

MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER NOVEMBER 2017

We Shall Keep the Faith

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet - to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With All who died.

We cherish, too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honor of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.

by Moina Michael
November 1918



SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 10.45 AM

A Service of Remembrance will be held outside Warrs, the Harley Davidson Garage. Wreaths will be laid at Mottingham's historic and unique war memorial



'I VOW TO THEE MY COUNTRY'

The story behind the Hymn

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that
know;

We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

By Sir Cecil Spring-Rice (1859 - 1918)

This well-loved hymn was written nearly 100 years ago, by the then serving British ambassador to the United States of America, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice.

Sir Cecil had served his government abroad for many years, and was preparing to leave Washington on 12th January 1918. The words of his hymn reflect on being a citizen of two countries; his own native land and also the heavenly kingdom. (Phil 3:20)

Some six or seven years earlier, when Minister to Sweden, Sir Cecil had first composed a poem entitled *Urbs Dei* (city of God), in two stanzas. It had expressed a belligerent type of patriotism, glorifying and glamorising war, as well as a vision of that 'other country', a vision of gentleness and peace.

But then The Great War had come, and by 1918 Sir Cecil had come to see that the only patriotism worth celebrating was the spirit of self-sacrificing love, as expressed in the cross of Christ. In a speech at Ottawa, shortly before he left North America, he

said that the Cross was a sign of patience under suffering, but not patience under wrong. The Cross is the banner under which we fight. We are all subjects of the Prince of Peace, who fought the greatest fight ever fought upon this earth, who won the greatest victory, and won it by his blood.'

The hymn was the last thing Sir Cecil ever wrote, as he died suddenly, on 14th February 1918.

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICE PREACHERS

NOVEMBER 2017

Sunday 5th November at 10.30am – Messy Church: *Alex Terrett*
Messy Church is preceded by breakfast

Sunday 12th November

9.30am – Holy Communion: *Alex Terrett*

Followed by the Service of Remembrance at 10.45am opposite the Mottingham memorial

Sunday 19th November at 10.30am – *Sue Cope*

Sunday 26th November at 10.30am – *Ralph Brandhorst*

DECEMBER ALERTS

OUR CHURCH PROGRAMME

Wednesday 13th December

The Community Christmas lunch.

Sunday 17th December at 5.00pm

Carol service.

Sunday 24th December at 10.30 am

Nine Lessons and carols service

Christmas Day at 9.30am - Holy Communion

ST ANDREW'S

Thur 21 Dec, 7.30pm, Ecumenical Carol Service, St Andrew's



ONCE A MONTH CONGREGATION CALLED MESSY CHURCH



Celebrating
Harvest Thanksgiving
in October
and learning about
food and how it grows

Thank you to everyone
who gave food
for the Orpington
Food Bank



MOTTINGHAM MATTERS

MOTTINGHAM LIBRARY:

The Library



Sue Dignum, Library Supervisor

NO CHANGE EXCEPT THE UNIFORM!

At least four years ago Bromley Council started a process of reviewing the library services in the Borough which threatened

the very existence of the 8 small libraries including the one in Mottingham. A number of different arrangements were agreed to be taken forward none of which materialised although in the mean time the amount of time some of the libraries were open was considerably reduced.

Mottingham is well known for its ability to resist change which is not in the interests of the Mottingham community. The battle for the library was no different. The Mottingham Residents Association and the individual Mottingham residents together with staff filled over half the seats in the Borough chamber when the library issue was discussed. Finally, after what was for the Mottingham Community the possibility of losing in part or whole a valuable and unique community asset, and for the staff almost four years of horrendous uncertainty, Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL) has taken over all the libraries with a contract which means no library can be closed and the library service must be developed. So, on the 1st of November when the GLL takes over, the only thing we may see as different is that the staff will wear a uniform - and Mottingham will still have a library!

MOTTINGHAM LIBRARY IN NOVEMBER

BROMLEY AND GREENWICH COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

Friday 3rd November from 6.45-8.00pm.

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 8th November 10.30-12 noon

'Having a blood test- what does it mean?'

Richard Mainwaring-Burton talks about his life as a Consultant Biochemist in Pathology

ARMCHAIR WALK WITH CHRIS

Friday 24th November 6.15-7.30

'Mysterious Marylebone' Come and discover the area of Marylebone



CALL TO PRAYER - 2018

Churches across the UK are preparing for mission together in 2018 to make Jesus known.

'Friday Focus 2017' provides the opportunity for us to pray where we are, and unite across our nation on Fridays (whenever possible), supporting all on-going mission across the UK and preparing the way for HOPE 2018

November 3rd Joyful invitation

Luke 10:1-11, 17: Pray that the possibility of rejection when talking about Jesus will not put us off.

November 10th Remembrance

John 15:9-17: We will remember and thank God for all those who have been willing to lay down their lives for our freedom.

November 17th Prison Hope connecting with churches

2 Corinthians 5:11-21: Pray for those who are working to help prisoners know the new life in Christ.

November 24th Carol services in stadiums

John 1:14: Pray for all the Christmas services planned in stadiums through Sprots Chaplaincy uk.



Calendar of Events

Messy Church

Sunday 5th November at 10.30am

This is preceded by breakfast

Prayer meeting

Wednesday 1st November at 7.30pm: At the house of Eddie and Dallas Green

Good Companions

Tuesday 14th November at 10.30am: Bring a photo you can't bear to throw away!

All Sorts Craft Group

Tuesday 28th November at 10.30am for one hour - door open at 10.00am.

There will be no Craft Group in December.

Community Lunch

Every Wednesday at 12.30am

Saturday Youth Club

Every Saturday from 7-10pm for 9-14 year olds

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MOTTINGHAM BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETING

Date: Tuesday 21st November at 8.00pm

Venue: St Andrew's Lady Chapel, Court Road

Topic: 'Pastoral Care', with special reference to John 21

MESSY CHURCH THEMES: NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

November - Remembering and Being Thankful

December - Christmas

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING? TRY THE CHRISTMAS FAYRES!

Saturday 11th Nov, 11-2pm, St Alban's

Saturday 25th Nov, 11-2pm, St Andrew's

MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

ADDRESS:

62 Mottingham Road, Mottingham, SE9 4QR

CONTACT:

The Minister: Revd. Alexandra Terrett

Telephone: 020 3237 1084

Please Note: The minister's normal day off is a Friday

THE CHURCH WEB SITE:

Church information is available on the WEB site

Log in to: <http://www.mottinghammethodistchurch.org.uk>.

THE CHURCH AND CHURCH HALL FOR HIRE

Contact: Sharon Michaelides for further information

Mobile: 07757 717399

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a note book at the rear of the Church for your use if you or someone you know would like to be remembered in prayer by the Church whether anonymously or by name. If it's easier to leave a note please do leave it in an envelope in the Church or in the Hall.

WE PRAY FOR

Revd Alex Terrett

Jackie

Janet

James

Maureen's Daughter, Tina, and partner, Roy

The Community Lunch

The Saturday Club



We subscribe to Parish Pump and the Association for Church Editors, two sites which provide material for church magazines. We are part of Churches Together in Mottingham.