

Welwyn Garden City, Harpenden and Wheathampstead United Reformed Churches Magazine



August & September 2024

An interview with Martyn & Lynn

It is coming up to the year's anniversary of Martyn and family joining us, so I thought that I would send Martyn some questions and he could answer them. Well, it didn't quite turn out that way, and an interview was decided on. I'm no Michael Parkinson and Martyn..... let's just say things improved once Lynn joined us!

Unfortunately, I did not record anything, so in fact this is all taken from my notes and is not verbatim, but Martyn has read it and I think I made any alterations needed!

1.What has been the best thing about this last year?

"Just coming here and being welcomed. We were very touched by the way Alex was considered both before we came, and at the 'Preach with a View' weekend, as it was a very long weekend for him. The open communication between the churches is good and very different from some of the churches that I've served in before. This makes it much easier to manage."

"In previous churches I would often find myself alone prior to the service in the vestry, but in both WGC and Harpenden before each service we meet for prayers. Lynn was also included over the 'Preach with a View' weekend. This was important, unexpected, and very much appreciated by us"

2.What has been the worst thing about this year?

"Nothing much at all. It was difficult leaving the school community and, of course, the beach, but we are finding that network at Alex's new school. "

"The ruddy roadworks!!"

3.What have you found is different between the three congregations?

"Not an awful lot to be honest. All three are welcoming, grace-filled, and caring communities."

"Each church has plans and goals to promote God's love in different and distinct ways, further building community and connections, both within and without the church."

But if pushed, I have to admit Helen C's shortbread wins the biscuit stakes!"

This then led to an interesting conversation between Martyn and Lynn about, just how much shortbread Martyn could get through!!

4. Have all the family settled well?

"Yes, everyone has settled quickly. Our biggest concern was for Alex, but he has settled in really well, and is having a birthday party soon with all his classmates. (In fact he will have had it by the time you read this.)

Mum and Dad have made friends and enjoy visiting the library, coffee mornings, and a monthly lunch with YWAM (Youth with a mission). And they chat with their regular 'bus buddies'.

Lynn has found a job in a library at Abbott's Langley which she enjoys very much."

5. What have you enjoyed most about moving to Hertfordshire?

Although we miss the beach, there is some very beautiful countryside in Hertfordshire."

"Being this close to London with a direct train has been great. We have visited lots of Museums, Alex's favourite being the National History Museum."

"Being nearer to Martyn's brother, and much easier to get to visit Lynn's family"

"The 20 minute commute between the Churches is a lot better than before, even with the roadworks!"

6. Who is your most annoying paid member of staff?

"Allison".

Now, I fully expected this answer and wouldn't have asked (well maybe I would, but not have published the answer!), if that hadn't been the reply. If Martyn hadn't said me I would have felt I wasn't doing my job properly!

7. Were the profiles of each Church accurate?

"I can't think of anything that was far out. It has been great to see that honesty, as it's not always the case with all churches. We were looking at vacancies and profiles, and it was actually the moderator that suggested this one for us."

8. What would you like to develop in each Church and/or the Pastorate?

"I would like to encourage overt discipleship and encourage people to be even more grace-filled. It was encouraging when I heard that someone in the Bible study had commented that they were trying to have more Grace"

That certainly wasn't me folks, not on a Friday afternoon in the office at 31 degrees. But Martyn, I am trying, only 3 "sorry God's" this morning and it is 11.33am.

Then just for fun I asked them both some 'either or' questions. These you have to state what you prefer out of the two options. They are supposed to be an instant answer, not thought about. Blue answers are Martyn's, Green are Lynn's and Pink are both the same

Football or Rugby	Books or Kindle
Salt & Vinegar or Cheese & Onion	Mum's cooking or Lynn's cooking
Queen or The Beatles	Cinema or Theatre
Chocolate or Cheese	Sunrise or Sunset
Cats or Dogs Neither / Both	City Break or Beach
Batman or Iron man	

Lynn's choice of Batman was based entirely on the fact that Alex looked cute in a Batman t-shirt, but I'll let her have it. My preference is for Thor, Mrs Hemsworth you did a mighty fine job on all 3 sons!

So, I hope you have enjoyed our interview, and I take full responsibility for anything that shouldn't have been said!

Allison (WGC Admin – hopefully still)

Joint Secretary's Notes

Thank you to everyone who stepped up in my absence especially Philip, Allison, John M, my loyal helpers at Thursday Club (Joyce D, Linda S, Mary B.) and Mary S and Margaret R for arranging Sunday Flowers in Church. During this prolonged period of being unable to do all the things I have been accustomed to being part of in the life of our church it has given me time to reflect and reconsider what we do and the problems we encounter when one of the cogs in the wheel ceases to function.

Sadly our wheel doesn't have as many cogs in good working condition as it had in the past.

So going forward:-

1) Flower Fund Donations

I have looked after the fund since 1988 when I took over from May Murray. Then the money was collected and managed by May and I continued in this way by opening a separate account in my bank for the Flower Fund. My inability to get to the bank with no one else in Church having access to the funds set me thinking that this was not ideal. After chatting with Helen we have decided that all Flower Donations should be sent to the Church Account.

So in future please make all donations to the Flower Fund by one of the following methods:-

- a) Cash in an envelope addressed Flower Fund, who it's from and handed to either Helen K or me
- b) Bank Transfer to
Sort Code - 404608
Account No - 91680595
HSBC UK
REF : Use your name please and Flowers
- c) By cheque to WGC URC with Flowers written on the back.

NB Remember that if you pay tax you can Gift Aid which adds another 25% to your donation. If you need a Gift Aid Form please ask Mary Sartin.

I will continue to lead the Flower team, look after the Rota, ensure there are flowers in church weekly and on all special events and occasions. I would love to have a few more people interested in arranging flowers and am happy to help anyone who is interested in joining our team of 3. All you need is a love of flowers.

2) Christmas Fayre

I am aware that we are only in July and this seems a long way off but last year it became very apparent that to continue with the Fayre in the same form is becoming a challenge due to many of those who have been our loyal helpers' advancing years, health issues, and some sadly no longer with us. My capabilities have been diminished following my own health issues since April.

The Fayre is the first event in a busy lead up to Christmas and when appeals were made for help last year for the fayre and other events throughout the year few new faces offered their help.

It would be sad to cease holding the fayre as over the years it has built up a following, people look forward to the event and it offers us the opportunity to reach out to our community. Since 2008 we have donated 50% of our Christmas Fayre takings to Isabel Hospice. Isabel Last, the founder of the Hospice, was a member of our church and we are proud to say that to date we have donated over £17,000.

So please give careful consideration as to how we move forward in 2024 with the Fayre and other events we have all come to enjoy and expect to have on our church calendar it would be sad to lose them. Ideas and suggestions would be greatly appreciated and help with the planning and running of these events by perhaps forming an Events Team.

I am open to ideas and suggestions.

Please let me know how you think we can move forward by the end of August.

emailing joycen2@hotmail.com
or by Mob 07886392602

Wheathampstead news

It feels as if the British summer has arrived at last and some of us are looking forward to holidays and other activities finish for a break but thank goodness church carries on each week.

For Wheathampstead that is our first Sunday in the month Communion led by Revd David Aplin who has kindly kept this Sunday free for our services for a very long time.

On the second Sunday we attend together a less formal Anglican service held at St Peter's Church at Gustard Wood just outside the village. We travel to join our friends at Harpenden on the third Sunday. On the fourth Sunday afternoon we are back to our Worship Room and welcome friends who have taken our services regularly and we are delighted that we now occasionally have Martyn to lead us as well.

As you know the fifth Sundays are rotated between us all and we so much enjoy being at WGC and Harpenden on these occasions and welcoming you all to WUC when it's our turn which it will be next time on 29 September. The most recent occasion was in Harpenden when we all met there for the service, a bring and share lunch and a fun although challenging quiz!

There are not any Churches Together activities until the autumn except on Saturday 21st September we are having a prayer lunch to mark The International Prayer for Peace Day at 11.30 in St Helens Parish Church. This will be led by our own Minister, Martyn.

Our Songs of Praise afternoon was attended by over 20 people who were all in amazing voice with lovely hymns chosen by some of those attending and followed by tea and cake. Put the date of the next one in your diary for 3pm on Sunday 20th October.

We wish you all a very happy summer.

Jackie and Jane
Wheathampstead

To: All members and adherents of United Reformed Churches and our Local Ecumenical Partnerships

Dear Friends,

Firstly, thank you for all your contributions to your local church in 2023. This includes your financial contribution which plays an important part in the life of the whole church through the Ministries & Mission Fund.

As officers of the denomination, it's good for us to be rooted in a local URC (or LEP) congregation and to work out our faith in the local context, as well as across the entire United Reformed Church. On the other hand, it is good for you in local churches to know that those who serve you nationally understand the local church financial issues as well. And there have been some big issues over the last 12-18 months: inflation, a "cost of living crisis" for many, with energy costs rising unprecedented levels etc. Churches and ministers have had the same challenges as so many others.

The M&M Fund of the URC pays for ministers' stipends, training, Assembly costs and all the central support functions for ministry in the URC across three nations. The M&M Fund's main income is contributions from the churches with some top-up from synods, together with investment income and grants etc.

In 2023 the churches continued to support the M&M Fund to a wonderful level, but there also was significant and generous synod support. Overall, the giving to M&M Fund was slightly ahead of budget at £16.3 million. It was also only 2% down on 2022's result. However, we should note that these figures include the synods' extra contributions this year which amounted to £1.9 million, an increased amount compared to 2022.

The full M&M account for 2023 in summary:

Income – £18.2m – of which 16.3m was from churches and synods contributions

Expenditure – £19.3m

Deficit – £1.1m

2024 is not going to be an easy year either and we are again budgeting for a deficit. We have a commitment from synods to continue their support on top of church contributions and a plan for balancing the M&M budget over the next 5-7 years, including budget reductions of central costs of 3 to 5% p.a.

So, thank you to all who continued to contribute to your local church, thank you to all those churches who met their commitment for 2023 in full, and thank you to all those who, in adversity, continued to treat the M&M Fund as the first priority and paid what they could.

Stewardship of our resources, personally, as local churches and as a denomination is rarely easy, but it is one of the challenges we are called to in making our faith real. As the Spirit directs and as our means allow, can the churches once more continue to respond to the call of our gracious, loving and ever-generous God?

Again, thank you all!

If you have any questions or comments arising from this letter, please speak to your church treasurer who has been provided with more detailed information. If they are not able to help directly then they can get in touch with the finance team at Church House.

Yours in Christ,

Alan Yates (Treasurer)

Vaughan Griffiths (Deputy Treasurer)

Please be aware of the following

Harpenden : There will be no Bible Study during August. The midweek Service will take place on the 1st August

WGC : There will be no Bible Study during August. The midweek Service will not take place in August

Created on the Third Day

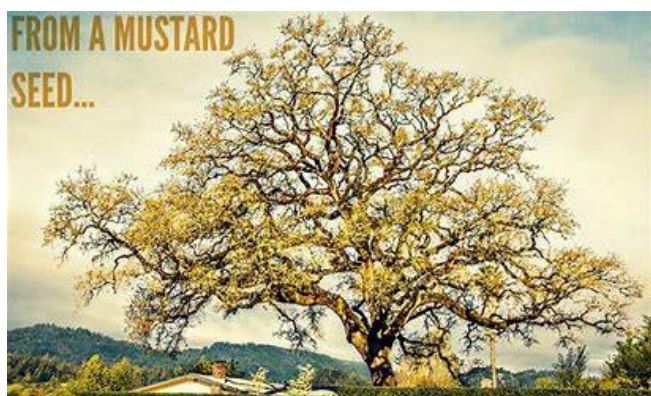
From my kitchen window I can see a majestic silver birch tree. I enjoy watching at it as the seasons pass each year. In the winter months, when it has no foliage, it reveals its intricate and delicate structure – which is when I prefer it. Then it rises starkly white and graceful against the gloomy skies.

Trees play a significant part in various biblical texts and the first tree we encounter in the Bible is the **Tree of Knowledge**. Despite the accepted idea regarding it as an apple tree, commentators suggest the fruit Adam ate could have been a fig, a pomegranate, a grape or even an apricot. Since Adam and Eve clothed themselves with fig leaves it might be logical to conclude that the fruit was a fig! No matter which it was, it led to the downfall of mankind.



Fig trees and figs feature many times in the Bible. Isaiah used a fig to cure Hezekiah's boil (2 Kings 20:7). During King Solomon's reign, when peace prevailed in Judah and Israel *'each man dwelt safely under his own vine and fig tree.'*

And in the New Testament Jesus used the fig tree in several parables. He cursed the barren fig tree (Matthew 21:19), a parable referring to man's 'fruitfulness'; or possibly the dangers of not living a fruitful life - resulting in some drastic pruning.



Then we learn that Nathanael – a sceptic - was spotted by Jesus as he sat under a fig tree (John 1:48). Let's not forget to mention the sycamore tree where Jesus spotted Matthew. Calling him down, Jesus went to his

house – the outcome being Matthew became one among the first

disciples. It is recorded that Judas hanged himself from a tree – whichever it was, it is now known as the Judas tree *Cercis siliquastrum*.

An interesting fact! When we read of Jesus' references to faith and mustard seeds we may question the bit about mustard seeds growing into trees – well I did anyway! In fact, the mustard, scientifically known as *Salvadora p erisica*, is a popular evergreen shrub that can grow to a height of between 6 to 20 feet and produce a crown nearly as wide given the right conditions.

And finally, the biblical tree-references end with the description of the tree in the Holy City as described in Revelation 22.

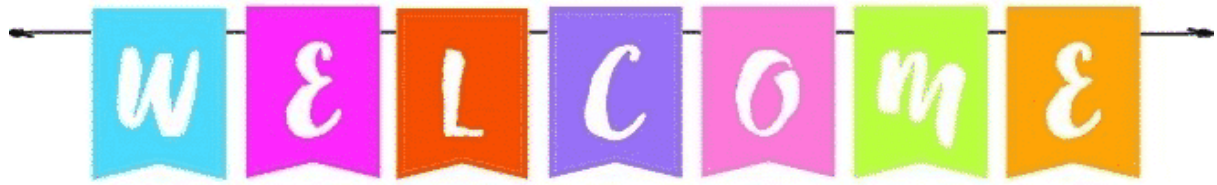
*Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the **Tree of Life**, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. **And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.***

Vivienne Kendall (Wheathampstead)

HARPENDEN CHURCH GIFT DAY

During the month of May we had our Gift Day collection for much needed church funds to help with the extra costs of repairing the church roof and various maintenance jobs at the Manse. To date we have raised just under **£7000** which is a remarkable total and a very “**big thank you**” to everyone who has contributed to this magnificent total.

Norman Deas



Martyn, Lynn & Family Invite you all to
an

Open House at the Manse
Saturday, August 31st

Feel free to drop in any time between
2 and 4pm

18 Ambrose Close Harpenden AL5 4AX
Everyone Welcome



CHURCH FAMILY CORNER

First on our Birthday List in August is Martyn, our Minister, on 2nd, followed by Mary S. on 3rd, Sarah S. on 7th, Alex N, who will be 7 on 10th, Joyce N. on 15th, Sheila L. on 22nd, Barbara G. on 26th, Ade O. on 27th, and my other half, John, on 30th.

Moving on to September, we start with Mike E. on 3rd, Rosemary T. and Chris A. both on 6th, Aiden R. who will be 10 on 22nd, Ted C. on 24th, Orla C. who will be 6 on 25th, and Wendy L. on 29th.

We send our birthday congratulations and best wishes to all these friends and hope they each enjoy a happy day.

We have 4 Wedding Anniversaries to celebrate in this edition,:-

- * Ann & John Meers 57th Anniversary on August 5th
- * Derek & Barbara Groves 63rd Anniversary on September 15th
- * Madge & Graham Neads 64th Anniversary on September 17th
- * Wendy & Tim Higgens 5th Anniversary on September 28th.

We send congratulations to all these couples and hope they enjoy their special day when it comes round.

Please continue to keep Scott, Jenny, Xander and Howard in your prayers now that Scott has finally returned home to his family after over six months in hospital. Unfortunately, Xander tripped over at school recently, landed badly and broke his wrist but was smiling bravely when he was photographed in his plaster cast and sling. We pray for swift healing for Xander's wrist and restoration of full mobility very soon for Scott.

Please also pray for healing for Nano who is in a great deal of pain in her arm with cellulitis. We hope she will feel better soon.

Please remember to pass on any other concerns to our minister, Martyn, an Elder or Pastoral Friend so that no one gets forgotten.

We thank God for all the Blessings we receive as members of our Church Family here in Welwyn Garden City.

Thank you, Ann Meers

July 2024 – Saturday Families Church and Friday Nights

Saturday Families Church has been running fortnightly all year, covering a mix of New Testament and Old Testament stories. Recently we have enjoyed Elijah hearing God as a still small voice, the Healing of kind lady Dorcas by Jesus, and Peter being freed from prison by an angel. Many weeks include a 9 year-old or two, so to illustrate the story I usually project some of the excellent cartoon pictures or photos of actors in biblical settings from the website FreeBibleImages.org. We have a number of 2 to 6 year olds attending as well, so I also try and include some physical visual aids and story actions to engage them. Last weekend we watched a flag on a sandcastle sinking into the water while a flag propped up amongst stones stayed put! (and hopefully no one noticed the sand spilled on the floor....) It helped bring to life the parable of the people who listened carefully to Jesus' words being like a wise man building a House on Rock to withstand the weather, whereas a foolish man built his House on the sand and it crumbled in the rain. I usually include some up to date childrens' songs from youtube or ffct-ideas.org.uk, but the old song 'The Wise Man built his house upon a rock' was belted out lustily by all our adults, perhaps to the surprise of children who were hearing it for the first time! A couple of Saturday families now join us for Family Gamesnight and occasional all age worship on Sundays.

On July 6th we hosted a lunchtime social after Saturday Families Church, called a 'Picnic in the garden', for which we had invited lots of families we used to know and were looking forward to seeing old friends. Shame we couldn't schedule nice weather! The weather (and some illness) dissuaded many from coming. Nonetheless, some of our regulars were glad to meet 3 families from Chatter and Tots and we all had a wonderful time, mainly staying indoors, and a few brave older ones ventured outside during a sunny spell to try Swingball.

Bibleheroes met twice this term with 3 families learning about Nehemiah: his compassion for the inhabitants of his ruined homeland and fantastic organisation skills leading a mission to rebuild the walls, and then rebuild the community life in Jerusalem. There were some fantastic voices produced in our dramatic reading of parts of the story, and wonderful clay models of goblets as Nehemiah was originally cupbearer to the king of the empire. And somehow we

got through a long list of family names and job titles of all the various people who took part in the building team by means of an outdoor game! The builders faced some intimidation from neighbouring tribes and were worried about being attacked, so they carried swords whilst working, but they also trusted in God's protection and were able to finish the wall without needing to fight. Here is a picture of some of the swords the children decorated. We also prayed for each of the children to have resilience and perseverance like Nehemiah.

Every month we have also enjoyed Family Gamesnight, and been thrilled to use the garden this term. We wish all our families some refreshing holiday-time over summer, and pray for their new school classes next term. And we are glad to hear that Jonathan has settled into his new school in Dubai, although we miss him - lots!

Potential Youthclub

Next term we are planning two experimental 'youthclub nights' on Friday evenings, for ages 11 to 16, inviting the youngsters now in their teens who have grown up with our Saturday or Sunday church, especially those already attending Family Gamesnight. A couple of people have already agreed to help, and if there are any other potential volunteers who would like to get involved with launching a Christian-based youthclub in our church please do let me or Martyn know by mid-September. There will be scope to help with leading activities and also providing snacks. God Bless. Wendy.lidgate@outlook.com
tel 07904 517384



Worship Cafe

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 1st Sept

Sunday 3rd November

Sunday 5th January

From 3pm until 3.45pm

**Please join us for Christian worship in an informal
and relaxed setting**

Refreshments provided

United Reformed Church

Church Road

Welwyn Garden City

AL8 6PR



Bless be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one
our comfort and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other
flows the sympathising tear.

When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and long to meet again.

This glorious hope revives
our courage by the way;
and each in expectation lives
and longs to see the day.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.



John Fawcett was born on the 6th January 1739 at Lidget Green. He came to believe in the Lord Jesus, as the Saviour of sinners, at the age of 16, after hearing a sermon preached by George Whitefield in the meadows near where he lived to a crowd of 20,000 people.

Fawcett almost immediately had the desire to preach the Gospel. Time saw him Ordained and appointed to a small congregation of Baptists at Wainsgate, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire in 1764. The Chapel was rebuilt in 1859. It still stands today and is managed by the Historic Chapels Trust.

John Fawcett, who died in 1817 is remembered by his tombstone in the church

graveyard. He wrote "Bless be the tie that binds" to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the events that occurred when he and the family tried to leave the people they loved for a much larger and important position at Carters Lane Church in London.

Their wagons were packed with the few pieces of furniture they possessed, and they pulled up outside of the church to say goodbye to the people. But the emotions of grief and sorrow displayed by them that their Pastor and family were leaving them, were so great, that John said to his wife, "Mary, I don't think we can do this!" So! full of love for the people, they turned their wagons around and the horses were given the reign to make their familiar way home!

Graham Neads (Harpenden)

The following article is written by Linda, one of our few remaining members from Woodhall Lane Church, which as you will read, amalgamated with the Free Church and we became the Welwyn Garden City URC. Our two churches came together easily because we were close, already worshipped together occasionally and shared some social events. That was important because the key is getting together frequently which enabled us to know one another.

As a pastorate now, this is something that we should be striving to achieve, and in some parts we are successful. But could we perhaps do more? Lynn Neads did voice that she would like to see more outings and events between the congregations and was willing to form a group to come up with ideas, so please if you think this is important, get in touch via email lynnneads74@gmail.com

Thanks to Graham D for suggesting the article

Allison- Editor

AMALGAMATION TEN YEAR UPDATE



You've heard the saying, "How time flies when you're enjoying yourselves". Well, that may be an exaggeration but everything has been so positive since the amalgamation that I was amazed when I realised it was ten years since Woodhall Lane URC and The Free Church had come together on our new pathway in faith. Although seven of us from the original Woodhall Lane congregation transferred, sadly there were a few people who were frail and so could not attend any services in person. We had already been attending joint services and meetings with WGC URC for several years, when appropriate, making new friendships through social events, Christmas and Spring Fairs and of course sharing joint leadership of our Minister Rev Jane Weedon. This meant we were welcomed into the fold in a most natural way.

Although low in numbers we were able to come to partnership with a reasonably healthy bank balance and once the property had been sold the Synod held a good sum, which, one day, we may use to help our new church refurbishments.

The first service of our newly amalgamated church, Welwyn Garden City United Reformed Church, was on Sunday 14th September 2014 and was led by Rev Andrew Prasad from Synod. Looking at photos of that amalgamation event, sadly five of those present from Woodhall Lane have now passed away. I do love to look at our memorial book, displayed in the church vestibule, showing those five names and the dates of their passing. It is lovely to remember them.

There have been a few changes in the past ten years. In 2018 Rev Jane Weedon took a well-earned early retirement to the Lincolnshire countryside and we all missed her very much.

At the end of 2019 we were subject to the dreaded COVID. It was an enormous challenge, when in February 2020 it became evident that this was something we had never experienced in our lives before. Public places including churches had to be closed and a very hard time was ahead for many folk, young and old alike, with some terrible consequences.

Suddenly a new word appeared in our vocabulary. Zoom! This turned out to be a blessing for millions of churchgoers around the country and the world. We were blessed with some clever technical folk at our church who kept us involved in services for the best part of a year. Zoom turned out to be a real blessing giving people the opportunity to join our worship if they could not attend in person. We also continued Bible Studies and Christian Meditation groups using this method.

Once Covid had rearranged our lives and we were able to return to something like normality we started the search for a new Minister.

This task always takes a while and we were able to find alternative leaders for Sunday worship, and it was during this time that our Worship Team was formed. One of this group this was our dear departed friend Jean Hughes who gave great encouragement to anyone wishing to join. This group continues as a vital part of our church leadership today.

Another project started up in 2017/8 by Christine Novelli was the Community Coffee Morning. This was for anyone in the community: the lonely, the homeless or anyone just wanting a coffee/tea sandwich or even freshly cooked homemade soup prepared by our team. Donations usually covered the costs. Christine went on to new employment and Liz Laing took on the the leadership in 2019. The cafe had to close during the Covid period but open again now, we also welcome friends from The Mind group who come for company and support. Sadly last year Liz had to relocate to Scotland. Our Church Centenary celebration was, of course, delayed by Covid!

Last September we welcomed our new Minister Rev Martyn Neads who ministers to three churches: WGC URC, Harpenden URC and Wheathampstead URC. Martyn's induction and celebration was a wonderful event and we were blessed with a lovely summer's day.

So, as we enter this new chapter of our church we do so with optimism and faith.
Linda Sutton (WGC URC)

Peter Knight on BBC Radio

Our very own Peter Knight has recently been interviewed by the BBC and contributed to a fascinating radio programme entitled "Three Million". The series tells the forgotten story of World War II – the Bengal famine in British India, where at least three million people died, told for the first time by eyewitnesses to it.

Peter's contribution can be heard in Episode 6 "Silk Scarves". However, I would recommend listening to the whole series, as it is enlightening and tells the story of a period of history I personally was unaware of.

All six episodes are available on BBC Sounds. Janet Mortimer (WGC URC)

Mary and John Sartin celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary in September.






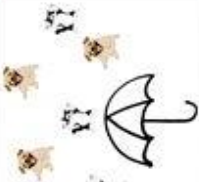

They were married in Welwyn Garden City United Reformed Church (then known as the Free Church) on 7th September 1974, by Revd Peter Chesney. This was followed by a reception at the Clock Hotel in Welwyn.



Alongside raising their children, Jane and David, Mary worked as a teacher, and John in his family's retail businesses before pursuing a very different career in marketing roles in the City.

Throughout their marriage they have been active in their local communities, in Hertford and then Roydon. Mary and John collectively clocked up 45 years as local councillors, both holding senior positions. They've also undertaken a wide range of other voluntary roles, including as school governors and charity trustees.

Whilst still keeping busy in a variety of ways, including days out and football in the garden with their 8-year-old grandson Nathan, they are enjoying a slightly quieter retirement, and will be celebrating their anniversary with their family.

Jane S WGC

1	FINGERS FINGERS		→ Five Five	
2	TROUBLE TROUBLE	SHOT	3	JACK
3			4	
4			5	
5	MAN	→ AID AID AID AID	6	
6			7	
7			8	
8			9	
9	SOMEWHERE		10	
10			11	
11			12	
12			13	
13			14	
14	DR. DO		15	
15	LEM ADE		16	
16			17	
17			18	
18			19	
19	BAD		20	
20				

1	NEPAINCK	→ Chill 	2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 	3	Give Give Give Give	4	IRATELY
2			3	DREAM ✓ dream ✗	4	SEEQ TOAST	5	→ Cap Bucket Panama
3			4		5		6	
4			5		6		7	
5		120 seconds 100 seconds 80 seconds → 60 Seconds	6	SCAPULA	7	AGA AGA	8	BEATBEATBEAT George W Kate Barbara BEATBEAT BEATBEAT
6			7		8		9	
7			8		9		10	
8			9		10		11	
9			10		11		12	
10			11		12		13	
11			12		13		14	
12			13		14		15	
13			14		15		16	
14			15		16		17	
15			16		17		18	
16			17		18		19	
17			18		19		20	
18			19		20			
19								
20								



Wonderful News Just in

The concert that was held here to raise funds for Christian Aid, has raised £800!

Well done to Robert, the Male voice choir, and all those that helped with baking, tea & coffee making, setting up, selling tickets and raffle prize givers. Next years concert will take place on the 17th May 2025.

Contact Details for the Magazine

WGC URC Admin / point of contact	Allison Giles	01707 333326	allisongiles@hotmail.com
Harpenden URC Admin / point of contact	Sarah Connor		shconnor@gmail.com
Wheathampsted Secretary /point of contact	Jackie Seller	01582 832707	jandjseller@gmail.com

Please can I have any articles for the next magazine by the 18th September 2024. Please send by email or contact me by phone for WGC URC & Wheathampstead articles. For Harpenden URC articles please contact Sarah Connor Many thanks,
Allison Giles

I hope you have enjoyed reading this magazine. If you have, please consider sending us an article, I'm sure we would enjoy what you have to say. If you would like to contribute and are not really sure what, please contact one of the people above, who I'm sure could give you some suggestions.

This magazine is printed on Recycled paper CCLI No. 315873 Charity No. 1167010