming was completed 250 years ago, but what was a busy commercial waterway is now a peaceful green corridor (except where it runs close to the A3 and the M25!) through the heart of the Wey Valley Methodist Circuit and the Circuit logo uses that geography to good effect. The limit of the Navigation at Godalming is right under the walls of Godalming United Church, while the Town Lock at Weybridge, giving access to the final lock into the Thames, is close to Weybridge Methodist Church.

It is about 20 miles of easy walking along the towpath from Godalming to the Thames and what might have been labelled as a 'Superintendent's Walk' is going to be a First Circuit Birthday Walk and Claire and I plan to cover the whole distance on Saturday 3rd June and we shall be delighted to have your company for all or part of the journey, or to see you at one of the locks where the road crosses the water.

The plan is to leave Godalming at about 8.30 a.m. and if we reach the Thames Lock by 6 p.m., we shall be pleased and surprised.

If such a venture appeals to you, please contact me on 01483 575667 or email me at johnpotter169@btinternet.com when I shall be able to give you further details. Meanwhile, look at a map and build up your fitness level! I look forward to hearing from you.

John Potter

EASYFUNDRAISING FOR CRANLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

We are receiving 'free' money through the two people who currently use this method of raising money for our church.

COULD YOU HELP SWELL THIS AMOUNT? IT IS EASY – REALLY!

Only for those of you who purchase goods on-line.

This is how.....

Suppose you wish to buy some goods on-line from John Lewis

- First go to easyfundraising.org.uk
- Register your name
- Then browse the retailers and make your purchase in the usual way. John Lewis now know that you have come via the easyfundraising website.

- After you complete your purchase, John Lewis will give you a cash reward for your good cause, which you choose. Cranleigh Methodist Church. easyfundraising collect this and send it on at no extra cost.

There are thousands of retailers that you can visit and purchase from.

Why not give it a go and help raise money for the church?

It really is simple and at no cost to you.

Thank you.



MEMORIES ABOUT GEOFF KING

Geoff was very fond of music, especially religious choral music. He was a keen, loyal member of the church choir, never missed a practice, and only missed on Sundays when he was preaching. Even when I went to see him recently, he remembered anthems we sang in church, or longer works we sang in the Choral Society. I was thrilled when he was able to come to our last Christmas Community Tea and Concert, and I'm told he sang all the carols with gusto.

Geoff had a keen sense of humour and enjoyed performing fun songs at choir concerts. There was 'Four Jolly Sailors' and Geoff was the one who added (after three were named) AND ME! Of course, at Christmas, there was always laughter when 'We three KINGS' was mentioned. Perhaps we thought one was enough!!

More seriously, Geoff was a brilliant craftsman, who made many musical instruments including the exquisite spinet which stood near his chair in the lounge at his house. David Brindley, a former choir master, played it once or twice to accompany anthems many years ago. You certainly don't hear of craftsmen like him these days!

Glenda

SERVICE RECORDINGS

You may not be aware that our services are recorded each week by Roger and the recordings can be borrowed for those who want to listen at home or they can be downloaded to our new website and you can listen to them online. Please make use of our website where you will find newsletters, information, events and 'In Touch' as well. If you would like to make a contribution to the website, please see Jane.

NOTES FROM LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

Recently the leadership meetings have discussed the following and please make a note of dates in your diaries;

We will be providing a book at the back of the church for all to put in prayers for family, friends and anyone who requires a prayer. Names mentioned in the book may be used during corporate worship and the named person must have given permission for their name to be mentioned. Please use this book on a Sunday morning before the service and any other time for inclusion at the next service or please do speak to a steward if you would prefer to.

Harvest Festival 8 October, Christmas Tree Festival at St Nicolas 8-11 December, Children's party Sunday 10 December followed by Christingle and Gift Service at 4.00p.m., Christmas tea and Concert Saturday 16 December, 17th is the evening Village Carol service at St Nicolas and our carol service is Sunday 24 December.

GENERAL CHURCH MEETINGS

2nd April 2017

25 members of the congregation attended the Annual General Church meeting on 2nd April. During the formal, business part of the meeting we were pleased to appoint Pat Mottram as a steward to join Jane and Glenda. The meeting particularly thanked the stewards for all they do, and also those who assist them.

This year the discussion took the form of a review of the church's Mission statement, thinking about 'who we are and what we are here for'. We moved into four small groups and each group was given one of these aspects to discuss: Partnership and Worship, Caring and Living, Church and Community, Witnessing and Building God's Kingdom. The groups' comments will be considered by the Leadership team and any appropriate changes to the Mission Statement will be suggested so that it can become a 'living statement' about our church.

21st May 2017

At the meeting on 2nd April Claire Potter and James Strawson (Circuit Steward) introduced proposals for staffing arrangements for the Wey Valley Circuit from 2021. The current arrangements are largely historical and do not make geographical sense, and will not necessarily meet the future needs of the recently formed Wey Valley Circuit. Now that the congregation had had time to consider the proposals this additional General Church Meeting heard from Claire and James about various possibilities which had been considered to make sure that the 13 churches in the circuit would be adequately covered, and in such a way as to make best use of ministers' time and talents. The meeting was unanimously in favour of grouping Cranleigh with Godalming, and so James will take this response to the Circuit Leadership Team.

If you would like the full minutes of either of these meetings please get in touch with Pamela (General Church Meeting secretary).

WEDNESDAY GROUP

On 21st June, the Wednesday Group are visiting some gardens in Horsham. We will be leaving Cranleigh at 6.30pm and lifts can be arranged. The cost is £7 each and will include refreshments. Everyone is welcome and if you would like to join us please contact Hazel Lipman (278346) or Hilary Strawson (276075)

LIONS FAIR

We will be having a book and DVD stall again this year at the Lion's Fair on Saturday 24th June. Please leave any books or DVDs which you may have for sale in the Crick room or contact Hilary Strawson if you need them to be collected.

We also need volunteers to run the stall during the day. Again please contact Hilary if you are able to help. Thank you.

SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday Club continues to meet each Sunday at 10.30 in the school room. We have lots of fun and take part in activities based on a different theme or Bible story each week. If you would like to help with Sunday club or know of any children who might be interested in joining us, please contact Hilary Strawson (276075) or Pamela Newman-Horwell (274148).

WONERSH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

CELEBRATING 137 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

SONGS OF PRAISE ON THE LAWN (IF WET - IN THE CHURCH)

Led by the Revd Graham Hoslett (URC) with readings and prayers
from the clergy of St John's Parish Church and the Guildford Methodist Circuit

6.00pm SUNDAY 2nd JULY 2017

Come and sing your favourite hymns
in a unique setting - Seating provided, bring a coat

Music by **THE GODALMING BAND**

Please note that there will be a voluntary
retiring collection to offset expenses

Refreshments served in the
church after the Service

www.godalmingband.org.uk

