

Dear Friends,

*Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you. Pope Francis*

It seems obvious to me - but I think it is worth reminding ourselves (particularly after the last week or two) that life in our communities and our society is so much better when we live our lives for others as well as for ourselves. Both of those things are important. Jesus said - 'Love others as you love yourself.' Love of self is important. That's not about putting ourselves selfishly in front of others all the time, but it is about tending to our needs. Being kind to ourselves, not constantly looking for reasons to beat ourselves up over things that we haven't done. Not feeling guilty all the time. All of that is crucially important. Learning to be kind to ourselves, learning to love ourselves is an important part of what Jesus is saying here.

BUT - a big part of that is also learning to love others as well. Learning that we are born to help each other is a huge part of what it means to be alive. Learning to accept that we need help from time to time is also a huge part of that. As we step away from the riots of the past days and look at our society again, we need to preach this message more strongly than ever. The world is a happier place if other people in the world are happier because of us. And as far as Jesus is concerned, that's **all** people. The people who look and speak like us and those that don't. The people who we agree with and those who we don't. There are lots of people and organisations at the moment in the world who, for a range of different motives, want to sow anger and fear. I'm tired of that agenda - and as a Christian it is deep in my DNA to talk and act and think in ways that make love more clear in the world.

So, I am more thankful than I can ever express for saintly people who live that message out. People who walk this path of living out love. People like Sylvia Kelley who I was so sorry to hear of her passing. Sylvia, who lived out a life of love both at a circuit level and at Godalming. Her work as a circuit steward in the former Guildford and Godalming Circuit and her commitment to safeguarding in all areas, and whose work with young people lived out a life that shared happiness with others. Saintly people who by their lives and example live out that message of Pope Francis.

So, we continue to live for love and peace and to share happiness and grace and love and we give humble thanks for those who have shown us how it is done.

Paul

Sylvia's funeral is at Godalming United Church on Thursday August 29th at 12.30pm. If you are planning to attend and would like to stay for the light lunch afterwards, would you please let Alan Steele know.

**Resources/Good News**

**The Surrey Hills Wood Fair**

**Cranleigh Showground, 7 & 8 September 10am to 6pm**

There will be something for everyone to enjoy, with a strong focus on families and practical activities with lots for both adults and children to do from tree climbing and horse and wagon rides to woodland demonstrations and activities to a whole host of wood-crafted stalls and of course fabulous local food and drink to enjoy.

EARLY BIRD TICKETS – adults are £12.50 if booked before Midday on Friday 6th September or £15.00 on the day.

Children under 16 and carers of those with disabilities go free.

[Surrey Hills Wood Fair 2024 - Surrey Hills National Landscape](#)

**Saturday 24 August, Knaphill Coffee Morning:**

**MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING**

**AND SALE**

TEA  
COFFEE  
BISCUITS  
BACON BUTTIES

**BOOKS, DVDs,  
JIGSAWS, CAKES,  
BRIC-A-BRAC & MORE**

**KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

**4th Saturday every month (except December)**

**10am to Noon**

**COFFEE  
AND CAKE  
AT ST. MARY'S  
QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP**

**MAY – AUGUST  
2024**

**10.30 – 12.00**



*Everyone welcome*

**Thursday 23 May**

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**Thursday 27 June**

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**Thursday 25 July**

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**Thursday 22 August**

*- each month features a different charity*



# Welcome Service

for

**Rev Shaun Sanders**

**Circuit Minister with pastoral care for  
Addlestone, Byfleet, Walton-on-Thames  
and Weybridge**

Light refreshments will be served after the service



Retiring Collection for the Fund for Presbyters and Deacons

**Sunday 1 September 2024 3.00pm**

**Walton-on-Thames Methodist Church**

Terrace Road, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2SR

# Stroke Café

**Cranleigh - Surrey Hills Rehab and Stroke Recovery Service**

The stroke café offers an informal place for people affected by stroke to meet with others in a similar situation and socialise within a relaxed café setting.

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**At Snoxhall Community Centre**

Dates September 3rd 2024

Times 11:00

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Rebuilding lives after stroke

For more information contact the Cranleigh - Surrey Hills Rehab and Stroke Recovery Service. Telephone: 07860187653 or email [elena.vasiliu@stroke.org.uk](mailto:elena.vasiliu@stroke.org.uk)

**Stroke**  
Association



**You are invited to a Cream Tea**

**Godalming United Church  
Bridge Road, Godalming, GU7 3DU**

**Saturday 7th September 2024**

**2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

**In the GUC Church Gardens or River Room  
(depending on the weather!)**

**Donations in aid of the Gambian Ophthalmic Project  
which provides funds for cataract operations and follow-up  
care.**





# COFFEE MORNING



TEA  
COFFEE  
BISCUITS  
BACON  
BUTTIES

IN AID OF

# AND SALES

Bacon Butties!



# KSSX

AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY  
KENT SURREY SUSSEX

Registered Charity No: 1021367

There will be various stalls including:  
Cakes, Body shop, Raffle, Tombola, Bric - a - Brac.  
Guess the Weight of the Cake, Guess the Name of Teddy,  
Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar & Model Railway.  
*Offers of help and donations of items welcome! Contact Tarina Berry*

To be opened by **JONATHAN LORD**

**KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

**Saturday 7th September 2024**

**10am to Noon**

**[www.knaphillmethodist.co.uk](http://www.knaphillmethodist.co.uk)**

