

90th Anniversary

Good to comment on a great success! Chris Salter's bright idea of celebrating the 90 years of church history, from the opening in 1931 to the present day, with a display for each decade, worked really well. Members got together to assemble a whole host of iconic items from each decade. It was real trip down memory lane as we took in the toys, books, cards, hats, records, and domestic items on display. We started with the 30's with an Art Deco bowl and journeyed on via the



Coronation, The Beatles, Dr Who, The Space Shuttle, Video games, Chicken Tonight, Nintendo. and the Olympics, arriving in 2021 with a lovely crocheted Coronavirus by Alice. Displays continued in the hall where a great collection of church history items had been assembled, including Junior church photos, and photos of Weddings and Baptisms, and family days, and of course the MAD panto story.



The
1930s
&
1940s



The 1950s





The 1960s



The 1970s



The
1980s



The
1990s



The
2000s



The
2010s



2020 & 2021



Stephen Froggatt

Good wishes for 90 th Annivesary

Past members of our church sent us good wishes for the celebration weekend. I picked main points out for the rolling display but here are their messages in full!!

Stephen Froggatt

Dear Members and Friends at Liphook Methodist Church,
Grace to you, and peace!

Many congratulations on this, your 90th Anniversary year. How wonderful to be a part of the Methodist life of Liphook in contemporary Britain as you face together the challenges of this final decade in Liphook Methodist Church's first Century of mission. Let's hope and pray that this coming decade will be one of great joy at what God is doing in your own special corner of Hampshire.

Like so many ministers this past year we have been busy learning the new skills of video editing, studio recording, Zoom and YouTube as we have explored new ways of providing worship other than being physically gathered. All my services are of course still up on our Circuit YouTube Channel, so do take a look if you want to hear one of my recent sermons! The photo is from a recording I did for one evening worship earlier in the year - what you can't see is that the empty church building I used was freezing cold, so I had to rely on the two candles behind me for warmth...

This is my fourth year of five in the Birmingham Sutton Park Circuit, following my initial Station in Liverpool Sankey Valley Circuit, and we have decided not to seek re-invitation at the end of August 2022. Our daughter Hannah will be coming up to the end of Year 6 by then so we will be free to move on into other avenues of ministry. Do continue to pray for us as we explore together where God is calling us next

I regret that I cannot celebrate with you this Summer in person. I am shortly to start a Sabbatical on the theme of Biblical Lament in Contemporary Worship, and then this will be followed by family holiday. Nevertheless I trust that it will be a time of great rejoicing for you all, and a time of exciting renewal as you approach the future together.

Every blessing,

Stephen

Grace Lace (formerly Barber) in Bournemouth

My membership of the Methodist Church began at Liphook. I was given such a warm welcome on my first visit in, I think, 1986. I now have many, many happy memories of not only my time at Liphook but of so many lovely people. My time as a member and later as president of the aptly named Women's Fellowship will live with me for a long time as I made many new friends there. I remember with great fondness the Rev. Phil Thomas who officiated at the funeral of my late husband Jack in 1990; the late Monica Church, Brenda Clare, and Joan Stephens with whom I am still in contact. The late Muriel Goodfellow (Local Preacher) was a great inspirer. I have lived in Bournemouth now for 14 years but I still think of Liphook as a special place to be a Christian.

Congratulations to Liphook Methodist Church on the 90 years since it was built, long may your congregation welcome people in the name of Christ and the Methodist Church.

Linda Gibbs in Wales

As far as Liphook Methodist Church is concerned, it was my church for around 35 years. I started attending services when Paul started at the Junior Church, he was five. Not long after he started, they needed more help, so Paul volunteered me! That was the start of 17 years of connection with the Junior Church - 12 years as a helper, 5 years as leader. I started feeling I needed to hear a 'grown up' sermon so resigned and for a short while enjoyed just being a member of the congregation. Not for very long! I was soon roped in to be a steward, but at least I was still able to enjoy the services.

I really enjoyed being a part of the church, it was such a friendly, warm welcoming place to be, I made several really good friends. All three of my children have very fond memories of the church and their church family. Andrea was baptised there and both Paul and Andrea were married there.

Congratulations on your 90th anniversary with, hopefully, many more anniversaries to come.

Philippa and David Holland in Scotland

My first contact with Liphook Methodist Church was more than 15 years ago when my neighbour invited me to join the ladies at Women's Fellowship. After a couple of weeks I plucked up courage and attended my first meeting. I did not look back. As a lifelong member of the Church of England and a member of the Mothers Union since my late 20s, it was refreshing to see how a different denomination did things. I left the Church of England and joined Liphook Methodists several years later. David and I agreed that we enjoyed the Methodist way of worship and we felt very welcome by the warm, friendly people we met. Our memories are of a wonderful team working together to provide meaningful worship in church with Holy Communion, a myriad of inspiring preachers and beautiful local arrangement services which included contributions from so many members of the congregation. There were intimate quiet prayer meetings on Wednesdays, shared with so many who could not attend, by email, which we still receive weekly keeping us in touch with our friends in the South. There were fun things like the Hobbies Group, acting group, and who can fault the MAD pantomimes supported by so many behind the scenes and front of house, what a fabulous team effort. Caring is so important and manifests itself in the Pastoral Care groups supporting every member and associates of the church. There are many other activities including Bible studies and Soup for the Soul. I must mention 'Window' which keeps us all in touch with what is and has gone on in the church community which I am glad to say we still receive by email and enjoy.

Thank you Liphook Methodist Church for this spiritual time we had with you and to all the individuals who make up a church and are too many to mention by name. You are all in our hearts and prayers and may you all celebrate 90 years of meeting in this place in Christ's name.