

InforMatt

January 2020



Welcome to **InforMatt**, the monthly news-sheet for St. Matthew's, Surbiton. If you would like to know more about upcoming events and church activities, please visit our website – www.stmatthewskt6.org or visit us on Sunday mornings at 9.15 or 11am .

Out with the old . . . in with the new

In December's InforMatt I wrote a little about time—taking as my inspiration the passage in Ecclesiastes and contrasting *chronos* and *kairos* time as being about *quantity* of as opposed to *quality* of time. This month again I am reflecting on the curious nature of time as I write this trying to project my thoughts into January, whereas my present reality is a week before Christmas and a small mountain of things still to be done! But I should be reassured that whether or not all those things get done, Christmas will come and go and by the time you read this we will be nearly in 2020. All that pressure to get everything done and produce the perfect Christmas (whatever that looks like) will have evaporated and our priorities will need re- setting as we look forward once again to a new year.

I am sure we are all going to get fed up with the hype behind the year '2020'. I am told (and our bookings confirm this) that 2020 will be a popular year to get married—perhaps people think it will be easier to remember their wedding anniversary if the year, at least, is easy! There will also be lots of play made and advertising, I don't doubt, around 20:20 vision (and we may even use some ourselves!). But in 2020 we have in prospect a Leap Year, the Olympic Games in Tokyo, the International year of Plant Health (according to the UN) and a Bank Holiday Friday to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Victory in Europe Day marked the day towards the end of World War II when fighting against Nazi Germany came to an end in Europe.

Closer to home 2020 will bring another AwayWeekend planned for October (Fri 16th—Sun 18th) and details will come out for that in the Spring—please do put it in your 2020 diaries now! Well before then, we can look forward to the final scaffolding coming down, the return of the bells and the completion of the Tower and Spire Project. We will have to decide how best to celebrate that, so if you have any ideas—please let me know. It is important that we *do* celebrate this successful project and give thanks both to those who have helped us 'on the ground' - the contractors and professionals, donors and our own Project Team, to those who have helped 'in the sky' —the scaffolders and roped access surveyors—and to Almighty God.

Once it is all completed (and we have given ourselves some time to recover) we might think of taking new steps to make more use of our building, with its improved facilities, for the benefit of our whole community. We will be looking for someone to lead on co-ordinating heritage activities (especially Educational visits) on a one year paid part-time contract and if you might be interested in that position—do come and speak to me.

Only time will tell how much our increased visibility and presence resulting from the Tower and Spire Project will help us in the next phase of our development and mission. I know that more people know about us, more people have visited us and we understand a little more about the affection in which the building is held by many locally. That gives us lots to work upon but as we all know we will need to start any thinking by praying first. For as we come to the end of 2019 (and for the last time for a while!)

*'Unless the Lord builds the house,
Those who build it labour in vain.'*
Psalm 127.1



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St Matthew's along with St George's and St Paul's is part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry ('THIS Team')

December

22 Sunday		Fourth Sunday of Advent
	9.15 am	No Service
	10.30 am	All Age Communion Service with Christingle making
	6.15 for 6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight - bring a torch for easier reading by candlelight

24 Tues		CHRISTMAS EVE
	12.00 pm	Holy Communion for the residents of The Royal Star and Garter Home
	3.30 pm	Christingle Service - supporting the work of the Children's Society
	11.15 pm	Midnight Communion
25 Wed		CHRISTMAS DAY
	9.00 am	Holy Communion - a quiet formal spoken service.
	10.30 am	All Age Celebration Service

29 Sunday		First Sunday after Christmas
	10.30 am	Joint Service of Holy Communion

January

5 Sunday		Epiphany
	9.15 am	Holy Communion Service
	11.00 am	11 o'clock Service
	3.30 pm	Service for the residents at The Royal Star and Garter Home

6 Mon	9.45 am	Brunch Bunch
	8.00 pm	Inspire House Group
7 Tues	2.30 pm	Holy Communion for the residents of Rosclare Care Home
	8.00 pm	Ruby House Group
8 Wed	8.00 pm	Beta House Group
9 Thurs	10.15 am	Project Team meeting
	10.00 am	SMArties Embroidery Group
	7.00 pm	Choir practice - Sitzler Room
	8.00 pm	Delta House Group
	8.00 pm	Sigma House Group
10 Fri	10.00 am	St Matthew's Mum's Group meeting - Creche
	5.30 pm	Beevers using Sitzler Room

12 Sunday		Covenant Sunday and Motto Verse 2020
	9.15 am	Holy Communion Service
	11.00 am	11 o'clock Service

13 Mon	9.45 am	Brunch Bunch
	11.00 am	Holy Communion for the residents of Milverton Care Home
	8.00 pm	Inspire House Group
14 Tues	1.30 pm	Discipleship Team meeting
	8.00 pm	Beta House Group
15 Wed	2.00 pm	Chance to Chat - in church, all welcome
16 Thurs	7.00 pm	Choir practice - Sitzler Room
	8.00 pm	Delta House Group
	8.00 pm	Sigma House Group



18 Sat 4.30pm *The welcome return of Tom Bell - A fun afternoon of Laurel and Hardy films with live organ accompaniment*

19 Sunday

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Pulpit Swap

9.15 am Morning Prayer

11.00 am All Age Communion

5.00 pm Fuel Youth Group meeting - North Room

20 Mon

9.45 am Brunch Bunch

10.30 am Holy Communion for the residents of Bourne House

8.00 pm Inspire House Group

21 Tues

2.30 pm Holy Communion for the residents of The Royal Star and Garter Home

7.45 for CTS Meeting. At Surbiton Hill Methodist Church. Followed by time for prayer and

8.00 pm worship led by Doxa Deo Community Church for WoPCU.

Open meeting - all welcome.

22 Wed

8.00 pm Beta House Group

23 Thurs

10.00 am SMArties Embroidery Group

1.30 pm St Matthew's Mum's Group meeting - Creche

7.00 pm Choir practice - Sitzler Room

8.00 pm Delta House Group

8.00 pm Sigma House Group

24 Fri

12.30 pm Soup Lunch, in Church - for Unity week - everyone welcome!

25 Sat

12.30 pm Wedding in Church - Helen and Vini

26 Sunday

Third Sunday of Epiphany

9.15 am Holy Communion Service

11.00 am 11 o'clock Service

27 Mon

9.45 am Brunch Bunch

8.00 pm Inspire House Group

30 Thurs

10.15 am Project Team meeting

10.00 am SMArties Embroidery Group

7.00 pm Choir practice - Sitzler Room

8.00 pm Delta House Group

8.00 pm Sigma House Group

February

2 Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

10.30 am THiS Team Joint Service at St Paul's, followed by refreshments and a short Communion Service. NO services at St Matthew's

3.30 pm Service for the residents at The Royal Star and Garter Home

Future dates for your diary

October

16-18

AwayWeekend 2020-

After the success of the AwayDay last weekend the Discipleship Team is excited to announce that the **2020 residential AwayWeekend** will be held on **16 - 18 October 2020** once again at the De Vere Horsley Hotel. More details to follow but please put the dates in your diaries now so you are free to come along.