

Services—April and May 2023

April

2nd (Palm Sunday)	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Holy Communion)
	6:00 pm	SCT Service at St Michael's
7th (Good Friday)	10:00 am	Karen G
	12:45 pm	SCT service at The Meadows
9th (Easter Day)	10:30am	Peter Whalley
16th	10:30 am	Christine Morgan
23rd	10:30 am	Local Arrangement
	6:30 pm	Film night
30th	10:30 am	Doreen Murgatroyd

May

7th (Coronation)	10:30 am	Kim Tame
14th	10:30 am	David Morgan
	6:30 pm	SCT Service at the Baptist Church
21st	10:30 am	Rev Mike Thomason
28th (Pentecost)	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Holy Communion)
	6:30 pm	Film night

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

Babes and Tots: babestots@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



The Minister writes...

Dear friends,

During Lent our Bible Study group has been looking at the final week in the life of Jesus. As we have read the account of his trial before Pilate, we came across that part of the story where Pilate offers the people the chance to set free a prisoner in honour of it being Passover. He gives them a choice: Jesus of Nazareth, an innocent man, or Barabbas, a murderer and insurrectionist. As we know, the crowd, incited by the Chief Priests, call for Barabbas to be freed and for Jesus to be crucified.



What struck us – and may indeed cause you to stop and reflect also – is that the name Barabbas translates as 'son of' (Bar) 'the father' (Abba). In Matthew's Gospel there is even a first name given to Barabbas: Jesus. And so we witness that Jesus Barabbas, the criminal, the 'son of the father' goes free as Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the Father takes his place.

It is a short story – just a few verses - but it encapsulates a great truth. For we too (though I doubt that anyone reading this is an insurrectionist, let alone a murderer) are all sinners. In the eyes of a perfect God, we stand imperfect and tarnished by a myriad of sins both large and small. We too, like Barabbas, would stand condemned were it not for the fact that Jesus, the Son of the Father, has already taken our punishment upon himself on the cross on Good Friday. *'But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.'* (Isaiah 53:5)



There are so many wonderful Passiontide and Easter hymns that remind us of Christ's astonishing act of love and grace and mercy but I thought you might like to read some that may be less familiar to you, from Vicky Beeching's **'The wonder of the cross'** (#279 in Singing the Faith hymnbooks):

O precious sight, my Saviour stands, dying for me with outstretched hands

O precious sight; I love to gaze remembering salvation's day, remembering salvation's day

Though my eyes linger on this scene, may passing time and years not steal the power with which it impacts me, the freshness of its mystery, the freshness of its mystery

May I never lose the wonder, the wonder of the cross.

May I see it like the first time, standing as a sinner lost.

Undone by mercy and left speechless, watching wide-eyed at the cost

May I never lose the wonder, the wonder of the cross

Behold the God-man crucified, the perfect sinless sacrifice

April and May Rotas

Flowers

April

2nd -
9th Mary G
16th Sue T
23rd Karen G
30th -

May

7th Heather B
14th Alison F
21st Robert G
28th Sandra W

Cleaning

w/c 17th April Sandra F and Mary A
w/c 8th May Sandra W and Wendy H
w/c 29th May Alison F and Alison B

Coffee

April

2nd Alison B and Sandra F
9th Cynthia R and Margaret H
16th Joan T and Sandra W
23rd Alison F and Cynthia R
30th Cynthia R and Ann H

May

7th Phil T and Cynthia R
14th Alison B and Sandra F
21st Cynthia R and Margaret H
28th Joan T and Margaret H

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 Needs 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
Rejoice! (1st Tuesday)

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

The Tuesday evening prayer group and bible study
will continue to be on Zoom for now.

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://zoom.us/j/2799549300?](https://zoom.us/j/2799549300?pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09)
pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09
Meeting ID: 279 954 9300

Passcode: 3v25BE

This is the same link for Stewards meetings and Church Council.

April

4th 2:30 pm

Rejoice!
No Bible study or prayer group
Schoolroom

11th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Lent Study 7
Zoom

18th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study
Zoom

25th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study
Zoom

May

2nd 2:30pm
7:45pm

Rejoice!
Stewards meeting
Schoolroom
Zoom

9th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study

16th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study

23rd 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study

30th 7:45pm
8.00pm

Prayer group
Bible study

As blood ran down those nails and wood, history was split in two, history was
split in two

Behold the empty wooden tree, his body gone, alive and free
We sing with everlasting joy for sin and death have been destroyed,
sin and death they've been destroyed.

May WE never lose the wonder of the cross but see it like the first time we
became aware of the costly sacrifice made for us.

With every blessing this Easter time,
Sharon

Image: https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/05/06/12/06/cross-1375765_340.jpg

Maundy Thursday 6th April

Tenebrae Service starting at 7.30pm Crowthorne Methodist Church

This year, instead of a Maundy Thursday supper and service we will be having a
Tenebrae Service. '*Tenebrae*' means '*darkness*' and the service is characterised
by the gradual extinguishing of candles until, at the end, the church is in
darkness. The service includes the Passion readings, hymns and Holy
Communion but not the sharing of a meal - so please eat before coming.

What's on?

April

2nd: Palm Sunday service, Messy Easter, Music and
Meditation

4th Rejoice!

6th: Maundy Thursday service (Crowthorne)

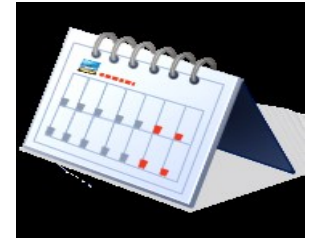
7th: Good Friday service, SCT service

9th: Easter Sunday service

23rd film night

27th coffee morning

29th: Coronation Barn Dance (St Michael's)



May

2nd Rejoice!

7th Coronation after church party

14th-20th Christian Aid Week

25th Coffee morning

28th film night

Coronation Church After Service 'Party' 7th May

Come and join us for a bring-and-share lunch - bring a Union Jack flag to wave
and hat to wear - as we enjoy lunch together with some reflections and
thoughts of our new King - some songs and celebration as our new King is
crowned.

No charge - just come along. There will be a list on the hatch for you to offer to
bring something for the lunch in due course.

See Keg for more details

Upcoming services

Palm Sunday 2nd April 10.30am service of celebration and communion led by Sharon

Palm Sunday 3 - 4.30pm Messy Church Easter - please tell friends and family about this. It's always good to have lots of families attending. It's a wonderful outreach and lots of fun. Plenty of crafts, games and an interactive telling of the Easter story plus an Easter egg hunt in church and some Easter songs for children. Refreshments provided. Suitable for families with children (or grandchildren!) from tots to top juniors. If you are able to help in any way, then please let Sandra W, Keg or Sharon know - the more help, the more we can do and the easier for everyone involved!

Palm Sunday 6pm St Michael's Church: Music and Meditation for the start of Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 6th April Crowthorne Methodist Church: Tenebrae Service 7.30pm.

This year, instead of a Maundy Thursday supper and service we will be having a Tenebrae Service. 'Tenebrae' means 'darkness' and the service is characterised by the gradual extinguishing of candles until, at the end, the church is in darkness. The service includes the Passion readings, hymns and Holy Communion but not the sharing of a meal - so please eat before coming.

Good Friday 10am Our Good Friday service will be led by our own Keg

Good Friday SCT service at The Meadows 12.45 - 1.15pm Please come and support this half hour service of songs and readings which is an act of witness to our community about the real meaning of Good Friday and Easter.

Easter Sunday 10.30am Our Easter morning service will be led by Peter Whalley

Film night

The next Film nights are on the **4th Sunday - April—23rd , May—28th**

Do join us for fellowship and pizza (we order in)

The film will be chosen by Douglas in April and Sandra in May



Coronation Barn Dance—SCT

Saturday 29th April 2023 at 6.30 pm -
Pastoral Centre - Dancing to the Aldbrickham Band.
Bring your own drinks, nibbles and glasses.
Tickets - Adults £10, Under 16s £3 and children under 5 are free.
Interested?
Ring: 01252 871881 for tickets

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	07934 144322	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 (third Thursday)— at 15:00

Robert Godden, 11 Scotland Hill, Sandhurst. 01252 872503
Next meetings **Thursday April 20th May 18th.**



Wednesday House Group:

at Alison and Graham Fradgley's
3 Forbes Chase, Sandhurst
Next meeting **Wednesday 5th April and Wednesday 3rd May** at Alison and Graham's.

Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **June 2023** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 28th May 2023 or website) should be with Sue Truby by **Sunday May 21st 2023**

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)

Vinyl Records Wanted

50s/60s 70s 80s 90s

Dance Soul Rock Chart Disco Blues Reggae Punk

Thank you!

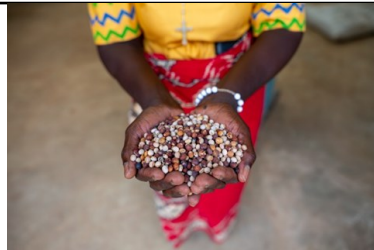
I am looking for vinyl records from pop to punk, soul to funk and reggae to dance: Singles (7 & 12") and LPs. Happy to collect, will make a donation to church funds in return.

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

Pidgeon Pea Success!

for Christian Aid Week 14th – 20th May

You may remember a few Christian Aid weeks ago (before the pandemic) Christian Aid reported on how its partners in Malawi were encouraging farmers to plant Pidgeon Peas. With deep roots, these peas can better withstand droughts & flooding that is happening more often due to Climate Change.



The results are now in, and Pidgeon Peas are a great success. Farmers have formed co-operatives to help themselves deal fairly with customers and suppliers. The quality of seeds as improved and warehouses built to better store the peas with protection against weather events. Some are even adding value by using pea flour to bake bread and rolls for sale in their community.

So there is now send money available to send children to school, start new businesses and help friends & family.

Your donations helped this happen.

You can see more about this in a highly recommended video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8hDdi37DLg>

Wilf Hardy
wjhscot@aol.com 07823 406908

Brain Tumour Research



The Woledge family attended the Brain Tumour Research re-launch of the Wall of Hope at the Centre of Excellence at Imperial College London. The day included a tour of the laboratories which was very informative, with exciting news of possible developments for the diagnosing and treatment of brain tumours in the future. We were proud to place some tiles on the Wall in recognition of the fund raising we have done since 2014 when David was diagnosed with a brain tumour. We thank the

church for their support for this charity.

Brain tumours are indiscriminate, they can affect anyone at any age. What's more, they kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer - yet historically just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease.

Watch out for our next Woledge fund raising event!

Sandra and Doug

Christian Aid Week 14th-20th May

Another Christian Aid Week will soon be upon us. The need to help the poorest in the world continues, particularly given the impact of Climate Change

Raising money is proving a challenge. Not because of the Cost of Living Crisis or donor fatigue but due to changes in how our society operates. People are spurning cash and using cards. You can take donations for Christian Aid using a card machine, but this takes time and is unsuitable for House to House collections or street collections. Then people's habits have changed as to when they will be at home, has made House to House collections difficult. This is compounded by a growing reluctance to even answer the door. Nationally Quiz Nights have done well but locally there is not one in 2023. That leaves us with Church collections, which our Church supports, but many do not. So, what is the future?

Whilst there will be a few House to House collections this year we will again try a new scheme where you pop a specific Christian Aid envelope in say up to 20 of your neighbours' doors. The envelopes have your address on, and the recipients are asked to return the envelope to you. This has had varied success elsewhere, but you don't know until you have tried it.

Then Christian Aid aims to build on the success of the Big Brekkie and help support other fund-raising events.....with the usual suspects: coffee mornings, sponsorships and concerts coming to mind. New challenges to raise money but new opportunities. As we are de facto all members of Christian Aid what do you want to do?

If want to discuss further then please contact me:

Wilf Hardy, wjhscot@aol.com, 07823 406908

Opportunity

A rare opportunity has arisen to join the Communion Stewards at Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church.

The role is not too demanding as you would normally only volunteer on 4 Sundays a year (once a quarter) and arrive 30 minutes before the service starts and finish about 30 minutes after the service ends.

Full training, mentoring and support will be given but it's not too arduous or rocket science.

You too can be a star!

To find out more please contact Wilf Hardy on wjhscot@aol.com

Flower rota

For various reasons, there are a number of Sundays available on the flower rota.

If you would like to take one of these, please let me know.

You can buy a bunch of flowers to put in a vase, or flowers for an arrangement (Oasis is always available), or make a donation (via the stewards) and one of the silk flower arrangements will be used that Sunday.

Gil F has some tips:

It is tradition in our church not to use just red and white flowers—if you particularly want to use red and white, then please also include flowers of another colour.

Because the wall behind the communion table is black, some flower colours (dark red, blue or purple—receding) don't show up very well unless very carefully surrounded by light foliage. It is probably better to use white, yellow, orange, pink—bright (advancing) colours.

It is lovely to be able to give flowers to members of the congregation—a ministry of flowers.

Dates available:

2023

April—2nd, 30th

August—13th

Thanks. Sue T



Please note:

Please use the front entrance to the church when arranging the flowers if there are any hirers in the hall. The oasis and pot will be either in church or in the vestry once flowers have been distributed on a Sunday.

Thanks

Camberley & District funeral directors

Here for you when
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

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.

Book via the FaceBook page please: Babes and Tots—Sandhurst.

Sandhurst Churches together

2nd April at St Michael's

14th May at the Baptist Church
11th June at Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church
9th July at St Michael's

Sunday Coffee Rota Volunteers—urgent

We now have even fewer people on the Coffee Rota and it is becoming much more difficult to find enough volunteers to fill out the rota.

If you feel you are able to help it would be very much appreciated.

Please contact me for more details.
Alison Fradgley 01276 36631 alison@gfradgley.com



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 T about the words you'd like and they will provide the plaque for free! Doug W has been attaching them to the seats once done. Thanks Doug!
A donation to the church of £50 is suggested but not required.

Tearfund

ent Appeal Lent Appeal Lent Appeal Lent Appeal



Dear Friends,
There's still time to help open up opportunities for people in poverty through Tearfund's Lent Appeal.

In countries across the world where Tearfund works, many people feel trapped in poverty. But local churches are opening doors to new life, free from poverty and exploitation. Through Bible-based teaching, prayer and expert training, young people in Ivory Coast are unlocking their God-given potential. They are finding freedom through their faith and gaining skills to build a better future.

This Lent, your church could help support this extraordinary work.

You can find all the resources you need – including a short film you can play at a midweek or Sunday service – on our website. www.tearfund.org/campaigns/church-lent-appeal

Easter marks a time when hope triumphed over despair. Light over darkness. And new life over death. It's the start of a wave of transformation in local churches and communities that is happening in miraculous ways across the world – even in places hit hardest by poverty. Don't miss your chance to tell this inspirational story.

Thank you so much. And have a blessed Easter.



Graeme McMeekin. Head of Church and Suporter Engagement,

Accessible Parking in Church Car Park

Whilst the church has two signs on the garage wall indicating spaces for disabled parking, there are quite a few people in our congregation who struggle with mobility and two spaces are not really sufficient on a Sunday morning.

Therefore it would be very helpful if spaces which are nearest to the church are left free for those who need them most. It is also important to remember that not every disability is visible plus if someone hasn't got a blue badge themselves they may still be giving a lift to someone who needs an accessible space.

Thank you,
Sharon & the stewards

Recycling for Good Causes

In the vestibule you will notice a largish box which advertises 'Recycling for good causes.'

Please donate your unwanted items from the following list. There are some leaflets available which tell you about what can be recycled but basically it is: Unwanted jewellery - including damaged items and costume jewellery and watches

Coins and currency - any age and UK and foreign both acceptable

Mobile phones, cameras, video cameras and gadgets including ipods, tablets but NOT laptops.

Stamps - single, loose and presentation packs.

The box contains a sack. When the sack is full Recycling for Good Causes will collect it and the church will receive 75% of the proceeds from the sale of the contents within about 8 weeks of collection. (As a guide, at High Cross they received a cheque for £80 - so it is definitely worth doing this!)

Thanks,
Sharon

Reminder of more recycling

And of course you can still recycle medication blister packs, Pringle tubes, bras (any condition), pens (working or not) and Ferrero Rocher boxes (probably empty!) in the other box in the foyer!

Thanks Sue T

Coffee mornings

Coffee Mornings every **fourth 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. These coffee mornings are now up and running again.

Do put the date in your diary and pop along if you are free between 10:30 and 12 midday.

The next coffee mornings will be on Thursday 27th April and Thursday 25th May



Could you help SOL?

We would welcome more helpers to support
Speakers of Other Languages
to improve their use of
ENGLISH.

We meet at
Sandhurst Baptist Church
10.00am-11.30am on Thursdays
during school terms.

'Classes'

- adult learners, mostly Nepalese
- very informal activities
- not aimed at qualifications

Helpers

- need to be fluent in English
- do not need knowledge of other languages
- need no teaching qualifications
- do need to be supportive and adaptable

Offers of help on a regular or occasional basis are welcome.

For more details,
please call **01252 879 088**



St. Michael & All Angels. Sandhurst

COME....STRUT YOUR STUFF



AT OUR



CORONATION

BARN DANCE

On Saturday 29th April at 6.30pm
at the Pastoral Centre, Lower Church Rd

Dancing to the Aldbrickham Band



Tickets: Adult £10 U16s £3 U5s Free
Family Ticket (2 A & up to 3C) £25

Available through the Parish Office
Or the social committee
Or call 01252-871881

Please bring your own nibbles, drinks & glasses



Come and join us for

Messy Easter

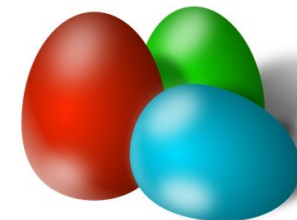
Sunday 2nd April

3 pm

Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church

A time for families to come together to celebrate in a creative and interactive way All ages welcome but particularly suitable for toddlers and children of primary school age

Easter Crafts
Easter Egg Hunt
Palm crosses
Fun Worship
Refreshments



Response to the new 'Illegal Migration Bill'

Issued on 8th March 2023

Church Leaders from the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church and the Baptist Union have signed the following joint statement expressing opposition to the government's new 'Illegal Migration Bill':

We are appalled by the proposals in the government's 'Illegal Migration Bill' to detain, punish and reject thousands of people seeking safety. They are completely incompatible with our Christian conviction that all human beings are made in the image of God, and are therefore inherently worthy of treatment which honours their dignity. Instead of dignity, these plans will foster discrimination and distrust, and cause immeasurable harm to people already made vulnerable by conflict and persecution. If ever there was a contemporary example of ignoring our neighbour and walking by on the other side, this is it.

When two in three people who cross the channel to seek sanctuary in the UK are granted asylum following rigorous checks, it seems unthinkable to reject them before they have even had a chance to have their claim for asylum heard. Many people fleeing war and persecution in countries such as Iraq, Iran, Syria, Eritrea and Sudan have been left with no safe and accessible routes to claim asylum in the UK, forcing people to make difficult and dangerous decisions. The UK falls far behind our global neighbours in welcoming people seeking sanctuary into our communities, and yet these plans essentially put a ban on claiming asylum and reject the UK's responsibility to play our part in responding to global inequalities and conflict.

We all agree that we cannot continue to see thousands of people risk their lives to reach safety in the UK, but the solution cannot be deterrence and punishment. As Christians, we believe that we should be amongst the first to welcome the stranger with open arms. We urge the government to withdraw this legislation, to honour our moral and international obligations and to behave with compassion and fairness by establishing safe and accessible routes to enable the UK to play its part in welcoming people in need of safety.

Signed by

Revd Fiona Bennett, URC General Assembly Moderator
Revd Lynn Green, General Secretary of the Baptist Union
Revd Graham Thompson, President of the Methodist Conference
Anthony Boateng, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference
Plus over 800 church leaders.

Crowthorne Foodbank

Current shortages -

Custard (none in stock), sponge puddings, pot noodles, pulses (chickpeas and kidney beans) none in stock, crisps, tins of potatoes, cup-a-soup, tinned fruit, rice pudding (tinned), jam, carton juice.

Washing up liquid (none in stock), bleach (none in stock), toilet rolls, antibacterial spray

Men's shower gel, women's deodorant, children's toothbrushes (6+), Adult toothbrushes (single packets), Men's deodorant.

Note: the foodbank update their needs weekly here:
[Crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/](https://crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/)

Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Note—they currently have plenty of coffee, pasta, squash

Please do consider the food bank when you do your food shopping. There are collection points in most of the major supermarkets. E.g. Tesco, The Meadows—please only place Tesco bought items in these bins. Co-op, the High Street, Crowthorne.



Rejoice!

If you enjoy a good sing, chat & refreshments, why not come and join us at Rejoice. It's usually on the 1st Tuesday.

We sing a mixture of old favourites and more modern worship songs which are mostly chosen by those present. It also gives us the opportunity to learn new songs particularly ones we have struggled with on Sundays!

The next Rejoice! will be on **4th April and 2nd May.**

