

CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH

Cnr Church Hill Road and Chatsworth Road,
Cheam, Sutton SM3 8LJ

NEWSLETTER MARCH/APRIL 2019

Lay Pastor: Mr John Dawson 020 8644 2331

john@nonsuchcottage.me.uk

Eucharist Minister: Rev Gill Long

gill.long@methodist.org.uk

SERVICES AT CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH (10.30am)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Service</i>
3 March	Mrs Lucy Brown	Ordinary 8
10 March	Revd Gill Long	Lent 1 Holy Communion
17 March	Mr Richard Smith	Lent 2
24 March	Mr John Dawson	Lent 3
31 March	Mr Alan Jameson	Mothering Sunday
7 April	Revd Rosemary Richter	Lent 5
14 April	Revd Gill Long	Palm Sunday
19 April	Mr John Dawson	Good Friday (10.am)
21 April	Revd Gill Long	Easter Day Holy Communion
28 April	Mr John Dawson	Easter 2

Hall Bookings: Audrey Saunderson – 020 8644 6911

www.cheammethodistchurch.org.uk

Church Charity Number: SI 2655/2007

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN DAWSON



Should a Lay Pastor's report say what the church has been doing, what the Lay Pastor has been doing or look to the future of the church? This one will try to do all three.

The church continues to meet each Sunday morning with a relaxed, welcoming style of worship and bible-based teaching. We are grateful for Rev. Gill Long coming to share Holy Communion with us each month.

The Tuesday activities for Tots and the Women's Friendly Hour give opportunities for the very young and the more mature to meet and socialise. Both these groups are run by hard working volunteers who are committed to sharing God's love to our wider community. The two homegroups continue to meet monthly to study, pray and support one another. Following our quinquennial report on the church building which picked up a number of areas of required work, we had a work day and will soon have another to address some of these issues.

All of this happens without me doing very much at all. The church functions in grace, love and service providing a place for worship, teaching, and support for one another.

As many know, I was diagnosed with cancer last summer and I started treatment in the autumn. As the treatment has progressed so have the side effects and therefore, I have had to suspend my studies at Roehampton university and also cut back what I do at our church. All I am attempting to do is preach once a month. I have around 4-5 months of treatment still ahead of me and I will not be able to increase my workload until after the treatment finishes. I am very grateful for the members of the leadership team who have led worship for me when I am preaching. I am also very thankful for all the support I have received from many members of the congregation. This support has taken many forms from lifts to cards expressing love and concern. I have also been touched by people sharing their own journeys through illness and difficult times. It

is an encouragement to hear how people have been sustained through difficult times. It is a privilege to hear these stories. It is so supportive for me to feel that I am not alone, but I am surrounded by such love from God's family here at Cheam Methodist. I thought I was supposed to be the pastor but you are pastoring me! Thank you.

While I have not been able to be so involved, I have had to opportunity to pray for and about the church and its future here. The first thing that comes to mind is the old saying that, "If you aim for nothing then that is what you will achieve".

As a church we need to pray. Pray and consider how we should be church here with the resources that we have available. Pray and ask God to show us a vision of what we should be doing and how we will be able to do it. Each day I pray a liturgy of morning prayer. It starts with the words, *Lord, open our lips and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.* These words are a reminder that all starts and ends with God. We were created to glorify and enjoy God but it is only with God's action that our lips are opened.

John

FAMILY CIRCLE

Spring is on its way! Snowdrops, crocuses, daffodils and blossom on some trees are all coming together with hellebores and other winter plants. The mild weather in February, sunny days and blue skies help to lift our spirits as the days grow longer.

We were sorry to hear that Heather Broadbent had passed away in January. Together with her husband, Cecil, children Richard, Michael and Helen, Heather participated in every aspect of Church life at Cheam, whether singing in the choir, leading class meetings, helping in the work

and upkeep of the building. Both she and Cecil had a strong faith and were regular worshippers. After Cecil retired they first moved to Yorkshire then to Wales to be nearer to Helen. The family were all at her bedside when she passed peacefully away. A letter of condolence was sent to the family from Cheam Methodist Church, the funeral being held on 22nd February in Penarth where they lived. Please keep Cecil and the family in your prayers for comfort and strength.

Our congratulations to Eric and Esther Randal who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 22nd February and we wish them many more happy years together. We are thankful for their loyal support as regular worshippers and we hear they enjoyed celebrating with the family.

Please continue to pray for our Lay Pastor, John, as he continues his treatment. Bless and heal him, Father God, as we thank him for his ministry to us. Prayers also for our minister, Gill, for strength in her work as Prison Chaplain and as she conducts our monthly Holy Communion service as well as leading the monthly house group. It is good to meet friends other than at Sunday services and we hope that more will join the regular monthly groups (see 'Dates for Your Diary' for details)

Many thanks to all who were able to help our Clear-up day and we thank the Leadership Team and all who help to keep our activities running smoothly – Tots, Women's Friendly Hour, Sutton Schoolswork etc We pray for healing for those we know who are having treatment at home or in hospital with special thanks to the lift-givers, flower deliverers and pastoral visitors. There is always much appreciation from the recipients.

God bless all our members and friends who continue to show both in work and action, the love of our Lord God and the fellowship and care that our church offers to the neighbourhood.

Mary Freeman

CHURCH NEWS AND NOTICES

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

During Lent



Climate change is happening. We can't ignore its effects any longer.

For fisherfolk like [Lope and Eva](#) and [Mary Ann](#) in the Philippines, life at the sharp end of climate change has pushed their communities to the edge of survival.

Follow their stories throughout Lent, [in your 'Count Your Blessings' calendar available at the back of the church.](#)

QUINQUENNIAL REPORT

Following the report in August 2018, we are required to address many repairs and maintenance concerns. The first phase, which is of the utmost emergency, is underway – the lobby roof has been repaired, we have begun to carry out treatment and eradication of woodworm in the transept, office and property room. An asbestos inspection needs to be carried out as well as other issues. These all come under Phase 1. A thermometer at the back of the church is recording each phase and if you would like to know what each of the phases covers, please ask David Worthington.

Naturally completing all the requirements will be very expensive and we would like to thank those members who have already made substantial donations to help with costs.

If you have any ideas how we might raise funds please share them with the Leadership Team or talk to John or Gill.



The following extract was received from the Children's Society.....

'Thank you so much for your gift of £103.28 raised at your special 50th anniversary Christingle service. It's thanks to dedicated supporters like you, that the money raised at Christingles over the last 50 years has helped over one million children in this country who felt scared, unloved and vulnerable to cope.

The funds Cheam Methodist Church have raised will be absolutely vital in ensuring that vulnerable children receive the support they so urgently need.

Brendan Delaney

Head of Supporter Relations

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

The service for Action for Children on 10 February raised £242. The speaker from Warren House, David Springer, thanked the congregation for their generosity and said that it would go towards vital work for the charity.

EASTER LILIES



As in recent years, white lilies will be displayed in the sanctuary on Easter Day. For those who wish to enter a message in memory of someone, the CMC book of remembrance will be available on the table at the back of the church. Donations towards the cost of the lilies would be appreciated and should be placed in the box provided.

SPRING GARDEN FAIR

Saturday 8th June 2pm



So it is time to take cuttings and plant seedlings in preparation for the Fair in June. It's also time to sift through your sheds, garages, attics etc for unwanted garden accessories - tools, pots, baskets, seeds etc as well as furniture, barbeque items, garden ornaments, lights – in fact anything you would find in the garden that you no longer use. Nearer the time there will be hanging baskets for you to take and plant up. We will particularly look forward to offering delicious cream teas once again.

PUZZLE PILE

Several of our members are avid jigsaw addicts! At the back of the church on the sound unit is a pile of puzzles for members to borrow. Use the pile as a lending library and return to the pile when completed. The pile will change from time to time before being put towards the next fair.



FEATURES

'**Tour de Sal**' is a cycle ride from London to Cardiff in tribute to our beautiful friend Sally Brett Young, who recently passed away after living with cancer for several years.

Shortly before her diagnosis, Sal and 4 of her friends arrived in Cardiff after a gruelling 190-mile cycle from London, raising over £4500 for their chosen charities. Sal's motivation to complete such a feat was to raise money for Myeloma UK, a charity focused on the development and access to new effective treatments for Myeloma, the type of cancer that Sal's mum, Cynthia, had been treated for.

We are planning to walk in Sally's footsteps (or to cycle in her tyre tracks to be more accurate!!) in memory of Sal's hard work and dedication, and to raise money for three charities that were particularly close to Sal's heart.....

Cancer Research UK whose pioneering work into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer has helped save millions of lives over the past 40 years.

A passionate advocate of women's rights, Sal supported the work of **Gilgal Birmingham**, a safe house providing short-term emergency accommodation and support to women and their children, who are escaping domestic violence.

Birmingham St. Mary's Hospice supports individuals living with life-limiting illness, and provides end of life care in the home, community or at the hospice.

The cyclists will be setting out on 29 March and if you would like to support them, any donations would be greatly appreciated. Please donate online at -

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SomeoneSpecial/SallyBrettYoung> or if you prefer, place your donation in the box provided at the back of the church and there will be one collective donation on behalf of CMC.

Many thanks.

AFRICAN PALMS

The aim of 'African Palms' is to give people living in a very poor part of Tanzania the possibility of earning some extra money. The people's daily work is the planting of maize, millet and some ground nuts to feed themselves and their families.

The important thing about the Palm Cross Project is that it does not interfere with their work of producing the food they need to live.

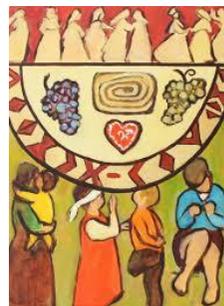
'African Palms' was started in 1965 by Fr Alan Talbot, an Anglican priest who served for six years as a missionary in the diocese of Masasi, Tanzania, and after a very small beginning has grown so that churches in the USA, Canada, Sweden, Norway and other European countries now buy African Palm Crosses for their Palm Sunday Service.



People look forward to be able to do the work. Their work is really good and the crosses are made beautifully. Here in the United Kingdom at the end of each year if there is any money over after all the costs are paid, it is covenanted to a charitable trust The African Palms Association. The trust aims to give help to schools and for medical work in the area.

The Revd Alan Talbot died early in 2018 at the age of 95.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



The annual service for WDoP was held at The Salvation Army Hall, in Sutton on Friday 1st March and an evening service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Wallington. Please continue to pray for the challenges of the small nation of Slovenia

www.wwdp.org.uk .



**Methodist
relief and
development**

On Sunday 17th March Banstead Methodist Church are organising a 'Light Lent Lunch' to raise funds for 'All We Can.' This will be followed by a presentation given by Aimee Nott who is an enthusiastic ambassador for the work they do.

Lunches will be served from 12.00 noon and the Presentation given at 1.00pm. For catering purposes the organisers require numbers by 12 March. So if you are interested please contact Banstead Methodist Church.

CINEMA ON YOUR DOORSTEP – well almost

(at Carshalton Methodist Church)

MARY MAGDALENE

Tuesday 16 April. Single showing at 7.30pm

Our Film for Holy Week tells the story of Mary of Magdala, a small village on the shores of Lake Galilee. It is based on the gnostic gospel of Mary, found outside the Bible. Mary is attracted by the charisma of the teacher, Jesus, and determines to follow Him. 2017 film.

Certificate rated 12A.

See the church website for more details – click on <http://www.carshalton-methodist.org.uk/events/utopians>

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SUTTON & CHEAM

Jane and Jenny attended the last meeting of CTSC, chaired by Rev Mark Williams, and held at CMC on Tuesday 12 February 2019.

Ric Adams (Sutton Christian Centre) gave information about the Good Friday Walk of Witness which will start at 10.00am on 19 April from outside Asda in Sutton High Street.

Mark gave a brief update on **Community Works** and explained that the latest project was providing winter shelters for rough sleepers. This was running during February and March and four churches were offering one night's shelter a week. A co-ordinator, helped by 80 volunteers, was overseeing the project. All other CW projects were continuing, including the Food Bank which was well used, especially by those on low incomes.

Please see www.suttoncommunityworks.org for more information.

Les Wileman (Sutton Christian Centre) informed us that Sutton Seniors was going well and said his vision was for every care home in Sutton to be visited by a church representative, and where the management of the home agreed, to hold a service of worship for the residents. Les hoped

that the Summertime Special for seniors would go ahead as usual later in the year.

Simon Merren (Trinity URC/Methodist) passed on a message from Colin Howard, Christian Aid co-ordinator, who was very concerned at the lack of house-to-house collectors resulting in far less funds being raised for the vital work of **Christian Aid**. All churches were encouraged to hold fund-raising events for CA if it was no longer possible for house-to-house collections to take place, and to ensure that CA envelopes are given out to church members and friends during CA Week, 12-18 May 2019 caweek@christian-aid.org

We heard from Simon that Trinity church would again be hosting the Easter Experience for local schools for one week in April.

Mark informed us of the following –

- The service held at Christ Church, Sutton, during the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** on Sunday 20 January was well attended.
- A service for the **World Day of Prayer 2019** will be held at 10.30am on Friday 1 March at the Salvation Army Church, Benhill Avenue, Sutton. All welcome.
- A new team rector for the three Anglican churches in Cheam has been appointed with effect from July 2019.

SUTTON SCHOOLSWORK

I am delighted to report that we continue to grow. Kate Travers, the new Secondary Schools Worker, has hit the ground running and is already getting herself known in several schools and has started delivering lessons and workshops already. Sarah Skinner continues to engage with hundreds of primary age children and thrill them with the news of a risen saviour, and Sara Kalembo never stops smiling in the office as she engages with our legion of supporters.

Our volunteers, who are absolute trojans in the faith, give up their time to assist with and support the work, and our family of supporting churches is expanding. Schools are contacting us for assistance, and we are making new bookings weekly.

Preparations for Easter Experience are hotting up, and we are getting closer to our Big Borough Quiz Night.

Our newsletter and Facebook page will provide more detail of actual activity, but if I could simply ask you to continue to be on your knees for the work of SSW as we seek to enlarge God's kingdom, for His glory alone, then I know that will enrich everything we do.

I thank God daily for His provision, His power and His grace, and I know many of you pray regularly for our work, and I thank God for you as well.

May you know His blessing as you seek to share the love of Christ in your own lives.

Simon Ellingham



Easter Experience preview!



You are invited to attend the public performance of Easter Experience, a dramatization of the events of Holy Week, which will be performed to over 1,000 primary school children in the London Borough of Sutton.

Carshalton Methodist Church Sunday 3rd March 5.30pm

Trinity Sutton Sunday 10th March 6.30pm

North Cheam Baptist Church Sunday 24th March 5.00pm



NEWS FROM RYELANDS

A few dates to put in your diary...

- Ryelands Summer Fair 29th June
- MHA service at Ryelands 6th October
- MHA service at Cheam 13th October

SUNDAY SERVICES IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

The aim of this section is to help us reflect on the services of the previous months. It will include details of the readings, and some brief notes from each service.

30th Dec Revd Mark Williams

Readings: Psalm 148
1 Samuel 2: 18 – 20, 26
Luke 2: 41 -end

*'Hannah dedicated her son to God
Mary dedicated her son to God and also dedicated herself.
In the temple Jesus was holding his own with the elders. Would they listen to him? Would they hear God speaking to them through a boy?
We should look forward to finding Jesus in unexpected places and in unexpected ways.'*

6th Jan Mrs Val Imms

Readings: Ephesians 3: 1 - 12
Matthew 2: 1 – 12

*'The lesser characters in the Christmas story – the magi, the shepherds and Joseph- showed that all people can approach God.
Where do we find God?
Do we know and love Him as He loves us?
Jesus came so that we can know God.
God wanted equality between all people.'*

13th Jan Revd Gill Long -Covenant Service

Readings:
A reading from the Law – Deuteronomy 29: 10 – 15
A reading from the Prophets – Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34
A reading from the Epistles – Romans 12: 1 – 2
A reading from the Gospel – John 15: 1 – 10

The covenant prayer

*I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
Rank me with whom you will;
Put me to doing, put me to suffering;
Let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,
Exalted for you or brought low for you;
Let me be full, let me be empty,
Let me have all things, let me have nothing;
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
To your pleasure and disposal.*

*And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
You are mine and I am yours.
So be it.*

*And the covenant now made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

20th Jan Mr Alan Jameson & Mr Witty Rajaratnam

Readings: Psalm 34
1 Corinthians 12: 1 – 11
John 2: 1 – 12

*'The miracle of the water into wine was the first in John's gospel written around 7 signs with a discourse following each one. These signs are a manifestation of the interpretation.
This event teaches us that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus takes ordinary people and does wonderful things provided they respond.
Do whatever He tells you – but do it in faith and it's surprising what He will do.'*

27th Jan Mr John Dawson

Readings: Nehemiah 8: 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 - 10
1 Corinthians 12: 12 – 31a
Luke 4: 14 – 21

“We are all in this together”

‘Nehemiah gives a picture of building up God’s Church, the people standing as a mark of respect to listen to God’s law read by Ezra. Ecclesia – the collective congregation of a church

Synagogue, (in [Greek](#) συναγωγή) – a building with the people as the important part.

We are all fallen human beings – we might be wrong but others might be right. There are no divisions between people We should recognize gifts in other people as we are all part of the same body. We are more than Cheam Methodist Church – we are part of something bigger.’

3rd Feb Mr Ernest Tsui

Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-14

“Look beyond the surface”

‘God’s focus has always been what’s inside our hearts.

- *Look beyond the surface for what’s inside*
- *Look beyond the surface for change*
- *Look beyond the surface for growth*

Do we live life that others can see Jesus in us?’

10th Feb Revd Gill Long

Readings: Isaiah 6: 1 – 8
1 Corinthians 15: 1 – 11
Luke 5: 1 - 11

‘Why did Jesus choose 7 fishermen as His disciples?’

- *they expect to take orders*
- *they know how to pull together as a team*
- *they are dedicated and need a great deal of patience*

- *they are brave – caught in fierce storms*
- *they are skilled at using fishermen’s tools*

Sometimes our expectations take the deepest plunge – our nets come up empty.’

17th Feb Mr John Dawson

Readings: Psalm 1
Luke 6: 17 – 26

“Two ways to live”

‘Blessed are the poor, woe to you who are rich.....

- *our Christian lives should get a reaction from people around us*
- *don’t put your trust in ‘stuff’. If you find your identity in your work beware it is as dust*

We should be like trees rooted in streams of living water. How do our roots grow?’

24th Feb Mr Sang Wook Han

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15: 35 – 38, 42 - 50
Luke 6: 27 - 38

‘Luke makes the analogy of transformation to that of seeds. A seed is given a new body. A concern for some is that transformation is from bodily to spiritual – Jesus was not resuscitated but transformed.

The most difficult thing that Jesus requires of us is to love our enemies. How do we do it? We should do it by our actions of love...

- *do good*
- *speak a blessing out loud*
- *pray and intercede*

God’s love is one sided -we should expect nothing in return and it is often rejected or ignored.’

Readers required...

If you feel you could be added to the Sunday morning readers list, please let one of the Leadership team, or John , know.

PRAYER TOPICS FOR MARCH AND APRIL

Pray for.....

- renewal as we lead up to Lent and Easter
- the family and friends of the footballer and pilot who died following the plane crash in the English Channel
- stability in our government over Brexit
- and give thanks for the generosity of our members supporting our Quinquennial Report target



For further daily prayers look in the Methodist Church Prayer Handbook 2018/19 and on our website.

CHURCH FLOWERS

The latest donations for the Church's floral displays have been.....

January	6 th	Audrey Saunderson IMO her son Philip
	13 th	Jennifer Evans I.M.O. her parents
	20 th	Pauline Cleall
	27 th	Wendy Green
February	3 rd	Mary & Bob Freeman for Bob's 80 th birthday on the 4 th
	10 th	June Jupp
	17 th	Tea Fund
	24 th	Esther & Eric Randall's Golden Wedding Anniversary on 22 nd

A flower calendar is available on the notice board at the back of the church so if you would like to donate money towards flowers on a particular date, please enter your name against the date and give the money to Audrey. Any other donations for the flower fund would be very much appreciated, so if you would like to contribute, you will find the flower basket on the table at the back of the church – alternatively, please give your donation directly to Audrey.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving flowers previously displayed in church, please let Mary Freeman or Jenny Delafond know.



Unsung Heroes

We are fortunate at our church to have many unsung heroes. These folk regularly carry out tasks 'behind the scenes' for the benefit of us all, and our sincere thanks are due to them. And to those responsible for coming out early every Sunday morning during the winter months to turn the heating on so that when we arrive for worship the church is warm and comfortable, a very special 'thank you' from us all.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

January	6 th	£191.90
	13 th	£252.30
	20 th	£160.50
	27 th	£159.69
February	3 rd	£220.00
	10 th	£172.00
	17 th	£219.00
	24 th	£205.20

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

Tues. 5 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women Friendly Hour -Sandra Ash Watchdog, St Helier & Epsom Hospitals
Wed. 6 th	8.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service – H.C.
Sun. 10 th	10.30am	Speaker – Mark Tomlinson from Sutton Community Works
Tues. 12 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour - Colin Blake Music CDs Songs beginning with ‘C’
Wed. 13 th	8.00pm	House Group at Audrey Saunderson’s home
Tues. 19 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour Doris Richards – Palestine
Fri. 22 nd	8.00pm	House Group at Mary Freeman’s home
Sun. 24 th	10.30am	Speaker – Simon Ellingham from Sutton Schoolswork
Tues. 26 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour Fish & Chips lunch at 1.00pm followed by Members Afternoon
Sat. 30 th	10.00am	Making Posies for Mothering Sunday

APRIL

Mon. 1 st	8.00pm	Leadership Team Meeting at Audrey Saunderson’s home
Tues. 2 nd	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour Members Afternoon – Favourite CDs
Wed. 3 rd	8.00pm	House Group at Audrey Saunderson’s home

Tues. 9 th		No Cheam Tots or Women’s Friendly Hour - closed for Easter
Sun. 14 th	3.00pm	Messy Easter
Tues. 16 th		No Cheam Tots or Women’s Friendly Hour - closed for Easter
Thur. 18 th	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri. 19 th		Walk of Witness (meeting at North Cheam 9.45am)
	10.00 am	Good Friday service
Sat. 20 th	10.00am	Decorating Church for Easter followed by ‘Super Soup’ lunch
Tues. 23 rd	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour – Simon Ellingh from Sutton Schoolswork
Fri. 26 th	8.00pm	House Group at Mary Freeman’s home
Sun. 28 th	6.30pm	United Circuit Service at Carshalton Methodist Church (Jazz Vespers)
Tues. 30 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour Members Afternoon & Preparing for the Rally

Church Leadership Team

David Worthington (8644 5160), Brian Kingswood (8641 0016), Jane Wasbrough (8641 4304), Mary Freeman (8644 3999), Audrey Saunderson (8644 6911), and Charles Ponnuthurai (8644 3367).

Hall bookings Audrey Saunderson 020 8644 6911

The content in the *Newsletter* is the responsibility of the Church Leadership Team. Articles, news, ideas and comments can be emailed to Jane Wasbrough on jane.wasbrough@btinternet.com

The deadline for the May/June Newsletter is

Friday 26th April

