

Services



March 2018

4th	10:30 am	Rev Roy Smith
11th	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Holy Communion)
	6:30 pm	SCT Ecumenical Service at St Michael's
18th	10:30 am	Doreen Murgatroyd
	6.30 pm	Film Night—note now 3rd Sunday
25th	10:30 am	Rev Jackie Case
	6:00 pm	Café Worship at High Cross—every 4th Sunday
29th	7:00 pm	Rev Sharon Gardner (Maundy Thursday Service, Holy Communion)
30th	11:30am	Good Friday Service

For (nearly) up to the minute news, visit our new website:
www.sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

If you're on Facebook—then 'like' our Facebook pages—
and join in the conversation -

Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church
And **Babes and Tots—Sandhurst**

And if you tweet, we're there too:
@SandYMethChurch

To get in touch email:

Stewards: steward@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Hall hire: halls@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Weekly notices: notices@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Monthly Newsletter: newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Multimedia: multimedia@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Website: siteadmin@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Anything else: info@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk



*Sandhurst and Yateley
Methodist Church
Newsletter
March 2018*

The Minister writes...

Dear friends,

We are now in the season of Lent – a time when we travel spiritually towards Easter. Traditionally it has always been a period of self-denial and reflection, penitence even, as we identify with Jesus' Passion and his journey towards Good Friday and the cross. Whilst as Christians we live with the knowledge and joy of the Resurrection always in our hearts, it is important that, during Lent, we do not arrive too soon at the celebration of that first Easter dawn, because the pilgrimage itself matters.

Years ago I climbed Snowdon with a good friend of mine and our respective children. Whilst the children took the climb in their stride – literally! – it was somewhat more of a slog for us adults. The lower slopes were easy enough and we enjoyed the summer sunshine as we gradually ascended, chatting happily. A couple of hours in and the gradient was a lot steeper, the sunshine had been replaced with drizzle, the cagoules were on and the chatter had reduced to necessary sentences only. We climbed through intermittent cloud and the cairns we passed took on something of a sombre aspect. When the mists cleared and we could see again down the mountainside, we understood all the warnings about the changeability of the weather and keeping to the path. It was easy to imagine what could happen if one wandered off it.

Eventually we reached the summit, the absolute top of Snowdon. The clouds that had threatened to ruin the moment rolled away and we looked back down the path we had trodden, amazed at the view below and the distance we had come. Our tiredness evaporated and we were buzzing with a sense of achievement and the sheer beauty of it all.

The thing is though, we could have taken the train and saved ourselves a lot of legwork. The view would have been just as glorious BUT we would have missed out on so much and it would not have been the same. The mountain-top experience owes a good part of what it is to the struggle of getting there, the resting places along the way (and the sense of being part of something bigger than just us, as we add our stones to the cairns) and the companions who walk with us.

This is true for our spiritual selves too and the days of Lent provide us with the opportunity to make a pilgrimage for our hearts and souls. What might we learn, who might we encounter, what might God have planned for us as we journey through the weeks ahead? My prayer for each of us is that we make this a time when we draw closer to God through prayer and reflection, a time when we deepen our fellowship with our 'travelling companions,' a time when we embrace



March 2018 Rotas

Flowers

4th Wendy King
11th Wendy hart
18th -
25th Alison Fradgley

Funtime Worship

Funtime Worship is available during term time. If children are present then there will be someone to provide FTW.

Welcome

4th Dennis Richards
11th Mick Malone
18th Frankie Hiron
25th Sue Truby

Coffee

Alison Bone and Julia Spencer-Jones
Alison Fradgley and Sonia Walton
Margaret Picken and Cynthia Robinson
Phil and Hilary Tattershall

Lifts to Church on Sunday morning

If you require a lift to church and you live in Sandhurst or Yateley, please ring through the listed names. They are happy to give lifts if they are available. Please alternate between the names if using the service regularly.

Yateley

Pam Hardy 01252 870468
Tricia Needes 01252 658350

Sandhurst

Graham Fradgley 01276 36631
Barbara Rush 01252 876051
Douglas Brown 01252 655419
John Mason 01344 775250

Praise and Prayer



An afternoon of singing, prayer and fellowship starting at 14:30 pm.

All are welcome—
old and young, ladies and gentlemen.

Refreshments are served
following the short meeting.



Do come along on 13th March

Then 10th April, 8th May, 12th June, 10th July, 14th August.

Details from Frankie on 01344 772485 or fhiron137@btinternet.com
Please come and join us, you will be very welcome.

Spiritual Development Group



The spiritual development group organise:

Regular Prayer meetings and evening Bible Study, every
Tuesday evening

Tuesday Praise and Prayer (2nd Tuesday)

Rejoice! (4th Tuesday)

Daytime Bible Study (1st and 3rd Tuesday)

Please join us—or speak to Keg, Frankie or Sue for
more details.

March

6th 2:00 pm	Bible Study	Schoolroom
7:30 pm	Prayer Group	
8:00 pm	Bible Study	
13th 2:30 pm	Praise and Prayer	Schoolroom
7:30 pm	Prayer Group	
8:00 pm	Bible Study	
20th 2:00 pm	Bible Study	Schoolroom
7.30 pm	Prayer Group	
8:00 pm	Bible Study	
27th 2.30 pm	Rejoice!	Schoolroom
7:00 pm	Prayer Group	
8:00 pm	Bible Study	

the obstacles in our paths because of what they have to teach us and a time of knowing that we are treading in the footsteps of Jesus, our friend and our Saviour.

With every blessing,

Sharon

What's on?

March

2nd: Women's World Day of Prayer services

3rd: Mark's Gospel Study Day

4th: Haiti: Hurricanes and Hope

6th: Bible Study, Prayer Group, Bible Study

7th: Robin Lane housegroup

8th: Coffee morning, Scotland Hill housegroup

10th: Easter Fair

13th: Praise and Prayer, Prayer Group, Bible Study

15th: Club 15—Quiz night

17th: Messy Church

18th: Film night— The Imitation Game

20th: Bible Study, Prayer Group, Bible Study

22nd: SYMC hosting Circuit Meeting

24th: Glorious Cathedral Classics

27th: Rejoice!, Prayer Group, Bible Study

29th: Maundy Thursday Supper

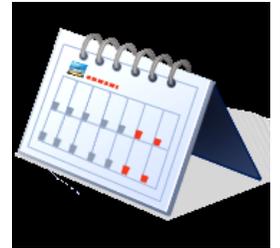
30th: Good Friday

April

1st: Easter Sunday

15th: Film night – Rising

28th Carmina Burana



Film night—upcoming ...

We have moved film night so that it doesn't clash with the café style worship at High Cross. Please join us for a film, fellowship and a pizza (we order in).
Next one is

'The Imitation Game' on **Sunday 18th March**,
then **'Rising'** on **Sunday 15th April**

Paper newsletter—donations please

If you have a paper copy of the newsletter, then please do consider making a donation towards the cost of printing—in the enclosed envelope.

Please hand your envelope in with the collection or give to any steward.

Thanks

PS Most people now get their newsletter by email (a week earlier than the paper copy) or download it from the website.

If you'd like to change from a paper to an email/download copy, please email
newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Yateley
CHORAL
SOCIETY

Musical Director: Quintin Beer



**GLORIOUS
CATHEDRAL
CLASSICS**

Saturday 24th March 2018

St Swithun's Church, Yateley, 7.45pm

Tickets £12

Students £5, under 16s free

Available on the door, from 01276 682749
or from Yateley Town Council Offices

Registered Charity: 295665

www.yateley-choral.org.uk



Minister

Rev Sharon Gardner

minister@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk
01344 774967

Pastoral leader
Margaret Picken
pastoral@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Church Stewards—steward@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Karen Glossop	01344 762407	Senior Steward
Sandra Wooledge	01344 775177	
Heather Brown	01252 655419	
Matt Rowell	01344 775744	

House Fellowship groups providing a friendly platform for discussion ...

Scotland Hill House Group:

Robert Godden, 11 Scotland Hill, Sandhurst.
01252 872503

Thursday March 8th

Robin Lane House Group:

Diana Middleditch—hosted at Alison and Graham
Fradgley's for a while

Forbes Chase, Sandhurst

Wednesday 7th March



Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **April** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 25th March) or website should be with Sue Truby by **Thursday March 15th**

Contributions should either be:

Handed to Sue at Church,

Emailed to: newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Or posted to 58 Crowthorne Road, Sandhurst GU47 9EP (01252 879236)

Newsletter and website

Thanks very much to all those people who send in articles and reports and news unsolicited. You make my job much easier!

But please, if you are about to put a poster up in the foyer or noticeboards—pass it to me first.

If you've been to some event—please tell me about it afterwards.

If you're aware of a change of date or venue—let me know as soon as you can.

The newsletter is (usually) in church on the last Sunday of the month for the following month. In order to do that, I have to send it to the printer the previous Sunday, and since it takes me several days to put it together, copy date is usually the middle of the week before that. I always put the next issue's copy date in the newsletter (see the bottom of the next page) and Barbara puts it in the notices, so you will always know when I need things, although with plenty of notice and by prior arrangement, I can usually still accept things between the copy date and the Sunday evening.

The more notice people have of upcoming events, the better!

Thanks. Sue

Messy Church

Messy Church happens on the 3rd Saturday each month.

The next date is **Saturday 17th March** Please do encourage friends or relatives with small children to come along and have some fun.

Babes and Tots

Wednesday mornings 10:30 to 12:00,

If you know of anyone in the community with a young baby or child, please invite them to attend.

Small friendly group, all welcome,
mums, dads, grandparents.



Facebook page: Babes and Tots—Sandhurst.

Prayer Group and Bible Study

1st and 3rd Tuesday at 2pm—daytime Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 7:30—Prayer Group—followed by, from 8-9, evening Bible Study.

Club 15 Christmas Dinner

Apologies. I wrongly attributed the report in the last newsletter to Eunice—it should have been Carol.

Maundy Thursday supper

Our Maundy Supper and Service is at 7 pm on **Thursday 29th March** 2018, with Communion and we have again invited members from other churches.

We know it seems a long way ahead but planning is important! Please put the date in your diary now.

Glorious Cathedral Classics – Yateley Choral Society

For our Spring concert we will be performing a rousing and moving collection of Cathedral Anthems from across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Sacred music has always held a central role in the great and enviable choral tradition of the United Kingdom. This is a tradition made famous by composers working primarily in and for the cathedrals and collegiate universities. Yateley Choral Society's diverse programme of sacred music will take you through various narratives, convictions and reflections on the state and meaning of human existence, through a uniquely British perspective.

Experience the ferocity of Stanford's For Lo I Raise Up, an anthem using the vivacious text from the Old Testament. Or perhaps Ireland's wartime song of sacrifice, Greater Love hath no Man, might hold greater resonance for you. We will sing miniatures such as Stainer's much-loved anthem God So Loved the World and larger cantata-like works including Wesley's monumental Blessed be the God and Father.

Enjoy the uplifting nature of Charles Wood's melodious choral writing and engage in the soft beauty and heavenly visions of Edgar Bainton.

And no programme of this music would be complete without a performance of Parry's much loved coronation anthem I Was Glad.

We have selected a definitive selection box of the English choral tradition's favourite pieces. With something in this programme for everyone, this concert will be a splendid way to spend a March evening.

We are delighted to be joined by Benjamin Newlove, former organ scholar at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, who will showcase some distinctive English organ music. Friends of Yateley Choral Society

Friends of Yateley Choral Society

If you would like to be kept up to date with news of upcoming concerts and other developments within Yateley Choral Society, why not register as a Friend of Yateley Choral Society? It's simple: just fill in and return the slip below at our next concert, hand it to Wilf, or email your information to info@yateley-choral.org.uk and we'll email you all our news.

For tickets you can also contact Wilf Hardy – wjhsot@aol.com

Please register me as a **Friend of Yateley Choral Society**

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Crowthorne Foodbank



Current shortages -

Tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables and Potatoes, Custard, Rice Puddings and LL Milk.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support

Coffee mornings

Coffee Mornings every **second Tuesday** in the month

We have started a monthly Coffee Morning at church for members and visitors. The first one was held in January and we had a dozen people attend. It was a lovely opportunity to catch up over coffee and cakes.

Do put the dates in your diary and pop along if you are free between 1030 and 12 midday.

Next date **Thursday 8th March.**

Heather

Communion Steward

Currently we have a vacancy for another Communion Steward. This entails setting up Communion and clearing away afterwards and leading folks forward during the service to take Communion.

We have about three Communion services a quarter, so if you could offer to take up a position on the Team, you will potentially have just one duty every three months. Please consider if you could undertake this and let Keg or one of the Stewarding Team know.

Thank you in anticipation - Stewarding Team.

Musicians

Calling all musicians.

We are in desperate need of people to accompany singing on Sunday mornings be it on piano, organ, guitar or other instrument. With only 2 of us playing regularly there are a lot of Sundays to cover between us. There is a real chance that sooner or later we will have days when neither of us are available and singing will have to be unaccompanied.

If you can help in any way please speak to me.

Alison B

Sunday school or a youth group, you can ignore social evenings and home groups, but if you have worship, you are still a church—a poor church but still a church.

Self-fulfilling worship?

In his report to the 2011 Conference, the Ref Dr Martyn Atkins, then General Secretary of the Methodist Church and Secretary of the Methodist Conference, said that having travelled around the country for a few years, he had picked up a prevailing view that Methodist worship “neither reaches the heights nor plumbs the depths”. Is Dr Atkins right? If he is, what has caused this and how might we change things?

I believe we get the worship we deserve. If we go to worship with a wrong frame of mind; without preparing ourselves (including praying for those who will lead worship); if we go with our minds made up as to what it is going to be like and what we will get out of it, questioning the length of sermon or choice of hymns, we then generate a self-fulfilling prophecy. You might find it helpful to think about other stumbling blocks to good experiences of worship, including these typically Methodist tripping hazards:

1. The free availability of the Preaching Plan listing who is taking the next service, along with announcing who is taking next week’s act of worship, instead of simply stating when the next service will be and inviting people to attend. We need to move the focus away from the leader of worship to the God whom we worship
2. Busy office holders going to church with lots to sort out and people they need to talk to—focusing on the busyness of responsibility rather than the One for whom we seek to be useful. The privilege of worshipping the God of love; the God of all creation; the God who was, and is, and is to come, means that our primary focus should be God.

Glorifying and enjoying God.

Worship is when we come together to meet with God and any encounter with the living God will change us. People leaving worship should be different—changed—by the experience of meeting God. Perhaps imperceptibly at first, but over time we are changed.

The Westminster Catechism states that the chief purpose of humanity is to glorify God and enjoy God forever. Not to go to worship so that we can get something good from God. The principal focus of any worship is God. Graham Kendrick, quoting Lamar Boschman, puts it like this: “Worship is first and foremost for God’s benefit, not ours, though it is marvellous to discover that in giving God pleasure, we ourselves enter into what can become our richest and most wholesome experience in life.”

Worship is the central activity of the Church and—perhaps—we could do better?

What do you think? Find us on Facebook and tell us your thoughts.

Club 15 February



Club 15's event in February was a take-away evening organised by Alison & Graham Fradgley and held at their house with five others attending.

Taking into account our preferences, Graham brought in a tasty selection of Indian and Chinese dishes, and there was plenty for everyone.

In fact we were so absorbed by our sumptuous meal that we completely forgot about the obligatory photo for the newsletter and only remembered afterwards when our plates were empty.

Despite numbers being down on last year's event, a good time was had by all.

Many thanks to Graham and Alison for hosting this enjoyable evening.
Robert

Why do you go to church?

A question posed on the back cover of the Winter issue of 'the connexion'

This question is usually asked spontaneously and we find ourselves on the spot. So what answer should we give? Chair of Plymouth and Exeter district, the Rev Graham Thompson reflects on worship.

We go to church to worship God! We enjoy being with God. We want to celebrate all that Jesus offers, for we are people of the Resurrection—those who die and rise with Jesus and live every moment of every day certain that our risen Lord is in us and with us. We offer praise to God for who God is and all that God means to us. We offer thanks for the many wonderful ways in which God has blessed us; for the privilege of enjoying a relationship with the eternal God.

Worship is the central activity of the church. Without worship there would be no Church. You can take away Bible studies and prayer meetings, you can lose a

Women's World Day of Prayer

The annual Women's World Day of Prayer service is to be held at our church on **Friday March 2nd** at 10.30a.m. and will feature the Women of Suriname (northeast of South America). All are welcome to attend. Any questions please ask me.

Many thanks

Heather

The churches in Sandhurst have also been invited to attend the service being held by Churches Together in Crowthorne, at Crowthorne Methodist Church at 10.30 am.

Many thanks - Keg

Stewards and Assistant Stewards

Stewards Rota

We are currently trying to put together the next rota from May to December 2018.

Please consider committing to a couple of duties, whether as Steward or Assistant (or both!).

The Team really need some help.

Please let Keg know so she can update the rota.

This information is needed by the end of the month please.

Flower rota

The new flower rota is in operation now.

If you're using the silk flowers, then please give your donation to the stewards so that it can be recorded as going towards the 'flower fund' so that, at some point, we will be able to pay for another silk arrangement. **Please remember that a simple bouquet of flowers in a vase is perfectly ok—there is no need to do a fancy arrangement.**

There are still some gaps in the rota. If you would like to help with one of these, please let Sue Truby know.

Dates still vacant are:

18th March

3rd June

17th June

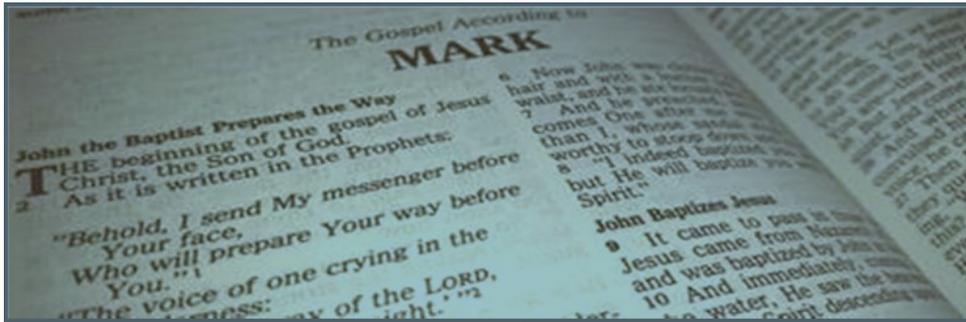
15th July

12th August

26th August

Any questions, please ask Sue.





Mark's Gospel

A study day for preachers, and everyone else
Saturday 3rd March 2018
9.45 for 10am start
Redhill Methodist Church, RH1 1BP

The Gospel according to St Mark was the earliest of the written gospels and so is particularly well set to show how the early church understood Jesus and their Christian faith. 'Mark' carries a particularly pertinent message for our times and a deeply empowering message for disciples of Jesus. It is also the lectionary's gospel focus for this year towards which this day will provide both background and 'the big picture'.

The study day will be a highly interactive journey together through the first eight chapters, paying very close attention to the text and its context, and learning how to discover its meaning for ourselves. At the same time the approach is 'low tech', with few resources and is highly accessible to everyone. It certainly will be a good resource for teachers, preachers and leaders but this is not about accumulating knowledge so much as it is about growing as disciples and learning to follow Jesus more closely. It will challenge you, and be time well spent.

The day has been planned to help preachers with Lectionary Year B and to prepare us for Lent and Easter.

There is no charge for the day - bring a packed lunch, (excellent!) soup and a roll provided.

Please book your place by contacting either:
Eddie Newton (01737 765450, eandpnewton@talktalk.net) or
Adrian Roux (rouxa@methodistchurch.org.uk)

This study day replaces the seminars due to be led by Rev Dr Alastair Bolt, who has had to withdraw for health reasons.



Easter·Fair

Saturday 10th March

2 to 4 p.m.

Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church

Scallan d Hill

Sandhurst

Gifts, games, Easter Egg Hunt, tea and coffee



Yateley Choral Society

Musical Director: Quintin Beer

Bring & Sing CARMINA BURANA

Saturday 28th April 2018

Yateley Manor School, Yateley

Tickets for workshop and performance: £15

Audience tickets for performance: £10

For further information, please contact us at:
info@yateley-choral.org.uk

Registered Charity: 295665
www.yateley-choral.org.uk



A former convict shares his testimony of how Christ has transformed his life as part of the Tuesday night event on 'Living for Freedom'

Update from Tim Jackson for February

Living For?

University of York Christian Union (UYCU) - Give thanks for the faith and hope of the students in the Christian Union to have the boldness to run a really excellent week of events for the glory of God. A real highlight was seeing CU students grow in confidence of the goodness and truth of the gospel, as they invited fellow students throughout the week. Do join me in praying on for the CU there as they follow up the gospel opportunities God has provided from the week, particularly that seekers would be lovingly welcomed in to Christian community and that they would see how wonderful Jesus is as they learn about Him. The Tuesday night College CU Bible discussions going through studies in John's Gospel will be significant for this.

'D' - Give thanks for 'D's kind hospitality as he put me up for the week. It was a real encouragement and challenge to see the way that he is regularly alongside unbelieving friends, and the opportunities he has for witnessing to them, particularly through the Frisbee team. It was nice to see him attend some events with his friends. He has much to offer the CU and the church he attends as an example of being a good friend to unbelieving mates. At the same time, the CU and the church have much to offer 'D' and his friends as a Christian community. Do pray that 'D', the CU and the church would serve each other well for the gospel.

'J' - J attended every lunchtime event during the week, openly sharing that he appreciated the free food! He was honest about his skepticism, though was happy to agree that Jesus existed and was crucified.



A packed marquee listening to the lunchtime talk on 'Why would a good God allow so much suffering?'

Pray that he would be convicted of the truth of Christ's resurrection, and the goodness of the gospel for his life. 'J' has been engaging with the claims of Christianity since before the week, as he is friends with one of the CU members and attends a church in York. Let's pray that his investigation will continue and culminate in him responding to Jesus in repentance and faith.

'R' - I met 'R' during the Wednesday lunchbar on 'Why would a good God allow so much suffering?' He is a really lovely lad, and we enjoyed continuing to talk about this topic and about student life for a long while after the event. He described himself as an agnostic, and is open to looking at John's gospel as a thinking adult - which is really exciting! We were able to meet up again later in the week to look through John 1 and discuss this together. His 'churched' background was evident in our discussion as we looked at the passage - he recognises the brokenness of humanity. Do join me in praying that 'R' would see and know how wonderful Jesus is, as he attends the follow on Bible discussion groups with the James College CU group on Tuesday nights this term.

'T' is a friend of the CU who engages with Christian doctrine, and attended the Monday and Friday evening events. Do pray that he would recognise the authority and sufficiency of the 66 books of the Bible, and the finished atoning work of Christ on the Cross.

Others:

'P' is an undergraduate student from China, intrigued to learn more about Christianity. Wonderfully she got speaking to Lowri, a fellow Relay Worker, and the three of us were able to look through a dual Chinese-English study on John 1, covering some of the wonderful truths of a loving, relational God who is Three-in-One. Do pray that she would be convicted of the real existence of Jesus. It was nice that one of the CU co-presidents was able to attend church with her on



Former Gladiator 'Ace' (aka Warren Furman) sharing how he has become a "Gladiator for the Gospel" during the evening themed on 'Living for Success'.

Sunday.

'M' has engaged with the CU already this academic year, through various friends in the Frisbee team (including my host 'D' and another lad James, who is a former Relay Worker!) and their Carol Service in York Minster. Do pray for opportunities for 'M' to investigate who Jesus is at a deeper and more personal level, by looking at Him in Scripture with one of these friends.

CONTACT

UCCF: The Christian Unions
Blue Boar House
5 Blue Boar Street
Oxford, OX1 4EE

01865 253 678
info@uccf.org.uk
www.uccf.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 306137

uccf:thechristianunions
making disciples of Jesus Christ in the student world

Club 15 March—quiz night

April Corner, 14 St Helens Crescent, Sandhurst

An opportunity for the Quizzical and the curious!
Refreshments to feed the brain provided.
£5.00 a head

RSVP useful to cebaker@btconnect.com or 01344 777902