

Services



February 2021

NOTE This is correct at the time of publication. Please confirm on our website or Facebook page in case we're open for in person services again.

7th	online	Mary Elms/Pauline Matondo
14th	online	Rev Sharon Gardner (if in person, then Holy Communion)
21st	online	Irene Robinson
	online	Sandhurst Churches Together Zoom service hosted by the Baptist Church—see details on page 16
28th	online	Christine Morgan

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

Musicians: musicians@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Website: siteadmin@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Anything else: info@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk



*Sandhurst
and Yateley
Methodist
Church
Newsletter
February
2021*

The Minister writes...



https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/01/28/16/18/spring-1166564_340.jpg

Dear friends,

It would be premature to say that spring is here. As I write this it is still officially two months away. And yet....snowdrops are in flower and other bulbs are pushing their way up into the light, soon to bloom and bring their sunshine colours to cheer us. The nights are getting shorter and the other evening, walking the dogs at 4.30pm – still in daylight (just!) – I heard the birds singing their last song of the day and the hoot of an owl just beginning his. The sounds and sights filled me with hope because they are signs of what is soon to come.

In the same way, it would be premature to say that we have waved goodbye to the long 'winter' of Covid. We still need to take care, we need to stay in when we can and keep our distance from others when we have to go out. It has been a long time. There have been times in the last year when the restrictions have relaxed and we have thought maybe we were coming out of the pandemic, only to have the reality of its presence felt all too cruelly as the number of Covid cases and Covid deaths rose exponentially during November and December. And yet....there are signs of hope. The vaccination programme is being rolled out, not without some hiccoughs, true, but nevertheless it is continuing apace and each day we hear of more of our elderly or vulnerable friends receiving their first shot and we breathe a collective, if cautious, sigh of relief.

February 2021 Rotas

Flowers

We're using the silk flowers for now

Funtime Worship

No separate provision for Funtime worship this month. Please feel free to bring children, but they will have to stay with you in church.

Cleaning

w/c 8/2/21 Sandra W and Wendy H

Welcome

Coffee

No welcome person for now No coffee after the service for now

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.

Please do take advantage of this service—people really do want to help.

Yateley

Pam Hardy 01252 870468
Tricia Needes 01252 658350

Sandhurst

Graham Fradgley 01276 36631
Barbara Rush 01252 876051
Douglas Brown 01252 655419

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, Sharon or Sue for more details.

Due to the latest lockdown, Tuesday afternoon Bible Study/Praise and Prayer/Rejoice won't start yet.

Sharon will be leading a **course during Lent**. This will start on **Tuesday 23rd February 2021** at 7.30pm and will take the place of our regular Bible Study. We will be holding this course via Zoom and the link is the same as for the Bible study i.e., <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84061192040pwd=d1p0MlVXZDRlTFdpZlZlZc0OEEdjdz09>
Meeting ID: 840 6119 2040
Password: 526263

All are welcome to join us

Lent course dates 23/2, 2/3, 8/3 (Monday), 16/3, 23/3, 30/3

February

2021

2nd	7:30 pm 8:00 pm	Now Church Council (postponed from 26/1)	Zoom
9th	7:30 pm 8:00 pm	Prayer group Bible Study	Zoom
16th	7:30 pm 8:00 pm	Prayer group Bible Study	
23rd	7:30pm	Lent Course starts	Zoom

We cannot know at this point when it will be safe to return to church. Hopefully it will not be too far off. When we will be able to worship as we would really love to – without masks, sitting next to one another, singing the hymns, sharing the peace and enjoying fellowship after the service – well, I suspect that is still some time away. But every passing week, every passing day brings us a little closer to it.

This month sees the start of Lent. Wednesday 17th February is Ash Wednesday and there will be a Circuit service that day on Zoom (more details to follow in the notices). As we make our Lenten journey, we must acknowledge the pain and the losses we have had to bear over the last year. We must give them their due, but we must also acknowledge and give thanks that we have never been abandoned by the God who loves us. He has been with us, in Jesus, each step of the way and his faithfulness continues to uphold us. We must also travel in hope and expectation because *this* Easter will be very different from the last one. Last year we clung to the Resurrection promise but in our hearts and in our lives it felt more like we were stuck in Easter Saturday. *This* year we will be able to celebrate the breaking open of the tomb and the triumphant shout of joyful victory, and Easter will have new meaning for us.

So, my friends, have a good Lent. Be prepared to say goodbye to some of the old ways and get ready to welcome the new. Travel well in your spiritual pilgrimages and look to the hope of spring and the promise of Resurrection at the end of the journey.

With every blessing,

Sharon



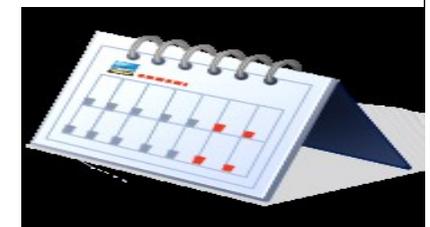
What's on?

2021 January

26th: Church council postponed

2021 February

2nd postponed Church Council (Zoom)
6th Virtual Coffee Morning
14th Zoom SCT at the Baptist Church
15th Club 15 Nature Walk
17th Ash Wednesday Circuit Service
23rd Lent Course starts



Christian Aid—0.7%



Hopefully you are aware that in November, the Conservative Government broke its election pledge and cross-party consensus by cutting the UK overseas aid budget.

The cut was from 0.7% of Gross National Income to 0.5%

So for every £10 the UK earns, the amount we give to help the poorest in the world has gone down from 7p to 5p. Due to the pandemic the UK's income went down in 2020 so the total amount of aid was going down anyway. The change in the % makes this even worse and the UK is no longer meeting the United Nations target of 0.7%.

Given the effect of the pandemic on the world's poor, this cut will only cause further hardship.

The government claims the cut was due to economic conditions. Several political commentators e.g., Nick Robinson and Laura Kuenssberg, have asserted that in the overall scheme, the amount saved of £3bn to £4bn was "small beer" and was done for political reasons to appease the Tory base and right wing press. My local Tory MP has indicated the cut is temporary but can give no date for when it will be reviewed or reversed.

So, whilst we campaign alongside UK churches and charities for the aid budget to be restored, we can do something personally to help:

Are you giving 0.7% of your income to overseas charities such as Christian Aid or Save the Children? Check out the sums involved with the link below and start 2021 with a positive step:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-to-donate/0.7-pledge-aid-budget>

For further information please contact:

Wilf Hardy
wjhscot@aol.com
07823 406908

Methodist News

The Methodist Church UK website is a great resource. There are a number of newsletters which you can subscribe to—for example 'The Methodist News.

Go to www.methodist.org.uk, enter 'newsletters' in the quick search box at top right hand corner, and sign up for whichever you want :-)

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 ...

Thursday House Group:

Robert Godden, 11 Scotland Hill, Sandhurst. 01252 872503

No February meeting

Wednesday House Group:

Diana Middleditch
—hosted at Alison and Graham Fradgley's
3 Forbes Chase, Sandhurst

No February meeting.



Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **March** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 28th February 2021 or website should be with Sue Truby by **Wednesday February 17th 2021.**

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)

History continued

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 26 | Where did the Boxer rebellion take place? | China |
| 27 | And when? | 1899-1901 |
| 28 | Where was the Armistice to end WWI signed on the 11th November 1918? | Compiègne, France |
| 29 | Which US State has the largest number of electoral college votes? | California |
| 30 | Where did Fletcher Christian and the Bounty mutineers settle? | Pitcairn Islands |

Natural world

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 31 | What is the collective name for a group of crows? | Murder |
| 32 | Who discovered gravity after an apple fell on him? | Isaac Newton |
| 33 | Which is the smallest planet in the solar system? | Mercury |
| 34 | Which vitamin is generally made by bodily exposure to sunlight? | D |
| 35 | What is a Shad? | Fish |
| 36 | What is the fastest moving snake in the world? | Black Mamba |
| 37 | What is a Quarrion? | Parrot |
| 38 | Which animal is know in Latin as Canis Vulper? | Fox |
| 39 | Acer is the Latin name for which tree? | Maple |
| 40 | Where is the Mariana Trench? | Pacific |

Food and drink

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 41 | What is made at St James' Brewery? | Guinness |
| 42 | How many litres in a magnum? | 1.5 |
| 43 | In which year was Fry's Turkish Delight launched? | 1914 |
| 44 | Grenadine is obtained from which fruit? | Pomegranate |
| 45 | What year did the first 'McDonald's' store open? | 1948 |
| 46 | What is the most expensive spice in the world by weight? | Saffron |
| 47 | Which pungent plant has its own festival on the Isle of Wight each year? | Garlic |
| 48 | What meat is used in Fricadelles? | Pork |
| 49 | What is tofu made from? | Bean Curd |
| 50 | From what ingredient is Saki made? | Rice |

Christmas Fair—sort of

We are grateful to Ann Woledge for all the Christmas items she puts together for the church fairs. As we were unable to hold the regular fair we held a mini market in the church car park instead. With help from Felix and his pricing skills the event raised £175 for church funds.

Sandra

Sandra and Doug



I always feel we were destined to meet as we kept bumping into each other at various local places before starting to go out on Valentines day.

One year later on 20th February we married at Stoke Poges Church where Thomas Grey wrote an Elegy in a country churchyard.

Our honeymoon was in Gibraltar coming back to live in our house in Oak Avenue, Owlsmoor, moving in 1984 to where we are now. As we are both from this area there are lots of family members nearby.

We have been blessed with two children, Sarah and David and two grandchildren Felix and Theo.



When the children were younger we enjoyed many camping holidays together and once they had grown up we were able to visit many places around the world including, Cambodia, China, South Africa, Canada and America.

Sandra

Coming back to church services—some guidelines for when we're open again

- If you are feeling unwell we request that you do not come to church.
- Each individual will need to wear a face mask/covering unless you are medically exempt.
- The Church **will open at 1020** for the service to begin at 1030.
- Please enter the Church through the entrance on Scotland Hill Road. The door at the back of the hall will be closed by the car park. You will be asked to wait outside if there are too many people in the welcome area.
- Please use one of the hand sanitisers in the welcome area.
- Then go on through into the main worship area and sit down on a chair not marked with a red cross.
- If the main worship area is full the steward will direct you to a chair in the crèche where you will be able to hear the service through a speaker.
- The Service will last 30 – 40 minutes. I'm afraid during the service there will be no communal singing.
- If you need the toilet please use the toilet in the welcome area. Please use hand sanitiser before/after and please clean the toilet/wash basin with the wipes provided.
- If you feel ill during the service please let the steward know.
- At the end of the service please remain seated until the steward asks you to leave.
- Please exit the church through the entrance onto Scotland Hill Road.
- Please can we request you do not congregate outside the entrance onto Scotland Hill Road as people are leaving.
- If you wish to talk to friends please walk round to the car park where you can have a social distance chatter there.
- There will be no refreshments.
- At all times we must try to keep a social distance of 1-2 metres while entering, leaving and being in the church.



Matt Rowell

The November Club 15 quiz answers: How did you get on?

General Knowledge

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | In what year was the Battle of Hastings? | 1066 |
| 2 | What is the nickname of Sandhurst Town? | The Fizzers |
| 3 | Where is the UK's National Space Centre? | Leicester |
| 4 | Who wrote the music for Westside Story? | Bernstein |
| 5 | Henry VIII had 6 wives. Who was his court portrait painter? | Holbein |
| 6 | In 1967 BBC One Radio started. What was the first song played? | Flowers in the rain |
| 7 | Who was the first President of Independent Ghana? | K Nkrumah |
| 8 | Who was the lead singer of the rock band Queen, and name one other member? | Freddie Mercury, Brian May |
| 9 | What shop is replacing the NatWest Bank in Sandhurst? | Greggs |
| 10 | Legend has it that King Arthur's Court was located in Cornwall? If so, where is it? | Tintagel |

Geography

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 11 | Name the capital of Alaska | Juneau |
| 12 | Name the world's largest lake | Superior |
| 13 | What is Van Diemen's Land called today? | Tasmania |
| 14 | By what name was Portuguese India better known? | Goa |
| 15 | What is the highest mountain in the UK? | Ben Nevis |
| 16 | What is the largest freshwater lake in the world? | Lake Baikal |
| 17 | Which is the longest river in the world? | Nile |
| 18 | Name the Admin capital of South Africa | Pretoria |
| 19 | Name the capital city of Uruguay | Montevideo |
| 20 | Where is Yalta where Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill met in 1945? | Crimea |

History

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 21 | On which island was Napoleon Bonaparte born? | Corsica |
| 22 | On which island did Napoleon Bonaparte die? | St Helena |
| 23 | Who married the eldest son of Henry VII? | Catherine of Aragon |
| 24 | Where was the HQ for Charles I during the English civil war? | Oxford |
| 25 | Who was Britain's longest serving PM? | Robert Walpole |

Vinyl Records Wanted

50s/60s 70s 80s 90s

Dance Soul Rock Chart Disco Blues Reggae Punk

Thank you!

I am looking for vinyl records from pop to punk, soul to funk and reggae to dance: Singles (7 & 12") and LPs. Happy to collect, will make a donation to church funds in return.

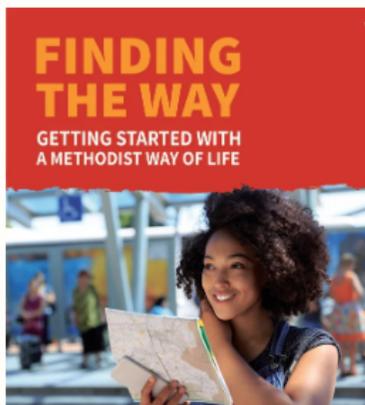
Contact: Margaret Picken: 01252 879802 or Ian: ianpicken@yahoo.co.uk / 07737 003891



A Methodist Way of Life

A **Methodist** Way of Life offers Methodists and all Christians a rhythm for responding to God's love in Jesus. It provides commitments and practices that refocus our faith. It deepens discipleship and spirituality.

Order your resources [here](#)



Finding the Way: Getting Started with A Methodist Way of Life

Strengthen your faith and recharge your spiritual life with this study guide.

Explore and get the most from A Methodist Way of Life on your own, in a pair or group, by engaging with the exercises, prayers and faith stories.

Christmas 2020

I went down to the Church the week after Christmas with Ray to take down the Christmas Tree. The church was so cold and uninviting and our hands were red with the cold, in fact it felt colder inside the church than outside! I felt really sad that after the Christmas Tree had been put up in all its splendour, it was only admired twice in the shortened advent services before lockdown struck again.



I had always loved attending the Christmas morning services, seeing the Christmas tree all lit up, and singing O Come all Ye Faithful with great gusto for the last time in that particular Christmas, singing the very last verse which is only sung on Christmas morning, but all was different this year.

Before we removed the decorations and tinsel, I had to put the lights on and stand and admire the tree just once more. It seemed such a shame that this beautiful tree had been cut down in the prime of its life and decorated for only two morning services of less than an hour, and this reminded me of Jesus who was sent to us at this season, such a young, wonderful, compassionate man who had a new and radical message for his people, whose life was cut short because of envy, pride, greed and fear of the religious leaders. The message he gave of forgiveness and reconciliation with his heavenly Father, so that each of them could have access to God without the need for an intermediary. No longer did his people have to go to the priests asking them to sacrifice animals and sprinkle their blood for forgiveness of sins. They could approach God as 'Abba, Father' which translated really means 'daddy', such a beautifully close sentiment showing a very different type of relationship with God than they had ever experienced before.

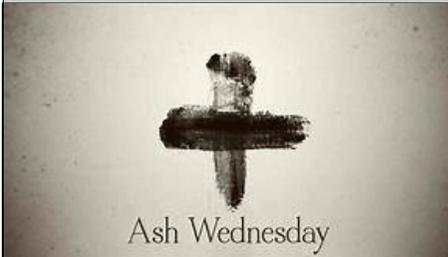
So revolutionary was Jesus' teaching that the religious leaders feared him and wanted to silence him. All of the people who looked to the priesthood for their opinion on this man who taught with such authority and performed miracles, signs and wonders, were told he was a sorcerer and that his power did not come from God but Beelzebub and that if they chose to follow this Jesus, they would be in effect be excommunicated from the synagogue and ostracized from their community.

When we had removed all the trimmings of the tree and the lights were placed back in the box for next year (God willing) I looked at the tree, bare and sober. The next time we see a decorated tree will be at Easter, the tree of Calvary when the only thing hanging on that tree will be Jesus, no tinsel, no

decorations just the glorious Saviour of the world hanging in shame, in place of you and me. Jesus, the one rejected by his own people, opening the way for us. Jesus the light of the world illuminating the tree of Calvary with the Shechinah glory of God, his work finished. The Christmas tree is outside now, waiting to be sawn up and put in the recycle bin its own work finished.

Let us keep the spirit of this season in our hearts, holding onto the promises of God, the love of our Saviour and the promptings of the Holy Spirit encouraging and enabling us to be a light in the darkness to others we meet who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Keg

Ash Wednesday Zoom Service with Soba



Ash Wednesday Circuit Service -
Wednesday **17th February** 2021.

All are invited, most probably by Zoom.

Soba is leading this service. The time and link to the service will be sent out soon

www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk

Film night—upcoming ...

Please join us for a film, fellowship but no pizza this time (we usually order in).

No film night for the time being—we'll wait until we can have our film, coffee, cake and pizza as usual!

The next one will be chosen by Sharon though :-)



Club 15 January—planning meeting

Because of the lockdown there was not our usual in-person planning meeting.

Instead there is an online shared spreadsheet for people to volunteer activities for the various months of the year.

Of course it's difficult to know what we'll be allowed to do, when, but so far we have offers of a Zoom quiz, a nature walk, a walk in a NT property or something similar, a 'not the Christmas meal', and an 'actual' Christmas meal.

Please talk to Sue T if you would like to add to the spreadsheet—there are plenty of gaps :-)

Thanks

Camberley & District funeral directors

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you need us most

- 24 hour service
- Free bereavement advice and support
- Pre-paid inflation proof funeral plans
- Wide choice of memorials for burials

Sandhurst

337 Yorktown Road,
College Town, GU47 0QA

01276 33241



www.camberleyanddistrict.co.uk

Darwin

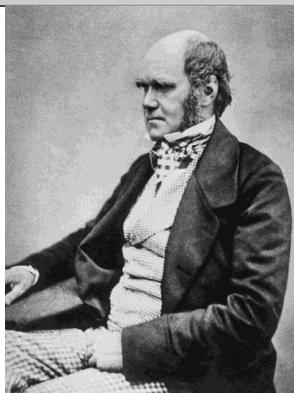
The old story, most likely apocryphal, has it that a group of boys once decided to play a trick on the great Charles Darwin.

They collected several sorts of beetles and other insects, carefully dismembered them, and glued the bits back together to create a new creature.

Then they asked Darwin if he would identify their discovery. He contemplated it for a while and asked if it had made a humming noise when it was alive. Indeed it had, sir, they replied.

No question about it, then, Darwin said solemnly. It is a hum bug.

Margaret S



en.wikipedia.org

Upcoming Sandhurst Churches together services

February 14th - Sandhurst Baptist Church

The Zoom details for SCT service 14th Feb at 6.30pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83919731082?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83919731082?pwd=ckh3UDZ4Y3ZnU3QwWlpxMm5STDVQZz09)

[pwd=ckh3UDZ4Y3ZnU3QwWlpxMm5STDVQZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83919731082?pwd=ckh3UDZ4Y3ZnU3QwWlpxMm5STDVQZz09)

Meeting ID: 839 1973 1082; Passcode: SCTZOOM

March 14th - St George's (Mothering Sunday)

April 11th - Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church

May 9th - St Michael's

June 13th - Sandhurst Baptist Church

July 11th - St George's

In memoriam plaques

I am delighted to be able to tell you that **Camberley and District Funeral Directors** (Yorktown Road, College Town) are now sponsoring our memorial plaques.



Just talk to Sue Truby about the words you'd like and they will provide the plaque for free! Douglas W has been attaching them to the seats once done. Thanks Douglas!

A donation to the church of £50 is suggested but not required.

Crowthorne Foodbank



Current shortages -

Tinned sponge puddings, carton juice, Fray Bentos meat pies, tinned custard Toilet roll, ladies and men's deodorant, children's toothbrushes, adult toothbrushes, nappies size 5 & 6, handwash

Note: the foodbank update their needs weekly here: [Crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/](https://www.crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/) Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Note—they currently have plenty: soup, breakfast cereal, peanut butter, beans, pasta, pasta sauce, tea bags, long life milk, rice, baby powder milk, tinned tomatoes, spaghetti, meat, veg, fruit, potatoes.

Please do consider the food bank when you do your food shopping. There are collection points in most of the major supermarkets.

Coffee mornings



Coffee Mornings every **second Thursday** 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 date in your diary and pop along if you are free between 10:30 and 12 midday.

No in person coffee mornings yet but.....

Lockdown Coffee Morning 6th February 10 to 12

Why not join us for a virtual coffee morning on Saturday **6th February** via zoom.

We are all missing seeing each other and chatting, so get your own coffee and cake ready for this get together.

Stay safe, Sandra

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896019919?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896019919?pwd=TWpoVkn1dThSY01lMkpHT1djWjJ0UT09)

[pwd=TWpoVkn1dThSY01lMkpHT1djWjJ0UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896019919?pwd=TWpoVkn1dThSY01lMkpHT1djWjJ0UT09)

Meeting ID: **878 9601 9919**

Passcode: **393985**

Recycled bras

We Need YOUR Support!

Recycle Your Bras and help Raise money for your local counselling charity 'Connect', and the developing world

Connect is a counselling service based in Camberley offering help and support to individuals, couples and families. Connect, in association with BCR Global Textiles, intend to raise funds through 'bra bank' recycling.

More information at www.connectcounselling.org and www.brcglobaltextiles.com

All you need to do is pop unwanted bras into your local bra bank recycling bin. Please ensure bras are clean, wearable and in plastic bags. Your contribution will not only 'uplift' people in third world countries, but also help raise money for 'Connect', your local counselling charity.

So when support fails you, support someone else instead!!

Bra banks' located at:

BRAS SHOULD BE IN REASONABLE TO GOOD CONDITION & LEFT IN A COLLECTION POINT IN THE HALL

Camberley Counselling Service, 11 Painsbury Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3JA
Tel: 01278 24211 www.connectcounselling.org Registered Charity No: 11842852

Recycle your Bras and help Raise money for your local counselling charity 'Connect', and the developing world.

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So when support fails you, support someone else instead. Bras should be in reasonable to good condition and left in the collection point in the vestibule.

Talk on the Covid Pandemic—March

Brian Gennery is a Worship Leader from The Pines in Bracknell. He is a retired GP and was involved in medical research for many years. David Morgan is a Local Preacher. Together they will be presenting a talk on the Covid-19 pandemic from a medical and Biblical perspective. Sounds interesting and certainly topical!

The date, times and links will be forwarded soon - watch this space.

Club 15 February

Weather and Covid restrictions permitting, Robert will lead a nature walk somewhere on **Monday 15th February**.

Please contact Robert nearer the time to express an interest :-)



A Dramatic Answer to Prayer. The Miracle of Dunkirk

You may find the film, "*A Dramatic Answer to Prayer. The Miracle of Dunkirk*" interesting and worth watching alongside its message of a call to personal and national repentance.

Please note that it has not been possible to find out more about the organisation 'Strengthen the Faithful' or the author Pastor John. Therefore any views the organisation may hold on any other matters of faith are not necessarily upheld by the Methodist Church.

The *Wartime Miracles* Leaflet which was posted to 25,000 churches across the British Isles two years ago has now been turned into a free film, ideal for use during the pandemic. This ten minute film initially explains how the Lord answered the prayers of the Nation, bringing about the Miracle of Dunkirk with a calm sea descending upon the English Channel. It then goes on to show how the Nation has turned away from Him and rejected His Commandments. As the film points out, "*How can a Holy God bless or protect a Nation from evil, while it rejects His Laws?*" This punchy film will cause much soul searching and is a clarion call for both personal and National Repentance. While on the one hand it clearly shows that the Lord is willing and able to deliver a Nation, showing that help is indeed available, it also soberly explains that such Divine help is conditional upon repentance. In short, the film explains that there is hope, but only through repentance. The widespread sharing of this film will both inspire and challenge those with faith and those with none.

"Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save nor His ear heavy that it cannot hear, but your iniquities have separated you from your God so that He will not hear." Isaiah Ch. 59vs 1, 2.

The film can be viewed either by using the link below or by going on to YouTube and searching for "*A Dramatic Answer to Prayer. The Miracle of Dunkirk*".

<https://youtu.be/a8vyfp0aVHk>

Is there something YOU can offer

As a church, we are always looking for ways in which we can enjoy and celebrate each others' gifts. As we look forward to a time when we come out of lockdown and can meet again in church, is there something you might be able to offer the church?

Some things that spring to mind (with people you might like to contact) are:

Reading in church—Sandra

Leading prayers of intercession—Heather

Playing an instrument (including the piano/organ) or singing—Alison, Mary

Acting—Douglas

Arranging flowers—Sue T

Becoming an Assistant Steward - welcoming people to church on a Sunday morning and helping the Duty Steward. All that is needed is a warm smile and a willing heart! - Heather

Taking a turn with serving refreshments after the service or cleaning the church—Alison F

Offering your time and skills with the general upkeep of the church and its buildings—Sandra W

Being on a prayer chain—Sandra, Heather

Helping with the multimedia side of things – Douglas, Robert

So often people assume that they are not good enough but the Bible says nothing about us having to be very experienced or highly skilled at something, only that what we offer to God and to each other should be joyfully given!

Sometimes we think that other people are already doing what is needed so we stay quiet but actually the more people we have to share in the work of church, the lighter the load becomes for all involved.

The above list is by no means exhaustive. Maybe you have a hidden talent or simply enjoy doing something that doesn't fit any of the suggestions - don't be shy and keep it hidden! If you have a bit of time to offer, please chat with one of the stewards or with Sharon.

Dial-a-Prayer



The **Methodist Church**

**Free
Dial-a-Prayer**

If you know someone who is not on the internet but would like to keep up with our news and hear prayers please share with

them this free phone service, updated weekly - more details are here:

<http://ow.ly/ut1K50Cci7v>

All Night Café needs

The **all night café** (was on the A30) is in need of: Roll mats, sleeping bags, new men's socks, new men's pants/boxers/trunks and any full size toiletries

The **Whitechapel Mission** is in need of: Individual size toiletries (such as provided in hotels).

Please bring in and give to Keg—see updates elsewhere in this newsletter.

Club 15 Christmas Dinner

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic so many people felt unable to go to the Christmas dinner at the Bird in Hand planned for 15th December. In fact in the end it was just Ray and myself who went. The restaurant was warm and cosy, as always, with a beautiful tree in the centre-back of the room with red lights and gorgeous decorations hanging from its branches.

We checked in and were told that all the places for SYMC had been cancelled! However there was only one other couple in the restaurant with two other tables reserved, so it was not a problem and we chose the table we would like to sit in. Trouble was, we kept reminiscing about previous years and who we had sat next to and what we had eaten before!

The meal was lovely, we went for three courses each and so felt nicely full afterwards. The waitress was so attentive and looked after us and we had a really lovely dinner. The couple who were eating when we arrived, paid up and went and we were actually the only diners in the restaurant, and the people booked for the other two tables never arrived.

It was such a treat having a meal out as with the restrictions that had been put into place before, and then straight afterwards, it was the only opportunity we had to go out for a Christmas dinner. Let's just hope that we will all be able to share in next year's Club 15 Christmas dinner together. Keg

Club 15

Club 15 is an informal social group within the Church that meets on the 15th of most months for a variety of social events: walks, theatre, barbecues to name but a few. Food often features!

Young adults, older adults, indeed anyone who feels 'young at heart' from our congregation - and their friends - are all welcome to join us.

Don't be shy! We have no leader as such, just a planning meeting each January, and somehow it all manages to happen.

Praise and Prayer and Tuesday afternoon Bible Study

Due to the uncertainty of the current situation with Covid, plus the 'rule of 6' restrictions, we are unable to recommence either of these activities for the time being. Rest assured, that as soon as they become viable, Sharon will be in touch to see how regular attenders feel about coming back into the hall.

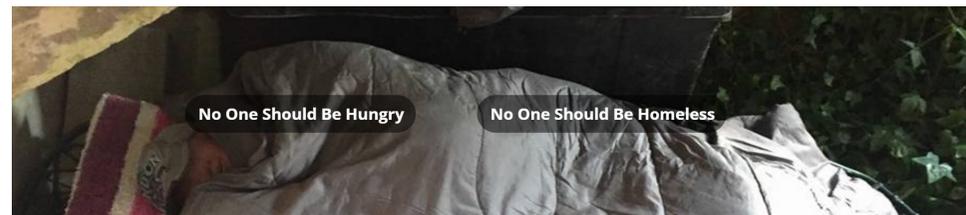
In the meantime, some of the afternoon Bible study group are joining with the Tuesday evening Bible study group via Zoom to which anyone is welcome (whether you've been part of one of the study groups previously or not). Please check the weekly notices for the Zoom details or contact Sharon.

Update on the All night cafe

I am sure we are all aware that the All-Night Café which was based in the Scout Hut along the A30 in Camberley had to close because they were evicted from the premises by the Council.

However, the Team who worked there have since acquired a new premises and run a food bank. Anyone encountering hardship can ring them up and a bag of food will be delivered to their homes, no questions asked, and without the need for vouchers. The Team have been very busy since lockdown and the hardships this has caused to individuals and families. The Team are always grateful for the generous donations from business, supermarkets and individuals. We donated all our unopened packs of tea, jars of coffee and CoffeeMate to the All Night Café foodbank as the expiry dates were short and we considered that our church would not be open to use our supplies.

A recent post on Facebook showed Karley, who has been a long-standing member of the All-Night Café Team, going from Camberley to Farnborough to Aldershot pulling a trolley behind her. This was full of pre-prepared hot food and drinks and was being given to those individuals who found themselves out on the streets, who would previously have had the warmth, safety and security of a decent cooked meal, shower and overnight sleep in the All Night Café. Karley said that she sits and has a chat with them and sometimes even a sing-song.



2020 Emergency Pick Up

7 nights a week Emergency Service Pick Up & Drive to an emergency shelter with a free dinner and breakfast.

For Food Outreach Deliveries please call 07562763615

and/or message the All Night Cafe [Facebook Page](#).

We are still receiving donations...

Drop off point Reverend Mike Thomason C/O High Cross Church, Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey.

They tell her if they need anything specific, like new socks, and she will make sure she takes them with her the next time she visits them. Karley is one of a Team, all brought together by the wonderful Christian lady, Carole Cole, who has visited us on several occasions and taken part in our worship.

The Team were sad to leave the premises on the A30 which left their guests without a place to sleep, however they are still doing a fantastic job in the local area by taking food and fellowship to those unfortunate enough to have nowhere to call home and an incredible number of food parcels to anyone struggling to make ends meet.

At the beginning of December 2020, everybody in the country was asked to stay at home as the number of Covid-19 cases was rising everywhere. Some people in our community had no home to go to, so the All Night Cafe started a fundraising campaign to place local homeless people in hotel rooms over the Christmas and New Year holiday period. The response was fantastic and thanks to everyone's generosity, nearly all of the local 'street homeless' spent at least 10 days shielding from the cold weather in the warmth and safety of local hotel rooms, with plenty of food to eat!

Our church has supported this venture in the past and we were going to donate all our Christmas card money, Christmas Donations and Christmas Day service collection to them, however because of lockdown, this unfortunately will not amount to much.

Please continue to pray for the wonderful work of this dedicated team. This is faith and love in action.

Matthew 25:37- "Then the righteous will answer him 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in or naked and clothed you, sick or in prison and come to you?', the King answered 'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'".