

October - November 2020

ENCOUNTER



<http://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/redhillmethodistchurch/>



MESSY CHURCH

Redhill Methodist Messy Church continues to offer resources to enable us to share together in Christ-centred fellowship through creativity, hospitality and celebration at home.

New sessions appear on the Messy Church page of the church website very month on Messy Church day. Look for new ideas on Saturday 17th October and 21st November.



Rock cake Recipe

8 oz (225 g) self-raising flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
4 oz (100 g) soft margarine
2 oz (50 g) granulated sugar
4 oz (100 g) mixed dried fruit
2 oz (50 g) currents
1 egg
About 1 tablespoon milk

Just in case
you missed
this in August.
Enjoy!

Method

Pre-heat oven 200o/400oF/Gas 6 lightly greased a large baking tray

Measure flour and baking powder into a large bowl, add margarine and rub in with fingertips until mixture resembles fine bread crumbs.

Stir in the sugar and fruit. Add the egg and milk and mix to a stiff mixture. If dry, add a little more milk.

Using a spoon, shape mixture into 8 large or 12 smaller rough mounds, and place onto prepared baking tray. Sprinkle with Demerara sugar.

Bake in the pre-heated oven for about 15 minutes or until a pale golden brown at the edges. Cool on a wire rack.

Messy Church at Home

**More resources can be found on the Messy Church website
[here](https://www.messychurch.org.uk)**

**May God bless all our Messy Church families and
volunteers until we are able to meet together again.**

FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Everyone,

“May you live in interesting times.” This saying purportedly originating from China is not entirely as well-intentioned as it may sound. Living in *interesting* times tends to run parallel with times of instability, uncontrollable changes, confusion, anxiety, apprehension even feelings of loss; things feel overwhelming and I doubt I am alone in feeling this way. So, may you **not** live in interesting times!

The recent news that once again there is a need to return to a time of more restrictions feels particularly oppressive maybe because it coincides with this time of seasonal change when warm long summer days give way to colder, shorter and darker days of the coming autumn.

We should at this time be celebrating the fact that we have been able to return to church and maybe looking forward to further loosening of restrictions. Instead of which we have the opposite and in addition all the signs of difficult times ahead for many in our community.

People who were gradually gaining the confidence to emerge from the confines of their four walls have once again been thrown back into apprehension behind locked doors. The return to the workplace for some has been reversed, and many who had just returned to their offices are now back working at home. For others life has become extremely hard as furloughing schemes have ended and employers are unable to sustain jobs. Unemployment is rising, and foodbanks already are noting a rise in demand. We know what our Christian response should be even though it often feels like tiny gestures in the face of overwhelming odds. And yet, is that really the case when even the little we do is aligned with our faith in Christ Jesus who is able to do ‘immeasurably more than we can imagine’?

I say this as I reflect on one of the lectionary readings for this coming Sunday which encourages to have the same mind as was in Christ; it says this:

“If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord

and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2: 1-11)

In this time of great need may we not tire of doing any good we can but be encouraged by Christ's great example.

I'm happy to announce that we will be celebrating Harvest, a special time of thanksgiving on 18th October. May I encourage everyone to be as generous as they can in their donations of tinned food items or even better donations of money as this way foodbanks and local charities will have the flexibility of being able to purchase those items that are most needed.

We will celebrate Gift Day with a service which will include prayers for healing and wholeness for all the church family and community on 6th December. Your generous gifts will be gratefully received which will go to a number of charities.

You may recall that the organisation we agreed to support this year is **All We Can** the Methodist charity for overseas mission. In these times of Covid 19 restrictions they continue to support work in parts of the world where the effects of the virus, politics or climate change is making a difficult life even harder.

Under normal conditions we would by now have organised a number of fundraising events generating a respectable sums of money for the charity however it has been rather difficult in these times to do any of that. Please keep the work of All We Can in mind and support it with your kind donations wherever possible.

Lest all these reminders for donations are beginning to sound burdensome let us remember that we are not called to operate from a place of vacuum. Jesus calls us to love God with the whole force of our being and to love our neighbour as ourself.

And so as I encourage you to give to the care of your neighbour so also I encourage us all to find ways to be gentle and loving to ourselves in ways that are joyful, peaceable and life-giving and in that way be motivated to seek the same for our neighbour – even as we receive from our God who loves us and journeys with us even in these interesting times we find ourselves.

In our prayers let us remember all our church family particularly any going through difficulties and pray likewise for our community and world.

With love, prayer and best wishes,

Felicity

MEETINGS TAKING PLACE VIA 'ZOOM'...

The Arches

The regular online Zoom session from 10.30 will continue on Saturday mornings. Anyone is free to join for a chat between 10.30 and 11.30. Sorry coffee and cakes not supplied! I will email the link each week to those who have already participated. Anyone is welcome to join. Please contact the church info@redhillmethodist.org.uk



Windmill Drive Housegroup

The Windmill Drive housegroup are continuing to meet on Zoom, led by Lorraine. The dates for October are, 12th and 26th. November dates are yet to be arranged. If you would like to join in please contact the church info@redhillmethodist.org.uk

Choir

We continue to meet on Friday evening at 8.00pm for an hour of chat, Youtube singalongs and general chaos! If you would like to join please contact the church info@redhillmethodist.org.uk

FROM THE EDITOR

The building is open!

Hopefully you all receive the weekly mailing that will now include the Eventbrite link for the service in the church building each week. Just in case it ends up in the 'Spam' or 'Junk', gets deleted accidentally, you will find the link here from Sunday evening onwards:

<https://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/welcome/returning-to-church/>

And don't forget the Facebook page for the on-line service and other links:

https://www.facebook.com/redhillmethodistchurch/?ref=br_rs

The church and circuit are continuing to provide a wealth of resources:

Services and songs from East Grinstead

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityMethodistEG/>

Meanderings from the Manse in Reigate and Taketime Meditations

<https://www.facebook.com/reigate.methodist>

Other services led by Rev Felicity Al-Hassan

<https://www.facebook.com/HorleyMethodistChurch>

A page of ideas for new ways of worshiping, meditation and prayer:

<http://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/worship/worship-resources/>

To find out who is leading the online service and see the archive of worship sheets, click here:

<http://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/worship/worship-resources/a-service-to-share/>

Rodney's letters written during lockdown are still available to be read and re-read:

<http://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/young-people/junior-church/thought-for-the-week/>

SERVICES IN THE BUILDING OCT-NOV 2020

Services have now re-started in the church building. The service will start at 10.30am and it is helpful to register in advance using the Eventbrite link on this page:

<https://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/welcome/returning-to-church/>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>notes</i>
4 th Oct	Rev Felicity Al-Hassan	Communion
11 th Oct	Rev Clive McKie	
18 th Oct	Rev Felicity Al-Hassan	Harvest Festival
25 th Oct	Rev Ralph Ward	
1 st Nov	Mr Eddie Newton	
8 th Nov	Rev Felicity Al-Hassan	Act of Remembrance with Communion
15 th Nov	Rev Melvyn Cooke	
22 nd Nov	Rev Ralph Ward	
29 th Nov	Mr Rob Burridge	

HARVEST OCTOBER 18th

God has promised that seed-time and harvest will not cease, as long as the earth remains. And that has happened this Covid year of 2020. We have been able to grow or to find in the shops a plentiful supply of food for our needs. So, on October 18th we'll be able to spend time thanking God for meeting our food needs so generously. But there are those in our community who struggle to make ends meet. Every year at Harvest we aim to help them.

This year we would encourage you to give gifts of money, wherever possible, to distribute to our usual charities: The Women's Refuge and the St. Peter's House Project. Each Sunday in October you will see an extra plate next to the offering plate which will be marked for 'Harvest Giving'. If you prefer to bring in food items there will be a trolley at the back of the church on which to place your gifts. We have been advised by Methodism not to parade the goods down the aisle as we would normally. Instead your gifts will be quarantined before being taken to St. Matthew's Foodbank. May God bless our giving and those in need,

NEWS FROM THE 'THURSDAY DROP IN'... AND A QUESTION...

The three 'over 70's' who have been volunteering at our Thursday Youth-Drop In since Sassi set it up in 2015. We were looking forward to celebrating the end of an era with our Year 11s when the pandemic arrived and everything stopped. Most of them had been coming since they were in Year 7 so we have built up some good relationships over the past 5 years. Around 20 young people were on our attendance register when we had to stop meeting, mostly Year 11s and a few Year 9s.

We prepared and printed a greetings card and posted individual copies out to the 20 members during August. We received this reply from one of the year 11s:

"Thank you for the lovely letter! I hope you have kept well and safe over the lockdown period and I'm happy to hear that things are starting to open up again for you.

The last 5 months have been a welcomed break, but also very odd, especially when thinking about all the schoolwork and exams my year group has strangely avoided.

Hopefully I will be attending Reigate College in September along with most people from Youth group- depending on Thursdays results! I'm excited to be heading somewhere new with all my friends.

I also wanted to say a big thank you for your excellent running of Youth club. You created a great atmosphere and a safe place for me and my friends to have fun in, and we all hugely appreciate the work you put in for us.

Wishing you all the best,"

The last paragraph meant a lot to us – it was our original aim to provide 'a safe place' so we are so glad that was what we were able to do. Thank you to everyone who has helped with refreshments and leadership at Drop-In over the years.

So, we are over 70 and have no plans to reopen the Drop-In in the near future. Our partner, the YMCA, is doing some Youthwork on-line and some detached work in the open air, but if we invite them to supply a session worker to restart something for us, then we will need some new volunteers who are under 70.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What is the future for Youth Drop-In and any other work we could do with young people connected to our church in any way?

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Please send any ideas to info@redhillmethodis.org.uk. Our Church Council Secretary can bring your ideas to the next meeting of the Church Council on 22nd October. Please pray for God's guidance on the way forward for our Church's Mission with people of all ages.

AND DID YOU KNOW...?

...that Junior Church have continued to meet all through lock- down and the summer holidays via Zoom? At first hosted by Rev Felicity, until the Junior Church team found their way around this new way of working, they have faithfully met with the young people. Please continue to pray for the leaders and the young people as the Junior Church team meet every Sunday afternoon at 2.00pm. The leaders are currently exploring how it might work back in the building and are delving into the intricacies of risk assessments! Please pray for wisdom as they continue this vital work. If you have any questions, or have missed communications about the Zoom meetings please contact the church: info@redhillmethodist.org.uk.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ENCOUNTER READERS....

Online puzzle found by Pearl...

Here is the solution to the paragraph with the Bible book names. As you can see, the Bible book names are in bold print.

This is a **most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends...One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **john** boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**, Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving, **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, **especially** since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. **Truthfully**, **from** answers we get, we are forced to admit **it** usually takes a minister or a scholar **to see** some of them **at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes** **is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phi lemonade** booth set a new record. The local paper, The **Chronicle**, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel Humana** **humbly** puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books like **Timothy** and **Samuel** may occur without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. A **chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad **exodus**. There really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless.

Note: Osee appears in the King James Version translation (often listed as KJV) of Romans 9:25 as a variant spelling of Hosea. Howard

Culbertson Found on <http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/hidden.htm> This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Sunday afternoon walks

Most weeks recently between 2 and 10 of us have met for a short walk of 2 to 3 miles.

I plan to carry on organising socially distanced walks most weeks. It is a way of meeting up with others as the weather gets colder. I will put details in the weekly email. If there are more than 6 of us we will split into separate groups. Do join us.

E

Photo competition: life in lockdown.



We loved all the pictures and choosing a 'winner' seemed unkind.

So, this is just a little 'congratulation' to Anne Branson for the speed of camera response needed to capture this 'cutest pet?' moment!

Thank you all who have sent in pictures at anytime since March and all who have provided puzzles, poems and moments of reflection. Please don't stop putting 'pen to paper'!

Christmas card competition!

Christmas **will** still happen! Over the last few years we have been blessed with the creative talents of all ages in creating the front of our church Christmas card. Is it possible to combine the promise of the rainbow given to Noah and the reality of the hope we have in the baby born in Bethlehem? Is there another facet of 'God present with us' that is burning a picture in your mind's eye? NOW is your chance. Please send your designs to the church or hand it to one of the stewards if you are able to attend worship in the building.

Please put your design on A4 paper – this makes scanning and shrinking it to Christmas card size easier.

Please could the stewards have all your designs by Sunday 22nd November. Thank you.

PRAYER DIARY

October 4th Lord, help me to listen, be self-critical and obedient

5th For all students learning to live and learn in a different way --

6th -- and for all efforts to improve and expand testing and tracing infection

7th Lord, may I see what I can learn from those I admire, even if they have other faults

8th For clergy, attempting to give pastoral care in difficult circumstances

9th For more effective strategies to detect and punish banks who allow money laundering --

10th --and pray for the victims of fraud and scams.

11th Lord, help me to accept and handle whatever comes my way

12th Give thanks for unexpected cards that you may get dealt...

13th Pray for teachers to be enabled to pass on the most useful and widening kinds of learning

14th Lord, help me to work peaceably even with anyone I disagree with--

15th -- and teach me to wonder how they may see me

16th For creative internal management in the Catholic and other churches

17th Lord, teach me to give co-operative respect to anyone in office --

18th -- and not to take the law into my own hands

19th For a final and costly effort to maintain good trading relations with the European Union-

20th --and for creative and fair adjustments on both sides

21st Lord, teach me to become more generous, and loving with it

22nd For better control of people smugglers, who make false promises

23rd For moves towards better relations in the Middle East--

24th -- and for restraint in power play in that area

25th May I love the Lord with all my heart, soul and mind

26th And may I remember that He loves each one of us

27th For more moves to promote the welfare of all levels of wildlife

28th Lord, help me share the good news, and if needed, to suffer for it

29th For all people facing unemployment at this time

30th For more efforts to redirect young people away from the far right

31st Give thanks for blessed releases at bedtime

November 1st

Pray that those who hunger for justice work successfully to get it

2nd Pray for investigating journalists, that they may get long-term support--

3rd -- and for proprietors to look beyond short-term newsmongering

4th For all who suffer from loneliness and Alzheimer's be given relief--

5th --and for the safety and reward staff at retirement homes

6th For more support for food banks

7th For tightening of police discipline in USA, and for their and others' safety

when doing a dangerous job

- 8th Lord, help me keep myself awake and alert, shaking off any complacency
- 9th May banks who enable money laundering be detected and duly punished
- 10th For more care to be taken of all who neither drive nor use the internet
- 11th Lord, give me a faith which allows itself to grieve, yet never loses sight of the hope you offer
- 12th For serious thinking and action in the matter of tax havens
- 13th Give thanks for something that you find raises your mind and spirit
- 14th For sports people, actors and musicians, now deprived of work
- 15th Lord, may I make creative use of any opportunities that come my way
- 16th For relief and reward and reward for NHS staff
- 17th For the preservation of High Streets
- 18th Lord, keep me always alert to unforeseen possibilities
- 19th And give us all a widening interest in matters or subject we have hardly considered before
- 20th For all individuals and teams working to develop and test vaccines--
- 21st --and for sharing of knowledge in a non-commercial way
- 22nd Lord, keep me alert and responsive to the needs of others
- 23rd Give thanks for the dexterity that is always a pleasure to watch --
- 24th -- and pray for the maintenance of almost-forgotten skills
- 25th Lord, let me see enough of your glory, to keep my sense of proportion
- 26th Help me to not forget to wear my mask
- 27th And help young people to find ways of not drifting away from friends
- 28th For self-restraint over pay among the boards of large businesses
- 29th May I become more alert, but never panicky
- 30th For all involved in the forthcoming US Presidential election, and for all to learn to distinguish fake or biased news

December 1st Advent Sunday.

Lord Jesus, may I be moulded by your way of coming and your nature

- 2nd Lord, may I always remember in what and whom real glory lies --
- 3rd -- and look for it among ordinary people doing valuable jobs
- 4th Help **me** take care to keep up social distancing
- 5th Lord, if someone who may seem eccentric tells me something worth hearing, may I still make sure not to miss that

SOMETHING TO TAKE WITH YOU

The busy tribes of flesh and blood with all their cares and fears ...
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Isaac Watts

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.

Phillips Brooks

All that kills abundant living
let it from the earth be banned.
Pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice,
may we hallow life's brief span.

Frederik Kaan

Did we in our own strength confide
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth is his name,
From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

Martin Luther

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed:
Alleluia, alleluia!

W. W. How

[if you would like to find the complete words of these hymns, here are the first lines:
*O God our help in ages past; O little town of Bethlehem; For the healing of the nations; A safe
stronghold our God is still; For all the saints who from their labours rest.* Ed]

REFLECTIONS FOR HARVEST

A poem inspired by Psalm 23

Psalm 23 – verses that encourage us to be comfortable with uncomfortable; making abnormalities normal. Read it not once but many times to understand the abnormality in this psalm as King David suffered in the desperation of sadness and then came into the true normalcy.

We say ; 'no' to Normal today.
We have tuned in to another wavelength...
Suddenly...
Our radios, smartphones became smarter...
The computer goes straight to the Graph...
Where are we?
We are still where we were , but it is not where we are....
This is Life...
Not as it was...
But as it might be?!
We don't know for how long... but;
It is the new Norm.
To think more and do more for others
Than for us,
The children are very happy!
It's the adults who are worried.

Children love everyone... no bars no barriers;
please ...don't tell them, don't teach them to ...hate...
Don't make them unhappy...
Love has to be our Legacy
To keep them happy in Love,
In Christs Love

The Joy,
Of a child's innocence,
Adam and Eve listened to the enemy...
Let our children listen to Love,
Overpowering all variations, differences...colours, and
teach them and ourselves the new Normality

Sowing and harvest

It is the responsibility of every believer, as a person of God to scatter seeds. Reflect for a while on the ways in which the seeds are scattered...

1. WIND... When **the Spirit** leads ... he leads by the wind. . eg; Phillip and the Ethiopian, Acts 8; 26...

2. EXPLODING SEEDS.... We see the Holy Spirit move in a sudden explosive manner in Acts 2; Peter. Holy moments - our own stepping forward urgently?

3. CARRIED ON WATER ... Depending on oceans; carried away to germinate; like coconuts. Take a look at Paul in Acts 23... led by the guards to Rome... he was in the current!...

4. STICKY SEEDS can be even bad ones, which have to be got rid of... but persistent Good advice could suddenly germinate in someone's soul...

5. BURIED SEEDS... seeds need to be buried for even 7-10 years. In Acts 19; 14-17... evil itself was destroyed and the Lord was magnified. 1 Cori. 3; Paul planted and God IN HIS OWN TIME....

6. DIGESTED SEEDS... God's words can be digested and absorbed into a follower's body. Seeds can be planted by anyone: a mother figure, an old friend... Even if our resources are just 2 loaves and five fish... Matthew 28; 19-20.. ours is the great commission: to scatter seeds.

The word Blessing'

Is not just a word, asking for something we need. It is a dynamic word filled with action. Like a seed. God's blessings often come to us **in seed form; Sprouting** through the tangled complexities of life and slowly ripening into fruition.

Because the Blessings of God grow slowly over time, it is easy to miss the miracle of growth taking place right before our eyes. But when we look attentively we see blessings budding all around us. If however we forget God's blessings, we'll only be able to see our own efforts at making the best of a bad situation, only see our own haphazard attempts of capitalising on the chances available to us. If we forget His blessings, we slip into what psychologists call 'sensory deprivations' and we become deaf, dumb and

blind to the flourishing miracle of God at work. not only in the catastrophic circumstances of our lives, but also in the casual circumstances.

Let's count our blessings.....
from childhood, through youth,
through womanhood,
Through motherhood,
Grandmotherhood.. and..... until today, through all the changing scenes of life, let our praises ring out!

Compiled and edited from various sources: SR

CAR PARKING – Tuesday 13th OCTOBER

Please note that there will be restricted access to the church car park on 13th October due to essential works being carried out. This may result in delays in both accessing and leaving the church car park. We apologise for the inconvenience and ask that, if possible, you avoid using the car park on that day.

Thank you,

Andrew Willock

Praying in the church each Wednesday

From Wednesday 7th October there will be a 5 minute talk/ prayer in the church to help us focus our thoughts and prayers at 1.10pm led by various members of the congregation. You are welcome to come and sit in the church at anytime between 12.30 -2.00pm each Wednesday. More details about this can be found on the website:

<https://www.redhillmethodist.org.uk/welcome/returning-to-church/>

FOR 'ALL WE CAN'

(OUR CHARITY MAY 2020 – 21)

'All We Can' is the Methodist relief and development organisation, whose purpose is to "find solutions to poverty by engaging with local people and organisations in some of the world's poorest communities to end the suffering caused by inequality and injustice". It is the charity that is being supported by the Redhill Methodist Church community through fundraising in 2020/2021.

There is still time to sponsor Eddie for his Virtual London Marathon on Sunday 4th October. All over the country thousands of runners will be completing 26.2 miles on a local course of their own choosing whilst being timed via a special App in order to qualify for a unique London Marathon medal.

Eddie will be running two laps of a 13.1 mile course in support of All We Can, starting in Memorial Park and taking in the East Surrey Hospital roundabout, Woodhatch Road past Earlswood Lakes, down to the Shell garage at Horley and returning to Memorial Park.

To donate online go to: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EddieNewton>
Thank you.

RECIPE BOOK IN AID OF 'ALL WE CAN'.

I shall be pleased to receive more recipes until the end of October. They can be your favourite 'lock down' recipes, but not necessarily. We would like a good variety.

Please send them to the church: info@redhillmethodist.org.uk

Many thanks.

JAM...

So far I have raised over £50 from selling jams and garden produce. I have plenty more jars of jam.

NEWS FROM 'LIVE AT HOME' – MHA COMMUNITIES-EAST SURREY

On 7th September our local Live at Home Scheme was renamed 'MHA Communities – East Surrey' as part of changes by MHA, the national charity that runs the 60+ schemes across the country. The new name should better reflect how their work is delivered in the local area; supporting older people to engage and participate in their local community and Live Later Life Well. This work has changed enormously throughout the pandemic as face to face activities in community settings have been suspended and ongoing support has been offered over the 'phone, on-line and through 'doorstep drops' to ensure scheme members continue to feel part of a caring community.

In addition to the name change there have been other changes throughout MHA as income has fallen within the charity as a result of the impact of Covid on care homes. These have affected East Surrey as other schemes. Sadly, we have said goodbye to Tanya Stafford who has been the face of Live at Home for the last 18 years. We shall all miss her vibrancy, kindness and enthusiasm enormously. In addition our Admin and Volunteering roles have been centralised. The team now incorporates –

MHA Communities East Surrey Scheme Manager – Emma Wilson & Heather Shaw (job share), Community Co-ordinators – Susie Isotta (Horley area) and Julia Nye (Redhill & Merstham areas). We have vacancies for the Reigate and Banstead areas which we will advertise for shortly.

Please contact us on 01737 780610 or email EastSurrey@mha.org.uk

..and an opportunity to help...

Local initiative 'Festive Feast' is still taking place this year, albeit a little differently. Renamed 'Festive Feast on Wheels' we will be delivering freshly cooked hot Christmas lunches to the members of the local community who are on their own this Christmas Day. We need volunteers to help prep (Christmas Eve evening), cook (Christmas Day morning) or deliver (just before lunch on Christmas Day). Please get in touch with Lisa at VARB if you can help lisa@varb.org.uk or 01737 762 115.

THIS MONTH'S WORDSEARCH:

Bright stars in the night sky

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

Achemar, Algol, Arcturus, Capella, Fomalhaut, Vega, Acrux, Altair, Betelgeuse, Castor, Pollux, Aldebaran, Antares, Canopus, Deneb, Sirius, Rigel

Church Office Hours The church office is has re-opened. Usual hours are Monday to Friday only.. (01737 771323)

Church website: www.redhillmethodist.org.uk

Encounter content. Virtually all items submitted are included in full as presented by their writer. The opinions expressed in any individual item are those of its contributor, and not necessarily those of the Minister, the Editor, or other representatives. Deadline for December 2020- January 2021 Encounter is Sunday 29th November. Please email Helen: helen.greaves1@googlemail.com.