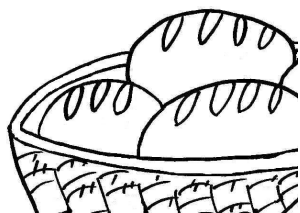


Wallington United Reformed Church



CONTACT

No. 342

September 2021

Wallington United Reformed Church



Dear Friends,

As I may have mentioned before, one of my favourite television programmes is The Repair Shop. In the programme a group of expert restorers from different disciplines are presented with a beloved object that has deteriorated over time or because of accident, and the programme shows what they manage to do with it. The team always ask what the owner would like them to do with the object, seeking to understand whether they want it to look 'as good as new' or, as is usually the case, being sympathetically restored showing the life that has been lived.

There are experts in many skills including working with wood, metal, ceramics, fabrics, leather and clocks. However there is one skill that is not present in The Repair Shop. As far as I know they have no one skilled in the art of Kintsugi.

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the breakage with lacquer dusted or mixed with gold and it treats the breakage and repair as part of the history of an object rather than something to disguise. In fact, by the use of gold, it makes the object more valuable.

The media and commentators are quick to criticise those in the public eye for failings and foibles, even when committed many years before. Whilst I agree that we should all be accountable for the things we say and do, we need to be wary of expecting perfection from others. Duolingo (an app on my phone which is, allegedly, helping to improve my Greek) reminds me from time to time that we are not seeking perfection but rather progression. We are all 'a work in progress' and whilst that helps us to not be overly critical of ourselves it should also remind us to treat others gently. None of us is perfect and none of us is without damage but the amazing good news of the Gospel is that does not make us less valuable to God, nor should it make us less valuable to others.

Kintsugi highlights the breakages and makes them a cause for

celebration and wonder. The mis-steps and stumblings in our lives are the opportunities to recognise where we have something to learn about ourselves, others and our world. Hopefully we discover something that moves us further in our journey to be more Christ-like – we are not perfect but we are making progress. As the Canadian singer-songwriter, Leonard Cohen, puts it 'There is a crack in everything; that's how the light gets in.'

Let's remember that we are not perfect, nor are those around us, and see that as an opportunity for growth not a reason to be harsh with ourselves or others.

Craig Bowman



Kintsugi Hope

In a recent copy of our 'Contact' magazine there was a report from the Sutton Schools Christian Workers. There was a reference to the fact that Greenshaw High School had re-made contact with the workers and that the school had contemplated introducing Kintsugi Hope.

Intrigued by what Kintsugi Hope meant, I began researching. I found that Kintsugi is a 400 year old Japanese craft - basically mending broken pots with golden glue so that the end result is more precious than the original.

Kintsugi Hope was founded by Patrick Regan and his wife, Diane, when they both reached rock-bottom in their lives physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

Patrick described what led him to start Kintsugi Hope:-

"Following a series of life-changing events, including a lot of surgery, life became increasingly overwhelming. This had an impact on my emotional and mental health. I ended up suffering from anxiety and depression. I felt broken and filled with shame. However, when I opened up and shared my brokenness I found I wasn't alone, I learnt that being honest about my struggles not only helped me but also opened the door for many others to be honest too. It was so much easier facing difficult situations with others than on your own.

I then discovered Kintsugi - the Japanese art of mending broken pots with golden glue. The gold makes a feature of the cracks instead of hiding them. All of us have broken pieces, but instead of hiding them we can learn from them. We can discover treasure in our own scars."

Kintsugi Hope is a registered mental Health Charity. Its vision is of a world where mental and emotional health is understood and accepted with safe and supportive communities for everyone to grow and flourish.

Kathleen

Our Wider Community

We are now reaching the end of August when the pupils in some schools in different parts of the country have already returned to the classroom.

With the start of the new school year most students are moving on, either to a new class, maybe a new school, or moving on to the next important stage of their education, going on into 6th form, or university.

We send prayers to all those who received their exam results this summer, and offer our prayerful support as they make serious decisions about their next stage.

We have been able to enjoy many sports over the last few months, not least the Olympics, and now the Paralympics take centre stage. May the competitors feel loved, supported and valued as they now show the world their achievements.

We continue to uphold all who are unwell, handicapped, disabled, anxious or concerned for loved ones, and those who are housebound or have any difficulties at this time.

May God grant you his peace.

If you have any news of the church family to bring us up to date please contact Alan. 020 8274 2136

Or Email: pastoral@wurc.org.uk

Names will only be shared in the version of Contact which goes to our usual fellowship and not put into the version posted on our website.

We remember....

Eileen Marshall

29th July 1926 - 11th June 2021

The world into which Eileen arrived
From 1926 was sweet
There were few cars around about her
She played safely in the street.
When in her teens the Second World War
Transformed her settled scene
As her grammar school evacuated
To Windsor... safe and green.

Meanwhile in Clapham...

Eileen and her family
Decided they would stay
Until the bombs blitzed in September
And on the 7th dropped their way.
19 gathered in her house that night
They'd come from church nearby
The bombs fell rather close to home
So they decided by the by...

To go to Cheltenham...

To go to her Grandma's Sister's home
And in Cheltenham they stayed
Until things got much better
And they were less afraid.

Meanwhile back in Clapham...

Their garden had a UXB
Which sank beneath the soil
The bomb squad came upon the scene
And so began their toil.
Together with some miners
Who propped up tunnels with their gear
They diffused the situation
And helped allay the fear.

Eileen was reunited with her father
Who'd remained in their Clapham home
By the third week of December
They were together not alone.

A move into Carshalton
Would soon follow suit
And a new school then awaited
Where her studies would bear fruit.
She attended Wallington Girls School
Where she concentrated well
Where the future was to take her
Only life could tell.

She went onto Pitmans College
Studied book-keeping, typing too
With shorthand an extra asset
This is what would see her through.

Then in 1946...

She started working in accounts
At the college where she'd been
Transferred her skills to the CID
To join the office team.
For fourteen years in Wallington
In this office she resided
Coped with all the paperwork
Until she then decided...

To try her hand at Technical Teacher Training after 14
years with the Police...

From Garnett College then to Barnet
Further education was her goal
She rose to senior lecturer
Embraced it heart and soul.
There she remained till '81
When it was that she retired

At 55 she decided that her teaching days
Really had expired.
With the onset of computers
And the new technology
She felt it might be better
To step back and so be free.

Since retirement...

She worshipped at the URC
Deep down in Wallington
The job of assistant treasurer
Was one thing that spurred her on.
Her zest for life and love for God
Were to be her sure foundation
And her omni present laughter
Pervaded every situation.
Despite her trouble hearing
She'd be cheerful all the while
And with all those she encountered
She always wore a smile.

She continued helping others
Until the very week she died
Some sick and less than able
On Eileen had relied.
Laughter was her first motto
Throughout her many years
Even today... she'd wish you to be cheerful
And not shed countless tears...
For the journey she's now undertaking
Will pass through Heaven's gate
Where her loved ones will be waiting
And her joy will not abate.

We remember....

Harold Claridge

29th November 1926 - 5th August 2021

Harold was born in Wordsworth Road, Wallington to Frederick and Amy Claridge. He was one of two sets of twins. His older siblings were Mary and Margery, and his twin was Christine. He was the last survivor in the family as Margery died aged 12, Christine aged 54 and Mary aged 90.

Harold's family were keen Methodists and his father built the present Bandon Hill Church. There are dedications to members of the family in the church - notably the pulpit and the Communion Table.

On leaving school Harold did a Secretarial Course and became a cub reported with the local Herald Newspaper (now defunct) based at Hackbridge. He did his National Service in the Army at the end of the war and served as a Staff Sergeant in India and Ethiopia.

After his demob Harold returned to Wordsworth Road. His next door neighbours were Presbyterians and when he was invited to their daughter's 21st Birthday Party he met a number of members of the Fellowship of Youth (FOY) from that church.

He was persuaded to join FOY and it was there he met Kathleen in 1948, who was 16 at the time. Harold became chairman of FOY with Kathleen as the secretary, they married in 1954.

They had three daughters, Rosalind in 1957, Anna-Lisa in 1962 and Jacqueline in 1966.

Harold became disillusioned with newspaper reporting, feeling it was too intrusive into people's lives, and after a spell of working for the Surrey County Council, in the central purchasing department at Kingston, he began training, in 1958, in London, as a Home Teacher for the blind. This involved teaching Braille and also handicrafts to adults in their own homes. He worked first for the Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind and then, when the new Greater London Boroughs were formed in 1965, for the London Borough of Sutton, working from the old Town Hall in Wallington. He later took his Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW) and returned to work for the Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind from where he retired in 1995.

Harold and Kathleen were both founder members of the Sutton Association for the Blind (founded in 1965) and Kathleen became Chairman until 1999. They were also founder members of Sutton

Talking Newspaper, with Harold producing their STN newsletters, as well as being a reader.

From the early 60s both were working with the Friendly Club for the Blind in Sutton and until a few months before his death Harold was President of the Club, with Kathleen as Chairman.

In his retirement Harold volunteered with the Sutton Association for the Blind (now Sutton Vision) in their Resource Centre.

Harold had a great sense of humour. He was a member of the Holmwood Players Drama Group and became its chairman before it closed in the 1990s. He entertained with his monologues and probably his biggest audience was in 2013 when he entertained over 500 passengers on a Norwegian Cruise Ship.

Harold was a member of a number of exercise classes - going back to the days of Lesley Charlton, he was a member of her Aerobics Group and more recently was a member of Sarah's Senior Movers at church. He enjoyed playing table tennis and was a member of Carshalton Beeches, Baptist Church, Social Club.

Christmas time since 2000 saw Harold helping with the Churches Together Christmas Day Lunch, where he entertained with his monologues and acted as Father Christmas for many years.

When his legs started playing him up he enjoyed his 'Friday walk in the park' with Pat, Maggie and Elaine taking it in turns to support him on the walks.

In spite of his busy life he enjoyed his family and was very proud of all their achievements. Fortunately his death did not overshadow the marriage (postponed from 2020 due to Covid) of Katherine on 31st July in Exeter.

Harold died just five days later.

Kathleen Claridge and family would like to thank all those who have expressed their sympathy at this sad time. Harold was a very loving husband, father and grandfather as well as being very outgoing in the community.

Thank you

Praise in the Park

**The churches of Wallington are
holding an exciting event
in Beddington Park on
September 12th at 11 am**

This past 18 months has been a challenge for many of us,
and we invite you to join us:

...to remember those we have lost (we will invite people to
tie a leaf or a ribbon to a tree with their loved one's name on)

...to celebrate all those who have
worked hard to support our community
during this time

...to hear a message of hope from
renowned speaker Frog Orr-Ewing



The event will be opened by the Mayor of
Sutton and our local MP Elliot Colburn will contribute.



Join us in Beddington Park on
12th September at 11am
- organised by Holy Trinity
Wallington Church, St Patricks
Wallington Church & Springfield
Church

We will then have a picnic together (food vans available) and a
music festival. The event will close with a short message and a
praise finale.

WURC Sunday Mornings

As we get used to live services, live readings, and being able to talk to other people a little more easily, it is lovely to say we have started to serve coffee after the Sunday Service once more.

Everyone is very welcome to stay for coffee (or tea) after the service, and have time to catch-up with a few friends.

It has been lovely to see so many of our friends and families at church over a number of weeks.

As people become more confident we look forward to celebrating our

Harvest Festival

with a 'bumper' congregation to celebrate a 'bumper' harvest. We hope you will be able to come to celebrate with us on

19th September.



SUTTON
CARERS
CENTRE

CARING FOR YOU AS YOU CARE FOR OTHERS

A Network Partner of

**CARERS
TRUST**

**Caring for you as
you care for others**

Sutton Carers Centre aims to provide both Young and Adult Carers (children and adults) with free information, advice, practical and emotional support. They run support groups to provide information sharing and an opportunity to meet with people who may have similar experiences.

Such as carers of people with learning disabilities.

They run workshops and offer advice.

They help carers to ensure they get all the benefits they are entitled to.



Tea, Coffee & Cakes With Raffle



Saturday 25th September
2pm to 5pm

Wallington United Reformed Church
Stanley Park Road SM6 OEU



**SUTTON
CARERS
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TRUST**



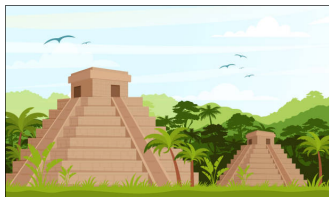
Charity Fundraiser
for Sutton Carers
Centre, to support
James' Marathon
Run

Commitment for Life

Prayer Partners resource offers prayers based on 'Life-giving faith, defiant hope, generous

love'. The prayers can be used to help people focus on generosity of mind and spirit.

September: Prayer for Central America



Wendy Cooper

Loving God, you constantly remind us that

all people are made in your image.

Thank you

that as we support the work of our partners,

we can put names to faces

and be challenged by their example to be change makers in our lives.

We pray for our partner countries in

Central America,

especially as they struggle to cope with the

ongoing impact of corona-virus on the most vulnerable.

We give thanks: for the inspiring people

working together in projects that are

transforming the lives of their communities;

for those speaking out against injustice,

motivating others in the fight against

corruption and for transparency;

and for those training and empowering indigenous young people.

In the love of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.





Cupcake Day

Although the Cake Stall was postponed, we did eventually manage to offer lots of cakes, together with some books and DVDs, to people going along Stanley Park Road. We had a lovely time chatting to many passers-by, and selling them cakes too!

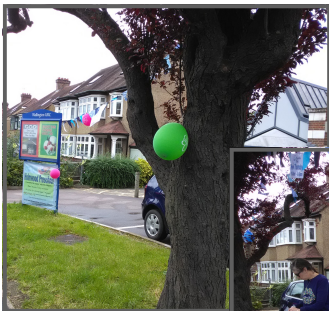
I would like to say a **BIG** '*Thank You*' to Caroline, who was there to help throughout the day, and to Betty Roberts and Elaine McDowall, who also came along to offer their support.

An extra £140 was raised for The Alzheimer's Society throughout that day.

By the end of July **£379**

had been raised for

The Alzheimer's Society,
which is a
fantastic total.



As we continue to raise money for a local charities by selling face coverings.

If you need a new face covering, please feel free to check our stock.

**Wear a
It's a piece**



We now have a couple of baskets with a range of designs and colours for anyone to look through, rather than a selection hanging on the 'Mask Tree'.

'OFF THE RECORD' We are supporting for the next few weeks. They have a range of free, friendly and accessible support services for young people aged 14-25 who live, work or study in the Borough of Sutton. Free counselling and mental health support is offered to children and young people in Croydon, Merton and Sutton.

The charity was set up in 1994 to help young people going through tough times. Support is offered to young people affected by loss and violence, there is text-based counselling and workshops for 11-25 year olds, and they offer new projects for boys and young men in Croydon and Merton. Support from Off the Record is primarily for young people; however, from time to time they can offer support to parents or carers in the form of groups or workshops. The work with young people is completely separate and confidential.



Diary Dates			
September			
Sunday	5th	10.30am	Morning service...with the Sacrament of Holy Communion...to be led by Revd Craig Bowman
Sunday	12th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Rev Bruce Stuart
Sunday	19th	10.30am	Harvest Festival Service to be led by Revd Craig Bowman
Sunday	26th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Paul Hollingum
October			
Sunday	3rd	10.30am	Morning service...with the Sacrament of Holy Communion...to be led by Revd Craig Bowman
Sunday	10th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Dr Alan Cruchley

PLEASE NOTE... Articles for the October 2021 issue of **Contact** should be given to Janet or Robin Willis by **Wednesday 22nd September** unless a later date has been agreed by prior arrangement. Contributions are very acceptable by e-mail: [jmw321wmj @ yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmw321wmj@yahoo.co.uk).

We have continued with the Puzzle Corner in Contact.
Please let us have any appropriate feedback.

Do you enjoy the puzzles?

Sudoku Answers for July:

8	9	3	6	5	4	7	1	2
2	5	7	8	3	1	6	9	4
4	1	6	9	2	7	5	8	3
9	8	5	3	1	6	4	2	7
3	7	2	5	4	9	1	6	8
6	4	1	7	8	2	3	5	9
7	6	8	1	9	3	2	4	5
1	2	9	4	7	5	8	3	6
5	3	4	2	6	8	9	7	1

Puzzle Corner

Bible Quiz: Famous Bible Quotations

1) "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his _____; and all these things shall be added unto you."

- ☐ love
- ☐ justice
- ☐ righteousness
- ☐ peace

2) "_____ shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

- ☐ This life
- ☐ The sun and moon
- ☐ All evil
- ☐ Heaven and earth

3) "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto _____, ye have done it unto me."

- ☐ the righteous
- ☐ the poor and needy
- ☐ one of the least of these my brethren
- ☐ sinners and saints

4) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that _____ shall not perish but have eternal life." (NIV)

- ☐ whoever keeps his commandments
- ☐ Christians
- ☐ all the nations
- ☐ whoever believes in him

5) "He that is without sin among you, let him _____."

- ☐ take up his cross and follow me
- ☐ be the first among you
- ☐ enter the kingdom of God
- ☐ first cast a stone

6) "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not _____, it does not boast, it is not proud." (NIV)

- ☐ doubt
- ☐ judge
- ☐ criticize
- ☐ envy

7) "I am _____, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

- ☐ the Lord, your God
- ☐ Alpha and Omega
- ☐ first, last and always
- ☐ the creator and judge

8) "Man shall not live by _____ alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

- ☐ food and drink
- ☐ wine and water
- ☐ bread
- ☐ the law

Bible Word Search: Daniel Chapter 1

All the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and then move the leftover letters in the correct order to form the **mystery answer**.

Achaia, Antioch,
Arabia, Assyria,
Babel, Beersheba,
Berea, Bethel,
Bethlehem, Cana,
Caria, Cilicia, Corinth,
Damascus, Egypt,
Elim, Emmaus,
Ethiopia, Galilee,
Gibeon, Gilead,
Greece, Haran, Hatti,
Hebron, India, Jaffa,
Jericho, Jerusalem,
Judah, Lebanon,
Lystra, Midian, Moab,
Mount Zion, Nineveh,
Palestine, Persia,
Rome, Samaria, Sinai,
Zeredathah, Zorah

N	N	S	I	N	A	I	A	H	C	A	C	M	Z	A
A	O	S	E	N	P	D	A	E	L	I	G	J	O	R
I	R	U	N	O	N	A	B	E	L	R	R	E	R	T
D	B	A	O	E	D	N	B	I	M	A	E	R	A	S
I	E	M	B	B	A	T	C	E	E	M	E	U	H	Y
M	H	M	A	I	M	I	L	E	H	A	C	S	M	L
I	C	E	I	G	A	O	E	H	E	S	E	A	P	E
N	A	E	R	A	S	C	U	T	L	S	R	L	A	H
D	N	L	A	I	C	H	B	N	H	H	T	E	L	T
I	A	I	C	S	U	T	A	I	T	I	A	M	E	E
A	N	L	N	R	S	P	O	R	E	Z	O	T	S	B
E	B	A	B	E	L	Y	M	O	B	R	I	P	T	A
R	O	G	R	P	V	G	R	C	I	A	O	O	I	I
E	A	F	F	A	J	E	R	I	C	H	O	M	N	A
B	J	U	D	A	H	A	H	T	A	D	E	R	E	Z

		8		5	2		4	
	5		9		4	3		6
	6	9				2		
3	4		7					2
6				4	5			7
1					6		3	4
		6		9			1	
		4	5		1			3
5			2	7		4		9

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 by 9 grid. This grid is subdivided into nine 3 x 3 boxes.

Some of the cells in the grid are prefilled with a number between 1 and 9, while many other cells are blank. Your job is to determine the correct number to be entered in each of the empty cells.

The numbers 1 to 9 must appear just once in each row, column, and 3 x 3 box.

EVERY WEEK AT WALLINGTON U.R.C.

Times of Worship

Sunday 10.30am Family Service

Activities you can find on our Premises

Monday - Friday *9.15am-1.15pm Holmwood Pre – school*

Monday	10.00-11.00am	Yoga
	2.00-4.00pm	Bananas Art
	4.15-7.30pm	Reigate Academy of Dance
	7.45-10.00pm	Explorer Scouts
Tuesday	9.15am-1.20pm	Hartbeeps (mother and baby activities)
	1.40-3.40pm	U3A Art group
	5.00-6.00pm	Rainbows
	6.00-7.30pm	Brownies (10th Wallington)
	8.00-10.00pm	Epsom Downs Badminton, Winter(Sept-May)
Wednesday	7.30-10.00pm	Chess Club
Thursday	11.00-12.00noon	Senior Movers Exercise
	2.00-4.00pm	Ladies' Badminton, Winter(Sept-May)
	2.00-4.00pm	Fallen Angels Drama
	4.20-7.20pm	Reigate Academy of Dance
	7.25-10.00pm	Carshalton & Wallington Art Group
Friday	9.30am-12.30pm	NAS Coffee morning
	6.45-8.30pm	Guides(8th Wallington)
Saturday	8.15-9.45am	Fitness
	9.00-10.00	Yoga
	10.00-12.30pm	Zumba



South London Tamil Church (SLTC)

**SLTC are also now using
our premises for their
Sunday services.**

**Their service starts at 3pm,
and everyone is welcome to join them.**