



The
United
Reformed
Church

CHURCH NEWS



April 2018

Kingston United Reformed Church
www.kingstonurc.org



“Now the green blade rises....”
(‘Rejoice and Sing’: hymn no. 243)

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Church worship diary: April 2018

(Please read in conjunction with the diary of regular events inside the back cover)

Sunday	01	EASTER SUNDAY	
		09.00	Easter Morning Holy Communion
		10.00	Breakfast
		11.00	All-age celebration of Holy Communion
		18.30	Reflective Holy Communion
Tuesday	03	19.50	(Elders meeting)
Wednesday	04	10.00	Tots' praise
		13.10	Lunchtime service
Friday	06	13.00	Friday prayers
Sunday	08	10.30	All-age worship
		-- Copy for May Church News to Jean Thompson by 11.30 --	
		13.00	(Child Contact Centre)
		18.30	Reflective worship
Wednesday	11	10.00	Tots' praise
		13.10	Lunchtime service
Friday	13	13.00	Friday prayers
Sunday	15	10.00	Traditional worship
		11.30	All-age worship
		18.30	Reflective worship with communion
Wednesday	18	10.00	Tots' praise
		13.10	Lunchtime service
Friday	20	13.00	Friday prayers
Sunday	22	10.00	Traditional worship
		11.30	All-age worship
		13.00	(Child Contact Centre)
		18.30	Reflective worship
Wednesday	25	10.00	Tots' praise
Friday	27	13.00	Friday prayers
Sunday	29	10.00	Traditional worship
		11.30	All-age worship with communion
		15.30	Messy Church does.....Music/Dance
		18.30	Reflective worship

A detailed calendar can be found on the KURC website at:
http://www.kingstonurc.org/kurc_calendar.html

Letters from our ministers



Dear All,

It is in the disorder and difference that God is known.

Why are there so many colours of flowers? Why so many varieties of animals? Why so many smells and tastes?

Why do I like one thing and you another?

On a good day we know this is glorious and we are glad. Yet very often and maybe under stress we revert. Would it not be great if the world was all like me? If the world believed like me, worshipped like me, spoke my language and viewed God as I do.

That is not how it is.

In Kingston United Reformed Church, Sunday by Sunday we have this physically represented to us by our congregation. People whose first language is not English. People who want to sing choruses and modern hymns or those who want to sing the big hymns of the faith. People who want to discuss and people who want to listen to sermons that have to be translated.

We are grateful for the richness we have received from Korea. The stories of suffering from our brothers and sisters from North Korea. The music from the whole divided country. The leadership and the example of being church even when it is not easy. Sitting there when much of it you do not understand.

A warm welcome to our sisters and brothers from the Presbyterian Church of Korea.

We have received very generously from you.

Thank you

We hope your conference is useful and you continue to know God at work in your lives and Church.

We pray that we will all have the courage to focus on Jesus and keep our vision on loving and serving him beyond our own needs

Best wishes,

Lesley



Dear Friends

As we change season from winter to spring or from summer to autumn, we change the clothes we wear. We tend to pull the clothes that we wore last year out of the wardrobe and make a decision about whether they need to be replaced (because they are old or out of fashion or the wrong size).

Then we go shopping to buy something new, or instead we visit the laundry or dry cleaner to give them a good wash and make them appear new. The dry cleaner's window usually says that they will undertake repairs, dye clothes, or 'reform' them.

What does *reform* mean? It is different from revolution, which implies radical change, whereas '*reform*' implies fine tuning or redressing serious wrongs without altering the fundamentals. Reform seeks to improve a system as it stands, not to overthrow it.

Each new year or season many of us try to reform our minds and resolve to do things differently. A new diet perhaps, possibly spend less time at the office or clean the house more frequently. Whether it is reformed material or a reformed mind, such reforms are easy to understand. But there is also spiritual reform: it's a bit more difficult to get one's mind round this. We belong to the United *Reformed* Church – what does this mean? The URC 'finds its supreme authority for faith and conduct in the Word of God in the Bible, discerned under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.' More detail can be found on the URC website and in booklets and magazine 'Reform'. My work is based on this theology and the URC traditions.

The overwhelmingly 'white middle-class British' composition of our congregations has now changed substantially: we have people of so many cultures and races amongst us, and I see my role as a 'reforming link/bridging ministry'.

I have worked for 15 years at Kingston and New Malden URC, together with Peter Flint and Lesley Charlton in the midst of the largest Korean community in Europe. I try to form a pastoral bridge between the various strands of Korean people (eg North, South and Oriental) and their cultures, and between the Koreans and the native English. I lead early morning prayer at New Malden and Friday night prayer at Kingston; I lead Sunday services, morning and evening, including Holy Communion and I'm involved in international organisations, national-level committees and many activities at both churches. I also get involved in local

community business. My principal purpose is to provide pastoral care, word and sacraments in our local churches.

I believe very strongly that our different cultures can learn from each other. We can all give and receive. We have so many things to share, in particular spiritual gifts.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of KURC and NMURC for their great support in all I do; also Peter and Lesley my colleagues, and the Synod Moderator Nicola, but most of all my family. The support they give me through prayer is so valuable. I pray for spiritual guidance for my ministry all the time. God bless all my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Yours,

Suk In

Church flowers for April

1 April	Easter Sunday
8 April	Ann Macfarlane
15 April	Ann Phillips
22 April	Shirley Davy
27 April	Margueritte Scott



Book Club News

Unfortunately, due to individual events completely beyond our control we were not able to meet in February. We will therefore (briefly) review Jack Cornfield's *A Path With Heart* and our current book *God With Us* by Rowan Williams at our next meeting. This will be on Tuesday 20th March at my house at 7.30pm.

The next two books we will be reading are: *A Mindfulness Guide For The Frazzled* by Ruby Wax (17th April) and *The Other Voice – In Search Of A God Who Speaks* by Graham Turner (22nd May).

We have cake and coffee/tea or some of us drink wine. Please put the dates in your diary, we'd be delighted to see you and if you have a book you would like to read with us, we are always very open to suggestions.

Katie Frost

Cathy's conversation

Sometimes the ministers and elders of the church need to spend shared time to making sure that this church is complying to the requirements of the broader church and the legislation of the land.

On some levels it can be quite boring, when we want to focus more directly on people and developing our mission. The challenge is to know that the boring has value for our people and mission.

For example the legislation around safeguarding which may have its weakness but there are strengths in that should events require attention we have structures to support us. You may recall that we have a safeguarding policy that elders need to give their attention to annually.

We are about to embark on a new piece of legislation that has the intention of protecting us in a different way. It relates to the data that others may have about you. It is called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). It is a set of rules that aim to better protect EU citizens regarding their personal data and give them more control over their data, compared to its predecessor, the Data Protection Directive or Directive 95/46/EC. It comes into effect on 25th May. All of this must be a good thing.

What it means to KURC is that we need to give you more control over what data KURC holds, tell you why we hold it, tell you how your data is used and agree with you how you are contacted by KURC. We will be working with you to ensure that this process is complete before the 25th May. Which must be a good thing.

There is a small team of us working on this and we are grateful for the time and attention that people will give and we thank God for this.

Within all the busy-ness our focus remains our mission to be a welcoming, caring, worshipping Christian community serving all.

Cathy Seymour



A family affair

How do you tell your family and friends that your son has had a complete breakdown? This, I'm afraid, was just the beginning of what was to be a very difficult and sad journey which continues to this day. Although people aren't afraid to talk about Mental Health issues so much now, back then it was certainly a taboo subject, so to tell people that we found Stuart in a shocking state in our garden shed cutting himself and acting in a peculiar almost deranged manner, was only the beginning for all of us and the start of his breakdown.

Not knowing where to turn as we had only just moved to a new house, but our new GP proved very helpful and by the afternoon we were at the North Cheam Mental Health clinic and Stuart was being assessed.

It took a few years, seeing lots of different doctors and specialists before one day Stuart had a meeting with the Director of his then work (he had been signed off for several months at this stage) who seemed to understand a bit about what Stuart was going through, realising that he couldn't simply 'pull himself together' or think his way out of the state. The man suggested Stuart see Professor Veale, who turned out to be a life saver, realising Stu was suffering more than just depression; diagnosing him with Body Dysmorphic Disorder and Anxiety, which made all the difference. Stuart was to stay as inpatient at The Priory for a month and this was the start of a very slow, but progressive recovery.

While this was going on, our family hit many highs and lows, as you can well imagine and just when Stu was first ill, our daughter Louise went through a divorce. I really wanted to travel to Newcastle to see her but was told not to leave Stu under any circumstances and my husband was working away. It caused a lot of heartache, wanting to be there for both of them. It is precisely this sort of thing that can turn a family upside down.

Amongst all this going on I think the biggest difference was when Stu started to go to Kingston URC. His first visit was with his sister and this was the start of Stu not only becoming a Christian, but making so many wonderful friends which helped him so very much and still do.

Yes, there have been many heartaches along the way but as a family, we have been blessed when you hear some heart-breaking stories.

This all began in 2002 so over the years, our family have had many highs and lows. The fact that many birthdays and Christmases have been tough to get through (owing to Stu not being well enough to enjoy whatever was arranged), caused rows and unpleasantness within the family, but all that aside, I am sure there are many families out there with lots of different heartaches and problems to live with; having our faith, helps us all have the strength to carry on.

Shirley Chandler
January 2018

Pastoral News – March 2018

Out of care for people's privacy,
since January 2012 the list of
Personal Concerns
has been excluded from the web edition of
Church News.
Anyone wishing to receive the full edition of *Church
News*
by e-mail should send an
e-mail to tony.wenman@gmail.com

God of new life,

We give thanks for the life of Marjorie Bazley. We pray for her family and those who mourn her death.

We give thanks for those now out of hospital. We rejoice in the healing or stabilisation of their condition and having them back among us again.

We remember those at home struggling with longer term illness. Give them courage as they face the future, encourage them through the beauty of Spring and the promise of hope and renewed life that it brings.

We pray for all those associated with our church who are between 0 and 20 years of age. We rejoice in the energy and enthusiasm of youth and ask for your blessing on them as they grow. We give thanks for all those involved in the work of Christian Aid, their ongoing commitment to supporting the work among some of the poorest communities in the world. May their strength be renewed for another year of campaigning and fund raising. We pray for the lay leaders and trustees of the church; give them wisdom in their decision making and stewardship of the church, its building and the ongoing work that takes place there. We rejoice in the work of the Community Ministry as they lead our work in the Foyer and

beyond. Enthuse them with new ideas and give them wisdom as they tackle difficult issues.

We pray for Lesley and Suk-In as they lead us; for Ted Bellingham; the premises staff, for Sally and her work with young people and families and for Sulhee. Give them a fresh spring in their step and a renewed vision in their hearts for the work ahead. As the world around us once again erupts in glorious new growth, colour and sound so fill us anew with a vision of the new life available through you.

Amen.

Martyn Verge

The picture says it all



Dear Friends,

We are sending our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made the celebrations of celebration of John's 90th birthday so joyful! Thank you for the cards, phone calls and emails. Thank you for the beautiful flowers you have presented and thank you to those who baked and iced the cake. And also a big thank you

to those who have tasted a piece of it!

You made our day!

Natasha & John Reid



Easter workshop



Helpers would be welcome at the Easter Workshop on

Saturday, 31 March, at 11 am

to decorate the church for Easter Sunday.

We would also be grateful for spring flowers and greenery.

Janine Goddard & Jean Thompson

Marjorie Bazley
(10 March 1928 – 15 February 2018)



The following is an abridged version of Lesley's tribute to Marjorie at her funeral on 1 March.

Marjorie (née Howkins) was born in Stockport, Cheshire where she spent most of her early life, enjoying in particular her weekly trips to the 'pictures' and her holidays in Blackpool and Llandudno. She also became an accomplished pianist and would accompany her father when he sang at local social events. On leaving school she trained as a State Registered Children's Nurse and worked at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

In 1951, Marjorie married Norman Bazley who was also from Stockport. Norman was a physicist, and soon after graduating he got a job at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. He and Marjorie moved to Kingston.

In 1955 their daughter Ann was born, followed in 1961 by their son David. Norman went out to try to find the midwife to deliver David, only to return with her to discover that Marjorie had already delivered David herself. Her first grandson, Nick, was born in 1985 to Ann and Keith; and her second grandson, Marcus, was born in 1990 to David and Alison. When Ann developed MS, Marjorie would visit her several times a week, initially with Norman and then, after his sudden death in 1999, on her own. Ann died in 2006.

Marjorie attended KURC from her arrival in Kingston, playing the piano in the 60s for the Sunday school at Tudor Hall. She said about her religious beliefs: "God is Love. Simple as that". And that's what she gave her family - unconditional love. She was always supportive, always interested in what they were all doing, and wishing the best for them all.

She always put other people first, spending much of her life caring for her mother, Norman, her children, Norman's parents, Ethel (her father's

second wife) and Ann. In between she was always cooking, baking, knitting, sewing and generally making sure all was well. There are those who would argue that her flapjacks and Victoria sandwich cake are the best there is.

The last period of her life has been a challenge which she has faced with courage and dignity - a real exemplar of how to deal with adversity. She has been brave and strong-willed. She was never sorry for herself and never complained. Indeed she was the mistress at being able to laugh at herself. She was interested in people. Perceptive, observant and empathetic.

There are people who are hot air. There are people who are a loud presence, and then there people who if you were not paying attention you would not even notice, unless of course they were close to you. If that person was in your corner then they would always be in your corner. Marjory Bazley's life has not been glamorous nor among the powerful. It has been a deep life of devoted service to a range of people. She is the sort of person who was rock solid and reliable. In many ways everything about her was an accusation for our times; her faith her quietness, her selflessness, her devotion to others and without moaning putting herself second.

There is a time to be born and a time to die. That is the reality of life however we try to avoid it. Marjorie's time on the earth is now over. She who has dealt with death often knew that at one level you have to get on with it. The Christian faith does have something to say at this juncture. All of us are dependent on the mercy of God. We do not earn our salvation however great our life has been. We receive it through the grace of God. She was also the one who spoke of a God who is unconditional love and that is what she built her life on: God is love – simple as that.



Trimmed hymns.....

Odd lines from hymns sometimes stick at the back of our minds, lie dormant for months and then re-emerge out of context, challenging us to try and remember where on earth they come from. Well at least, that's the sort of thing that happens to this month's editor, who thought it only fair to share some of the ~~frustration~~ fun this can generate.....



Here are excerpts from 20 hymns on the KURC 'playlist' - though not all to be found in *Rejoice & Sing*. How many of the hymns can you identify before turning to the answers on page 19.

1. And for his sheep he doth us take
2. Be there at our waking
3. Beauty springeth out of naught
4. Change and decay in all around I see
5. Changed from glory into glory
6. Ever changing from glory to glory
7. Hearts and hands and minds and voices
8. Here for a season, then above
9. Hold me with thy powerful hand
10. I have heard you calling in the night
11. Keep me travelling the way I should
12. Let me be singing when the evening comes
13. Longing for shelter, many are homeless
14. My chains fell off, my heart was free
15. My shepherd will guard his sheep
16. Show me your way of righting wrong
17. Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and pain
18. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
19. We are his folk, he doth us feed
20. We will rejoice and be glad in it

.....and hymn whims

Lesley has been encouraging us of late to learn by heart a selection of inspirational hymns to which we can turn, as eloquent affirmations of our faith, in times of need and in particular as our lives draw to a close.

Church News felt encouraged to explore the idea of inspirational hymns a little further, with the help of its readers. Do you have a favourite hymn or worship song? What in particular draws you to it? Are there any associations, experiences or stories that makes it special for you? Let *Church News* know (in, say, up to a couple of hundred words), and we will print your response so that others can share your particular insights and experience. Let's hope this will be the start of a *Church News* series that runs and runs and runs.



readings for April

EASTER

Songs of praise

Sunday 1 April Philippians 2:5–11
 Monday 2 April Exodus 15:1–13
 Tuesday 3 April 1 Samuel 2:1–10
 Wednesday 4 April Psalm 96
 Thursday 5 April Psalm 126
 Friday 6 April Isaiah 61:10–62:3
 Saturday 7 April Revelation 4

HEBREWS

Jesus the true High Priest

Sunday 8 April Hebrews 1
 Monday 9 April Hebrews 2
 Tuesday 10 April Hebrews 3
 Wednesday 11 April Hebrews 4
 Thursday 12 April Hebrews 5
 Friday 13 April Hebrews 6
 Saturday 14 April Hebrews 7:1–14

The new covenant

Sunday 15 April Hebrews 7:15–28
 Monday 16 April Hebrews 8
 Tuesday 17 April Hebrews 9:1–14
 Wednesday 18 April Hebrews 9:15–28
 Thursday 19 April Hebrews 10:1–18
 Friday 20 April Hebrews 10:19–25
 Saturday 21 April Hebrews 10:26–39

Faith and works

Sunday 22 April Hebrews 11:1–16
 Monday 23 April Hebrews 11:17–31
 Tuesday 24 April Hebrews 11:32–12:2
 Wednesday 25 April Hebrews 12:3–13
 Thursday 26 April Hebrews 12:14–29
 Friday 27 April Hebrews 13:1–17
 Saturday 28 April Hebrews 13:18–25

GOING VIRAL: COMMUNICATION IN THE BIBLE

Face-to-face with God

Sunday 29 April Genesis 2:4–9
 Monday 30 April Psalm 13



Giving

The proposals for KURC's 2018/19 budget presented at March's Church Meeting were accompanied by an urgent plea from Lesley that we all take this opportunity to review our giving. The budget figures presented brought into stark relief our current budget deficit and the consequent need to increase our overall income. The elders are considering a variety of ways to achieve a better balanced budget, but giving is a vital element in the mix. Do please look sympathetically at this request to help assure the future of KURC's vital work.

To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see inside back cover

On a wing and a prayer New Zealand: February 2018

New Zealand was our final destination on a long journey. One Personal Assistant drove us to Heathrow at 5 am and we boarded our plane, for the first lap on our journey, that lasted over 8 hours. It is usual for an airline to allow passengers whose needs are made known prior to flying to take a medical case free of charge. The Airline, arranged by the Cruise Company and unbeknown to me, made a charge of £275.10 before I could go aboard. Also, despite filling in a medical form and making several phone calls prior to the journey, I could not book bulkhead seats so again I had to go through the embarrassment of passengers being asked to move to seats that were rightfully theirs.



Once settled, the first section of the journey was uneventful. The plane refuelled in Abu Dhabi and two hours later, after more hassle over seating my long-term Personal Assistant, Eva and I, made the final fifteen and a half hour flight to Sydney. Once again, another error transpired when our transfer by taxi arranged for our overnight hotel room near Sydney Airport was inaccessible and resulted in a \$55 fare. The Company slipped up again

and had not booked an accessible room and the Manager was apologetic despite it not being his doing. He kindly gave us free dinners as it was very late. Resourceful Eva and I managed in the room before leaving the next morning. The Company with whom we have booked many times had always done a good job but this time we struggled. Once again I was left with no accessible transport so another \$70 fare later we arrived at the cruise ship, Ovation of the Seas, to Board with almost another 5000 passengers. It may seem that the ship was over-crowded, but it was only on days at sea that it could get busy in certain areas, such as when people wanted to shop!

The reason for undertaking this journey was to visit relatives. One cousin, John, had just had an operation. He is well known in New Zealand for his boat-building skills and after forty years of toil has totally rebuilt Psyche, a boat over one hundred years old, cited in history books, and now decked out with all modern facilities. Valerie helped the Project along by daily supplies of Digestive biscuits! John and Valerie, live in Tauranga on New Zealand's North Island in a setting where the sea is outside the front of the house and the main road runs past the side of the house. So that I could spend the day with them they had to book an accessible taxi six weeks in advance of my visit. Sadly, it rained heavily marring the magnificent scenery and wildlife. The cruise consisted of voyaging round both Islands and the ship docked in ports

To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see inside back cover

relatively near to where my relatives lived. Our first port was the Bay of Islands where Eva and I came out into a hot summer's day and to where a warm Maori welcome awaited us. We were not able to go on any arranged trip as there was no transport infrastructure caused mainly by the costs that would be prohibitive populated by only four million in a country the size of England. The numbers of sheep match the population. I love sheep but I didn't see one on a coast-hugging cruise and with animals that hate water! We visited the Island's Treaty House where the agreement between Great Britain and New Zealand was signed.

The next port was Auckland and a pre-booked visit to the Tower, the tallest in the South Pacific. After that came Tauranga and a brief stop in torrential rain to see Psyche moored on the coast, and on to my Cousin's home. Then to Wellington, the Capital, where more relatives came to meet with me as there was no accessible transport available and their home was inaccessible to me. We spent the afternoon in botanic gardens, which we accessed via the

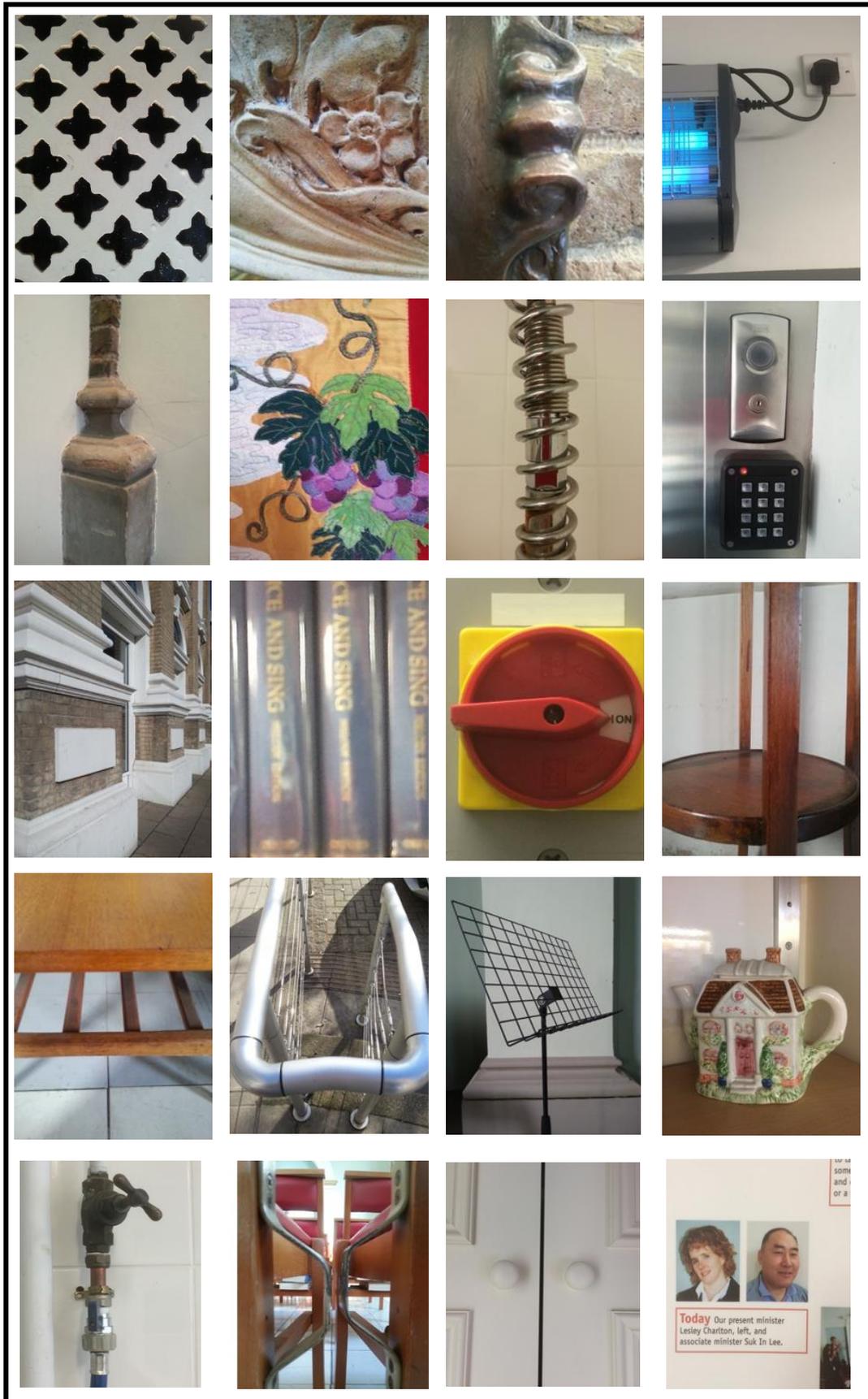
mountain train, praise be, accessible, and enjoying a breathtaking wheelchair ride, Eva and I made it down the mountainous hairpin pathway, back to the main road. We cruised over to Picton where I met up with relatives on another very hot day. We had a great day outdoors wandering along the coast line refreshing ourselves with long cold drinks. Again, they took the day off work and came to the Port as I could not get transport and it was a two-hour drive for them. Our



next Port was Dunedin where Eva and I spent time sightseeing. We visited a busy market square before we took the advice of a stall-holder and went to the station. No, we couldn't access a train but we enjoyed the architecture and the interior decoration. Situated there was an interesting art exhibition by local arts. By the time we had wandered for several hours, revitalising body and soul with refreshment, it was time to return to the Ship. We spent a day cruising through the beautiful Doubtful, Dusky and Ilford Sounds before two days on the Tasman Sea and returning to Sydney for our flights home. Our packing had to be done with extreme care as unused medical equipment had to be crammed into my main case and we had to dispose of the empty case that, on the outward journey, contained supplies as I did not want to pay a second time.

Despite all the difficulties, I had wonderful experiences and saw people I may not have the opportunity to see again. How fortunate am I and so richly blessed in every way.

Ann Macfarlane



(See **KURC nooks and crannies** on page opposite)

KURC nooks and crannies Premises promises

Do we tend to take the gracefully neo-classical lines of the Sanctuary for granted? When sitting in the Foyer, are we so captivated by the quality of the refreshments and the engrossing conversations on offer that we remain oblivious to our physical environment? As far as we're concerned, is Room 3 just another meeting room and the kitchen simply somewhere to prepare food?

Test your powers of observation by trying to identify the bits and pieces captured in the photographs opposite. All of them relate to accessible and immediately visible parts of the ground floor, both indoors and outdoors! Answers on page 19.

Tots' Praise

The congregation were invited to join "Tots' Praise" on February 14th. Sadly, only two of us attended.

When the children arrived in the Mayo Hall they started running around, chasing each other and laughing with each other – it reminded me of taking the dogs out and letting them off the lead! It was as if they had been set free from any worries.

When it was time to sing their songs of praise and pray, they all joined in even if they could not read the words, using children's musical instruments for some songs and dancing. They all seemed so happy and were really enjoying themselves.

There were approximately 17 children attending with their parents/carers who also found others to talk to during the morning when beverages were served.

At the end Sally said 'goodbye' to every single child by name

What a joyous occasion it was, and a wonderful way to praise the Lord. Please try to attend a session to find out for yourself what a happy time this is.

Well done Sally!

Maggie Arnold

2018 Bible Conference

On 10th March I attended the Bible Conference 2018 in Westminster Chapel in London which was organised by the Daily Bread Ministries. I already attended three of their conferences in the previous years and was very pleased to know that this one was led by Reverend Bill Crowder, who is such a good speaker. Bill is a



Bible teacher and a writer for the Bible reading notes booklet *Our Daily Bread*. He has over 20 years of pastoral experience and has written several books. Bill is passionate about helping others study God's Word!

The theme of this conference was "David: Warrior, Shepherd, Poet, King", and Bill went thoroughly through the Stories of Samuel and some Psalms which were written by David. He explained in detail and he looked with us through many aspects, such as: why God chose someone who is "after his own heart"; why we have to be guided not by "external" but by "internal" feelings; why God looks at the true us and not on our



appearances; why we have to rely on God whatever will happen; why we have to understand cross-cultural experiences in order to understand the Bible writings properly; why our choices in life lead us to consequences, as we own our actions before God; why "repentance" is the most important word in religion; why we have to deal with reality and honesty but still have a hope; why whether we are broken or weak, we still have to be an instrument in hands of God. We need to have trust and faithfulness, Goodness and Mercy of God because one day, with all our goodness

and faithfulness we will stand in the House of Lord.

It was a privilege to hear, to pray, to sing and give glory to the Lord with hundreds of other people who came to this conference from all over England!

Natasha Reid

Quiz solutions (see pages 12 and 16/17)

Hymns quiz (numbers following hymn names are from Rejoice and Sing)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. All people that on earth do dwell - 712 | 11. One more step - 549 |
| 2. Lord of all hopefulness - 531 | 12. 10,000 reasons (Bless the Lord...) |
| 3. All my hope in God is founded - 586 | 13. Christ be our light (Longing for light...) |
| 4. Abide with me - 336 | 14. And can it be - 366 |
| 5. Love divine - 663 | 15. I lift my eyes to the quiet hills - 64 |
| 6. Shine Jesus shine | 16. Give to me Lord a thankful heart - 497 |
| 7. Angel voices - 405 | 17. Lord for the years - 603 |
| 8. Just as I am - 364 | 18. Great is thy faithfulness - 96 |
| 9. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah - 345 | 19. All people that on earth do dwell - 712 |
| 10. I, the Lord of sea and sky | 20. This is the day - 377 |

Nooks and crannies quiz

FOYER Radiator cover detail	SANCTUARY Font detail	FOYER Edge of 'Richard Mayo' plaque	KITCHEN Insect deterrent device (above door)
FOYER Masonry in corner next to Sanctuary rear door	SANCTUARY Lectern tapestry detail	KITCHEN Dishwasher piping serving pre-wash shower head	LIFT LOBBY Lift keypad
EXTERIOR Front entrance - lateral view	SANCTUARY Hymn books on shelf at rear	KITCHEN Dishwasher power switch	SANCTUARY Flower stand
SANCTUARY Small table	EXTERIOR Handrails	SANCTUARY Music stand	FOYER Coffee bar teapot
KITCHEN Water boiler supply pipe	SANCTUARY Join between two chairs	SANCTUARY Cupboard detail	ROOM 3 Timeline chart detail

.....and one for the road

Bible Quiz

WHERE ~ ARE ~ THEY?

In this remarkable paragraph are hidden the names of 15 books of the Bible.

It's a real lulu, kept me looking so hard for facts that I missed the revelation. I was in a jam, especially since the names were not capitalised. The truth will come to numbers of you—to others it will be a real job.

For all it will be a most fascinating search. Yes, there will be some easy to spot and others hard to judge, so we admit it usually results in loud lamentations.

The lady said she brews coffee while she puzzles over it.

With thanks to St Luke's Church, Orchards, Johannesburg (who didn't, alas, supply the key - so you're on your own!)

From our own (Antigua) correspondent

Street Pastors

We are managing a team most Fridays, but the hard work is finding men and people who have a car. That is a big challenge! One regular night has had to be cancelled as the male leader is overseas, and although the guidelines allow all female teams no-one wants to go out without a guy. We are going to try going out earlier one night, starting 8pm as some people find the late night too much (1am here). I am discovering many churches expect people to attend early morning prayer meetings, so I am not surprised there is a reluctance to stay out late.

The homeless guys have relocated to the Fish Market, out of sight of the security officers. Compared to Kingston the streets are quiet. I've yet to see any police on duty. Once a police car passed by.

There are a few street food stalls working late, a tour bus converted into a chicken and chips food outlet called HoneyCutters, and a sharwama/burger stand run by Syrians. Subway, who provide us with a platter of free sandwiches and a box of cookies, closes at 10pm.

Radio and Children's Work

For 'God First Radio' I am retelling the story of Stephen Lungu, an African evangelist whose early life was traumatic and impoverished. He was born in Zimbabwe in 1960 to his mum aged 14. By the time she was 19 she had two other children and was deserted by her husband. She abandoned them all at a shopping centre. Stephen later learned she suffered with clinical depression.



He was taken in by his Aunt M who beat and starved him. He used to rummage for food in the white people's dustbins. He ran away and joined a gang of boys called The Black Shadows. One night, about to bomb a Christian mission meeting in a tent, he heard about the love of Jesus for the first time and prayed to be forgiven. I'm telling this story as it resonates with some children here who are often left to fend for themselves and receive little affection. I'm spreading it over 5 weeks.



Any suggestions for retelling other biographies/stories gratefully received!

On Sunday afternoons I go downtown to Gray's Farm to help Pastor May. Some children are sent with their baby brothers and sisters which isn't ideal at all. They are aged from 2 to 13 or so. Otto, a new Christian and a former gangster who was dramatically converted in prison, also helps out. There are few resources, no posters, pinboards, electronic devices. We have two tables, a load of plastic chairs and a couple of wooden benches. The kids love anything active, energetic. I have started craft activities, and the little ones love the Playdoh. We always finish by handing out home-made ice pops, and a few children deliberately arrive at the very end for the treat. I am trying to introduce some new ways of doing things. Please pray for additional people to help.

Home Life

I aim to have a whole day to myself each week, usually a Saturday, when I head off to walk to a beach and read a book. Occasionally I might talk to an English tourist or local person.

It's peaceful in the house apart from a chorus of howling dogs which happens most nights around 3am. All dogs are kept outside, often chained up.

I am getting to know my neighbours by name, Carleen and James who are local people and Florence who is French and has a little dog called Milou. She invited me round for tea one afternoon. Like many ex-pats she has been here years and ran a business, in her case a hotel, for many years.

I'm still looking for a church. My quest makes me appreciate the quality of teaching we receive in the UK. There is very little Bible teaching that relates to real life or world issues. No mention of the outside world, injustice, oppression. Most sermons are about victorious living, believing God for a miracle, praising God no matter what your circumstances. The King James version is used widely.



Sue Shaw

WORDS TO LIVE BY

Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
Your job won't take care of you when you are sick; your friends and parents will: stay in touch.
You don't have to win every argument; agree to disagree.
Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
Don't compare your life to others; you have no idea what their journey is all about.
Over prepare, and then go with the flow.
Be eccentric now; don't wait for old age to wear purple.
Frame every so-called disaster with these words: "In five years, will this even matter?"
What other people think of you is none of your business.
Your children only get one childhood.
If we threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.

-Regina Brett, 90 years old

Regular activities

Sunday:

15.30 Messy Church (monthly, but Sundays vary)

Monday:

10.00 Parents & Toddlers (during school terms)

Tuesday:

19.30 Book Club: 'Spiritual wellbeing' (third Tuesday monthly)
Speak to Linda Austin or Katie Frost for location

Wednesday:

10.00 Tots' Praise (during school terms)
13.10 Lunchtime service
14.00 & 19.30 Faith studies – check dates and frequency of short courses

Thursday:

19.00 International Friendship Café
19.30 Line Dancing

Friday:

13.00 Friday prayers
14.00 Quiz afternoon for Foyer guests (second Friday monthly)
14.00 Dancing with Lyn (ballroom and Latin American dancing)
22.00 All-night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)

Saturday:

10.00 Stay & Play (third Saturday monthly)
22.00 All-night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)

You can keep in touch with worship and activities at our church through our website: www.kingstonurc.org. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

How to contribute to *Church News*:

Contributions on matters of reflection and opinion as well as reports of activities are welcome. Copy for **Church News** must reach the editor, preferably by email, no later than midday on the **second Sunday of the month**.

The next copy deadline is 12 noon on Sunday 8 April; Editor: Jean Thompson

FINANCIAL DONATIONS may be made to the church in a number of ways, including via our *MyDonate* page, accessible through every page of our website at www.kingstonurc.org. You can also pay directly into our bank account: sort code 20-46-76, account number 33 05 49 42. If you would like more information on giving to KURC, please ask any elder.

Church News is the magazine of **Kingston United Reformed Church** which is a member of the **Local Ecumenical Project in Kingston Town Centre** with its partner, **All Saints Parish Church** in the Market Place.

The town centre ministers meet regularly.

*We are a part of **Churches Together in Kingston***

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To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see inside back cover

Kingston United Reformed Church - information

A warm invitation is given to all who read this magazine
to come and share in our services and activities

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OUR SUNDAY SERVICES

10.00 – Traditional Worship
(with communion first Sunday monthly)

11.30 – All Age Worship
(with communion on the last Sunday
monthly)

18.30 – Reflective Worship
(with communion on the third Sunday
monthly)

On the second Sunday of each month
a combined service at 10.30
replaces the 10.00 and 11.30 services

Tea and coffee are served
between the 10.00 and 11.30 services,
before the 10.30 service on the second
Sunday, and after the 18.30 service

During the 10.00, 10.30 and 11.30
services there are group activities for
children of all ages. Visiting children
are welcome to join them

Our Foyer is normally open every weekday and Saturday from 11.00 until 14.00 for coffee and tea. **The Sanctuary** is also open daily from 11.30 to 13.30 for private prayer, with access via the Foyer.

Need to talk to someone about a problem or concern? There is sometimes a designated listener available in the Foyer; if not, please speak to the coffee server or contact Lesley Charlton.

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