

Dear Friends,

As we move through January, I am becoming aware of how thankful I am - which may sound strange given the constant grey skies and rain. I am thankful for the NHS. My mother passed at the age of 95 at the end of December and the range of care she received was outstanding - allowing her to spend her last days in her flat which was what she wanted. My wife Janet was admitted into the Royal Surrey on December 29th and despite the enormous pressures that the hospital was under - for 10 days received stunning care - and is now at home.

I am thankful for the wonderful people in this Circuit who have cared for me during this period. Thank you.

I am also thankful for the team at St. Mary's in Guildford who have been working so hard to bring 25 works of art from the Methodist Modern Art Collection to Guildford in March/April. The Methodist Church owns one of the most significant collections of modern religious art in Europe and works by well-known figures such as Graham Sutherland, Elizabeth Frink, Maggi Hambling and Patrick Heron will be at the church for a month to view free of charge. There is also a stunning array of musical, poetic and worship events to run alongside the exhibition. Of particular interest is the fact that we have Revd. Dr. Leslie Griffiths coming to talk about the collection on the Sunday afternoon March 22nd. All the events are open to the Circuit and we'd love to see you there.

We have widely trailed the exhibition in The Wey Forward and Circuit Meetings but if this is the first time you're hearing of it do please join us and if you would like to volunteer in any way please do drop an email to MMAC2026@htsmguildford.org.uk

You can investigate the collection online at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/the-methodist-modern-art-collection/>



The Supper at Emmaus, 1958 Roy de Maistre (1894-1968)

So whilst I have been surrounded by an anxious time in my own life - as I make my way through January, I am enormously thankful. Giving thanks has proved to be a central part of our own well-being. What might you be genuinely thankful for today - as the blessings of God surround us each day?

Paul

Resources/Good News

Exploring the Faces of Homelessness in the South West

The Exeter Coast and County Circuit (as part of the South West Peninsular District) hosted an art exhibition “**Let’s Face It**” from October to December last year.

[This powerful video showcases the exhibition](#), prompting the powerful statements:

You are worthy as you are; and

What is mine to do?

Notice from District

Vacancy - District Treasurer

We have an exciting opportunity for a volunteer to join the District Team as District Treasurer from April 2026.

Please could you ensure this advert is shared across your churches, and encourage anyone you believe to be a suitable candidate to express interest in the role.

[Vacancy: District Treasurer — The Methodist Church — South East District](#)

We are very grateful to Pauline Newton for her years of service.

Please can you help us to advertise this role so that we can have a successor in post when Pauline finishes her role at Synod in April 2026.

Saturday 24 January at Knaphill:



MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

AND SALE



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

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

4th Saturday every month (except December)

10am to Noon

STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



2nd December

9th December
in aid of 'Cherry Trees'

16th December

23rd December

6th January

13th January

20th January

27th January



Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book
The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!

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

**NEW YEAR ...
NEW BEGINNINGS**

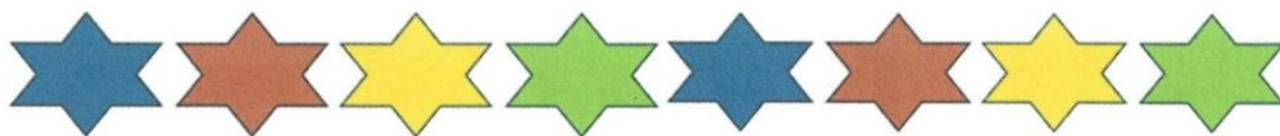
**- a chance to meet up and
look ahead through 2026**

**THURSDAY
22
JANUARY**

10.30 – 12.00

Everyone welcome

A photograph of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with coffee, sitting on a matching saucer. The cup and saucer are surrounded by a generous pile of dark, roasted coffee beans. The background is dark and out of focus, with a hint of steam rising from the cup. The entire image is set against a dark background with white text overlaid on the right side.



**Saturday morning events at the
Addlestone Methodist Church Café on
Station Road**



***Come along between 10am and
12 to enjoy tea/coffee and cake
and join in with activities***

EVERY MONTH

1st Saturday – Fun Bingo

*Donations to Sam Beare Hospice or
Open Doors Charity*



**2nd Saturday – A time to sing – favourite
hymns & songs**

3rd Saturday – give popular games a go



**4th Saturday – Hymns, songs
and time for prayer**

Check notice board for any changes