

IN TOUCH DIARY

December 2017

Sun 3rd – 10.30 am Advent Sunday, Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion

Sun 10th – 10.30 am, Ms Janet Gardham

Sun 10th – 2.30 pm Sunday Club Christmas Party

Sun 10th – 4.00 pm. Revd Dr Claire Potter, Christingle/All Age Worship

Wed 13th – 7.45 pm Wednesday Group – Christmas Open Evening at Hilary's

Sun 17th – 10.30 am, Mr Patrick Coad, All Age Worship/Gift Service

Sun 17th – 6.30 pm, United Service St Nicolas

Sun 24th – 10.30 am, Christmas Eve, Revd Dr Claire Potter, All Age Worship/Carols

Mon 25th – 10.30 am, Christmas Day, Revd Dr Claire Potter

Sun 31st – 10.30 am, Local Arrangement

January 2018

Sun 7th – 10.30 am Mr G Pearcey

Sun 7th – 6.30 pm Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion

Wed 10th – 7.45 pm Wednesday Group – Cranleigh Food Bank – Update-Stella Halloran at Helen's

Sun 14th – 10.30 Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion/Covenant Service

Sun 21st – 10.30 am Revd Allan Taylor

Sun 21st – 6.30 pm United Service at RC Church, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Wed 24th – 7.45 pm Wednesday Group – Weald and Downland – Robin Williams at Helen's

Sun 28th – 10.30 am Rev Asif Das

February 2018

Sun 4th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion

Wed 7th – 7.45 pm Wednesday Group – Members Evening – Guess Who? At Jill's

Sun 11th – Rev Barrie Tabraham

Sun 18th – Rev Brian Treharne

Sun 18th – 6.30 pm Rev Peter Hills, Holy Communion

Wed 21st – 7.45 pm Wednesday Group – Cranleigh Village Twinning – Jeremy Watts at Pat's

Sun 25th – 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter

IN TOUCH



December 2017 - February 2018

Cranleigh Methodist Church

LETTER FROM CLAIRE

Dear Friends,

I am writing this at an exciting time in the life of our church. In Lent 2016 we ran a short series of bible studies on 'Hospitality and Sanctuary' which prompted us to consider how we could respond to the refugee crisis. The setting up of Cranleigh Refugee Welcome Group in November 2016 was the result. By December over 50 people had expressed an interest. No refugees were living in the village so what were we doing? But our philosophy was that no refugees would be resettled in Cranleigh unless the community were already demonstrating that they cared and would welcome refugees. Less than a year later and, after many debates with letting agents, Waverley Council, and others, we are now preparing for the arrival of the first refugee family into the village. Waverley Council have said that they cannot resettle the family without the help of volunteers. There is a large house to furnish, let alone help with medical care, education, language, and all the complexities of building a new life in a totally new culture. But we also have to be patient and wait. The family cannot be overwhelmed with eager people wanting to help them all at once.

This year the themes of Advent will have a particular poignancy as we wait with eager expectation to support this family. They do not know how much they are fulfilling our needs! The experiences of this family will be beyond what many of us can imagine – but, before long, some people will be able to learn first-hand from them. This will not be a crisis separated from us by our television screens. This will be the real experience of people in our community.

We have talked a great deal in recent months about partnership as we develop our church premises. We cannot do all that we want to do on our own. The Refugee Welcome Group is showing how partnerships can really work. The volunteers have a range of motivations and backgrounds but they are brought together by the common concern for refugees. We are part of a situation that will help this refugee family, but think how much they will be helping us too – teaching us, opening our eyes, showing us that we are one human race all loved by God.

Church Directory/Pastoral Visitor

Members have asked recently “who is my pastoral visitor”?

You should very shortly be receiving a revised copy of the Church Directory from your Pastoral Visitor. This will contain the initials of your pastoral visitor at the end of each entry in the Directory. However, below is the full list of the visitors and their pastoral group members:-

<p>Group 1 – Brian Treharne</p> <p>Kathy Burr Jane O’Leary Ian Smalley Helen Smalley Jason Stedman Angie Stedman</p>	<p>Group 2 – Ian & Helen Smalley</p> <p>Adriaan Berrevoets Wendy Berrevoets Deborah Berrevoets Carol Berrevoets Ruth Berrevoets Stella Halloran Marion May Dennis May</p>	<p>Group 3 – Pat Mottram</p> <p>Peter Allin Helen Allin Wendy Claydon Liesl Corbauld-Warren Russell Corbauld-Warren John Dickerson Susan Hargreaves Sally Armstrong Gwen Seddon Beryl Stedman</p>
<p>Group 4 – Wendy Berrevoets</p> <p>Joe Corr Dawn Chamberlain Dorothy Davies Sue Drummond Pamela Newman-Horwell Marion Pratt James Strawson Hilary Strawson Brian Treharne Ann Zucker</p>	<p>Group 5 – Marion Pratt</p> <p>Peter Dawson Mary Dawson David Lipman Hazel Lipman Ronnie Martin Caroline Martin Pat Mottram Joan Shepherd Betty Steele Herbert Smith</p>	<p>Group 6 – Hazel Lipman</p> <p>Joan Brennan George Hammond Linda Hammond Sue Pink Glenda Sewell Sheila Sheriff Audrey Stoakes Eric Stoakes Margaret Mordin</p>
<p>Group 7 – Glenda Sewell</p> <p>Sally Cozens Lorna Dackham Miffy Dackham Teresa Golden Amy Loveless Dennis Loveless Bob Martin Betty Morgan Celia Rust Nancy Smith Diane Thomson David Thomson Eva Wood</p>	<p>Group 8 – Jane O’Leary</p> <p>Margaret Doe Allan Forster Eurios Kemp Jim Kemp Gill Leslie Roger Mason Peggy Mason</p>	

MUSICAL NOTES

I usually advertise the concerts of Cranleigh Choral Society, because several of our own singers take part in these. On Sunday, November 26th, the Society, together with Cranleigh School Choir, are performing the ever-popular 'Messiah'. This concert begins at 7.30. Tickets may be obtained only from Cranleigh School and are selling fast. This is short notice I know, and you may already have bought your tickets. If so, I'm sure you will enjoy it.



Our own (augmented) choir are practising for our usual Christmas concerts: the first at the Community Tea on Saturday, December 16th, which is rapidly becoming a regular event, more popular than our evening ones used to be! The other takes place at Elmbridge, now in a magnificent new hall, on Tuesday December 19th at 3pm.

The Village Carol Service, which we also take part in, is on Sunday December 17th, not on Christmas Eve, as that might have proved too difficult for families preparing for Christmas Day! Our own Church Carol Service is on the morning of Christmas Eve, and will be All Age Worship, conducted by our own Minister, Claire.

Glenda

CIRCUIT REFLECTIONS

I have been pleased to attend many circuit meetings and events, and people seem to be welcoming the ongoing efforts being made to create a unified body, both at the circuit meetings and at other group meetings, such as the one Pam and I attended last Wednesday at Merrow on publicity and outreach. We even got to know more people helping at the District Synod, which was held in Woking. Other training opportunities are planned, which we hope Cranleigh members may be able to attend. We hope also to participate in the initiative 'Appreciating Church' which was mentioned at the Church Council.

Advent teaches us how to wait with excitement and hope and to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. He came to show us how every person is loved and forgiven by God, and therefore to show us how we must treat every person. But this does not end when we have eaten the turkey and opened the presents on Christmas Day. We are called to keep awake, constantly expecting to discover signs of God's kingdom in the world around us, constantly ready to follow the example of Christ.

The edition of 'In Touch' takes us from Advent right through to the start of Lent. So in these exciting days, I wish you well as you follow in the footsteps of Jesus and consider your own path of discipleship.

With all good wishes

Claire

TOP 10 THINGS THAT MAKE YOU BRITISH

1. Dunking biscuits in our tea
2. Avoiding sitting next to someone on public transport at all costs
3. Incessant queuing
4. Apologising for everything
5. Eating chips with weird toppings, such as curry sauce, or gravy with cheese
6. Never-ending politeness
7. Eating fry ups for breakfast
8. Awkwardly stepping side to side trying to walk past someone
9. Pretending to like people we don't
10. Having meals based on days of the week - e.g. Sunday roast, Friday fish and chips

Next issue will cover March, April & May so the cut off date for submissions for articles and adverts etc., will be around 31st January 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

The united Harvest service on 8th October at Cranleigh Baptist church led by their minister, Rev Dave Burt, was well attended by members from all four congregations. The clergy from each of the other churches joined Dave in leading prayers, making this a truly ecumenical service. Our fellowship with friends from the other denominations continued during the after-service refreshments and everyone agreed that this had been a most successful occasion.

The annual Act of Remembrance and Village Service on 12th November at the War Memorial drew a huge crowd. The British Legion, the uniformed organisations and community representatives were equally well represented, and as in previous years all the clergy participated in leading the service which followed the laying of the wreaths.

Our leaflet detailing the Christmas events and services (including the Village Carol Service, this year on Sunday 17th December, 6.30pm at St Nicolas Church) will be distributed just before the beginning of Advent.

As usual the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from 18th - 25th January and this year the united service will be on Sunday 21st January, 6.30pm at Jesus Christ Redeemer of Mankind church.

Churches Together in Cranleigh are working to update their website which we hope will be useful not only in giving an introduction to the churches in the village and specific 'Churches Together' events, but also for us to be able to give information about events and activities which might interest people from beyond our own congregations.

Pamela Newman Horwell

SUNDAY GROUP

It's hard to believe that we've been running Sunday Club for three years now. Week by week we have not been aware of the children's development, but now that we have the slightly younger children coming regularly we are reminded of the stage that the boys were at three years ago, and can see how their thinking and awareness is maturing. This reminds us that our time together is truly worthwhile, and at the same time this realisation is a humbling experience.

As far as the week by week preparation is concerned, we are confident that anything practical, anything to do with food and any sort of water-play will go down well (and not just with the adults!) and somehow the children 'get it', even if at the time it has seemed to us to be 'stony ground'.

We are planning to hold a party in December for the children who have attended Holiday Club in recent years, and this will be followed by the Christingle service.

Thank you to the congregation for your interest in the children and their families, and for the support of your prayers.

Pamela Newman Horwell

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;	Glenda Sewell 01483 273037
Lettings Secretary;	David Lipman 01483 278346
Key Holder and Property Chair;	Jane O'Leary 01483 276100

CRANLEIGH LIONS CLUB - PROJECT WENCESLAS

Please consider helping Cranleigh Lions to help others by taking part in Project Wenceslas and donating some or, perhaps, all of your Winter Fuel Payment to us.

The Winter Fuel Payment is paid to those born on or before 5th August 1953 and living in the UK during the week of 18th – 24th September this year.

The payment is £200, or £100 each for a couple, and increased to £300 for those born on or before 24th September 1937.

If you are eligible you will usually get the payment automatically. You may need to claim it if you have not had it before or if certain conditions apply – details at www.gov.uk. You have until 31st March 2018 to claim for winter 2017-2018.

Cranleigh Lions are asking that if you do not need this money you donate your Winter Fuel Payment, or some of it, to the Cranleigh Lions' Wenceslas Project.

Working in conjunction with the Citizens Advice Bureau, SureStart, local churches and other organisations funds will be used to help local people who have problems with their fuel bills. Some even have to choose between heating or eating.

Money is not given to individuals – we make payment direct to energy companies or we top pre-payment cards up with cash.

If you are a UK tax payer we can also claim Gift Aid on your donation which means we can help more people. Bear in mind that Gift Aided donations can be included on your tax return.

Please see our website www.cranleighlions.org for more details and donations can be made quickly and simply online at www.cranleighlions.org/project-wenceslas

This will be our fourth year of running Project Wenceslas and to date it has raised about £10,000

REFUGEES WELCOME GROUP

Things have moved on apace since our last report. In September a large property in Cranleigh was offered by a private landlord and after much negotiation and in conjunction with the Home Office, Waverley Borough Council were able to tell us that the property was deemed suitable and that a large family could be accommodated. Waverley will be responsible for the family, but made it clear that they were dependent on the support of our group to enable the house to be made ready, and to assist with ongoing support to the family after they have settled in.

Group members have worked tirelessly sourcing everything we would expect to have in a home - Waverley have a strictly limited budget only for a few items which are considered absolutely essential, so almost everything has needed to be donated. At the time of writing, the house is almost completely furnished and set up, and it is expected that the family will arrive in mid-December.

We are continuing to work closely with the Local Authority to make sure that the incoming family can settle in as easily as possible. Waverley were particularly pleased that our 'Friendly Voices' conversation group is established as this is seen as an excellent opportunity to help the family adapt to their new circumstances.

One of the next steps for the group will be to respond to the needs of the family when they have had some time to settle in, either by creating relevant opportunities such as arts, music or sports sessions, or by supporting them in existing groups in the village, but until they are here we cannot make those plans, other than careful preparation for the 'Friendly Voices' afternoons.

Pamela Newman Horwell

CHRISTIAN AID

Our keen though small committee continue to plan fund-raising events, and made about £100 at the market at the end of September. We have been pleased to welcome new member Margaret Murdin, who is very energetic and helpful. Especial thanks too to Hazel, our treasurer, who has made tremendous efforts to sort our bank affairs, particularly as we now have a new signatory and the bank is now based in Guildford! We hope to plan more events after Christmas – ideas welcome!



CHRISTMAS TEA AND CONCERT 16 DECEMBER 2017

Following on from the most successful event last year when our church was full to bursting and we had an amazing afternoon of carols, music, tea and more music, we are holding another one this year. This time however, we must restrict numbers to a safe 80 so if you have not yet put your name down on the list to come, with Sue Pink 276374 or Jane 351651, please do call or see either of us. Transport can be arranged if necessary.

Like last year, we would very much welcome offers of supplying the tea with crackers, napkin folding, cakes, mince pies, sausage rolls and cheese and pineapple, sausages on sticks, scones, bread and sandwich fillings. We are again delighted that the marvellous ladies from the Liontamers will be on hand in the kitchen making up the sandwiches etc., and serving lashings of tea!

If you can offer to help with transport, Jane and Denise (at Jane's office-276100) would love to hear from you please and offers to assist Jane to set the tables would be most welcome.

CHRISTMAS TEA AND CONCERT



SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2017

2.00 FOR 2.30 PM - 4.45 PM

CRANLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

**AFTERNOON TEA AND CONCERT
INCLUDES CHOIR + CAROL SINGING**

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED

CALL SUE PINK NOW TO RESERVE 276374

CHURCH RECORDINGS

Recordings of Church services are now available on the Cranleigh Methodist Church website - <http://www.cranleighmethodist.org.uk> under the heading of "Worship".

For those who do not have access to the internet, Roger has a machine to enable them to listen to the service.