

April 2025



Outlook



Cornerstone
Methodist Church 

seeking to follow Jesus in community, love and service

LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM - PARTRIDGE GREEN - ST ANDREW'S, ROFFEY

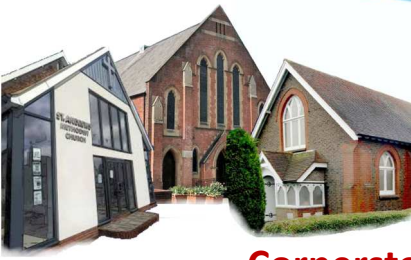
The monthly news for

Cornerstone Methodist Church 

Embracing the worshipping communities at

London Road Horsham, Partridge Green

and St Andrews Rollev



Cornerstone Methodist Church

www.cornerstone-mc.org.uk

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A Word from one of our Ministers

Dear Friends,

I sit to write this column in the aftermath of the Presbyteral Synod. One of the things on the agenda is those Presbyters seeking to retire – or sit down as it is referred to in the Methodist Church – are asked to make their request by sharing a testimony relating to their ministry. I thought I would share mine with you as well, or as much of it as I can fit into this space!

The journey had its origins back in 1974 when, as a 16 year old, I received my call one Sunday morning during our Sunday School session. Imagine the chaos of about 80 13-16 year olds moving from plenary worship to individual classes all in the same hall! In the midst of that I happened to look up at the front wall of the hall on which was displayed a poster. In that instant, I was suddenly transported to another place, where the chaos going on round about me simply disappeared and it was as if the poster came alive and was speaking to me. It was a simple picture of a Cross, Bible, Chalice and loaf of Bread with these words printed across the bottom of it: Is God perhaps calling you to full time ordained ministry in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa? In that brief moment, God etched God's call into my very soul and suddenly, I was back in the room.

Needless to say, I put that to one side and told no-one else. I had aspirations of being an Accountant, which seemed a much better option to me!

Five years later, in 1979, God came calling again and this time I was ready to answer.

I set out to test the call by becoming a full time Youth Worker. First, for one year, in my home church in Port Elizabeth followed by two years in the Fish Hoek Methodist Church. It was here that I met and married Angela and candidated for the Presbyteral Ministry of the MCSA in 1982. I was accepted and sent directly to college, Rhodes University, for the next three years and began my Circuit Ministry in January 1986. I was ordained whilst serving in my first appointment in 1988.

We have had the privilege of sharing in ministry in 2 countries, on 2 continents, in 2 hemispheres and 2 Connexions of the world wide fellowship of the Methodist Church. I have been appointed to 7 Circuits in 4 Districts and served 17 churches in total. 3 of those were in South Africa! I have been Superintendent 4 times.

My ministry was forged in the cauldron of what was South Africa in the 80's and 90's. Unsurprisingly justice was the watchword and working towards building an integrated society was the aim. In the midst of that work there were some other notable opportunities.

In our second appointment, first as an ordained Presbyterian on my own in 1990, we were tasked with building the St Luke's Methodist Church in Wilropark on the West Rand in Greater Johannesburg. We arrived to a congregation meeting in a hall comprising of 120 members with an operating income of R85,000. 7 years later when we left, we left behind a thriving congregation of some 600 members operating out of a new 400 seater sanctuary and an income budget of R470,000.

In our third appointment in SA, Randburg MC in the Johannesburg North Circuit, it was felt the Circuit was too big and so it split. The current Superintendent took four of the Churches and some staff to form a new Circuit and I became the Superintendent of what was left – 7 Churches, 10 ministers and 5,000 members – still named Johannesburg North! It was while serving in this Circuit that I had a moment of existential crisis that set us adrift and brought us to these shores.

Because of where I was coming from, the British Connexion deemed it wise to place me as a Superintendent in the Medway Circuit. I'm not sure what they were thinking but I very soon realised I definitely had not thought this one through adequately! Within the first 6 months I uncovered financial irregularities that caused the whole Circuit Leadership Team to resign and the words frying pan and fire appeared writ large in the ensuing mess. The one shining light in that Circuit was the probationer that I had charge of. His name is James Tebbutt, now known as the Rev Dr and serving as District Chair of the new North West England District comprising at least a third of the current Connexion! I'm pretty certain I didn't have much to do with his rise in Methodist circles but at least I was there at the beginning!

The mess was unbearable, though, and I had decided to walk away from it all. God, however, was not done with me yet. I spied a book on my shelf: Mid Course Correction by Gordon MacDonald I had yet to read. Thinking it was about mid life crisis, which I was surely in the midst of, I picked it up and read it. Actually it was a study in Abraham and the many mid course corrections he made before becoming the father of Israel. God used it to encourage me to stay the course and so I did.

Despite pleading with the Stationing Committee not to give me another Superintendency, that's exactly what the stationing process delivered and so I moved to the Chichester & Bognor Regis Circuit. There we were able to shape an Ecumenical Area with the United Reformed Church before we moved on to Torquay.

Our time in the Torbay Circuit came to an unexpected end after 5 years. Despite the sense of unfinished business that we wanted to complete, a vocal section of the

congregation who felt differently about it held sway. So it was that we arrived in Horsham.

Despite the challenges and struggles we have faced here, this has been the most fulfilling of our appointments in British Methodism and the creation of Cornerstone out the chaos of the pandemic and Kath's resignation and now the Gatwick & Mole Valley Circuit leave us feeling we are leaving things in a better place to face the challenges that do still lie ahead.

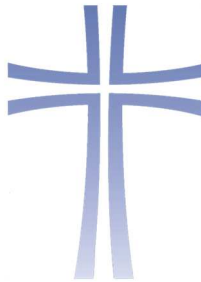
The one thing this 39 year journey in Circuit Ministry – 45 if you count three years of Youth Ministry and college – has taught me is simply this: God is faithful.

As I contemplate Easter I do believe that too is the message of the Cross.

The moment Jesus emerged from the waters of the Jordan the Spirit took him into the wilderness to discern the pattern and shape of his calling and ministry. Right up to the end as he hung on that cross in seeming failure, he trusted, better than I think I ever have, that resurrection was just a couple of days away. He knew that the One who sent him would be faithful to the very end. As a result he has shown us what is possible when we trust ourselves completely to the One who has given us life and never lets us go. As Joseph Hart declares in his hymn: This, this is the God we adore - We'll praise Him for all that is past, And trust Him for all that's to come.

Love in Jesus.

Gavin



Seeking to follow Jesus in Community, Love and Service
We are a community of people seeking to follow Jesus, experiencing and sharing
God's love and grace through worship, learning, caring and serving in our
communities and beyond.



**Clare & Chris Benton(Sue Benton's family), Anita Burton, Sue Conroy,
Helen and Ian Currington, Heather Derry, Brian & Sue Frogley,
Susan and Mervyn Halliday, Jean Hayler, Fiona and Chris Holmes, Pauline Homewood,
Joy and Ron Johnson, Barbara and Geoff Lunn,
Lorna Manwaring, Margaret and John Moon, Rita and Ian Murray,
Garry Poole, Ray Reeves, Maureen and Paul Smith, Wendy Smith, Judy Stokes,
Brian Tjasink and family [*Angela Hancocks brother*],
Elaine and Mike Tunbridge, Con Wells, Pearl Willcox, Dave Wrighton and Tanya**





Fifth Sunday of Lent 6 April

LR	Revd Gavin Hancocks	10.30am	Communion
PG	Revd Sue Conroy	10.30am	
StAR	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	09.30am	Breakfast Church
StAR	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	10.30am	

Palm Sunday 13 April

LR	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	10.30am	
PG	Revd Gavin Hancocks	11.00am	Communion
StAR	Clive Falla	10.30am	

Holy Week Services

Holy Monday 14 April

LR		7.30pm	
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Holy Tuesday 15 April

StAR		1.30pm	
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Holy Wednesday 16 April

PG		10.30am	
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Maundy Thursday 17 April

LR		7.30pm	
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Good Friday 18 April

LR		10.30am	
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PG		3.00pm	
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StAR		3.00pm	
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Easter Sunday 20 April

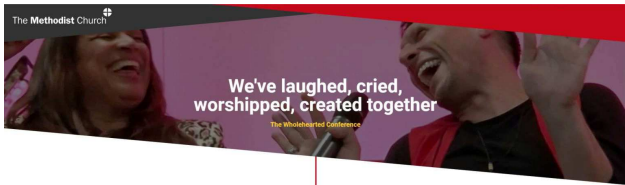
LR	Bob Boyce	10.30am	
PG	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	10.30am	
StAR	Revd Gavin Hancocks	10.30am	Communion

27 April

LR	Christine Lawley	10.30am	
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PG	Revd Chrissie Millwood	10.30am	
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StAR	Revd Sue Conroy	10.30am	
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Is God calling you out of your comfort zone?

I love being in my comfort zone – it's cosy, it's safe and as stress free as I can possibly make it. So, I was dreading going to the **Methodist Wholehearted weekend** as God was pushing me out of my comfort zone. Joining with hundreds of unknown people (*except for the five others from Cornerstone – thank you for your companionship*), participating in creative and interactive sessions and staying in an unknown, communal place a long way from home are all things I try to avoid!

However, the weekend centred around the passage in Matthew 16:19-21 where Jesus tells us not to store up treasures on earth but in heaven was a real treasure trove. We explored how we engage with people in our community to bring them to a place where they too are gathering heavenly treasures by having a relationship with God. The Wholehearted theme was woven through the sessions as we explored: Whole God – how much of God do we allow in our daily lives? Whole Gospel – how do we practise justice, worship, mission and service, Whole Self – whoever we are in this moment we are acceptable to God, Whole Other – to treat each other as treasure. And what a lot of treasure we were given - by speakers, workshops, sharing of projects reaching beyond the church walls, in small prayer groups and through food and fellowship.

The main sessions were based on TV programmes such as 'Dragons' Den', 'Race Across the World' and 'Countryfile'. The 'Saturday Kitchen' session explored the idea of our spiritual lives like a kitchen asking – What recipes are we following to grow in Jesus? Is everything in our spiritual food cupboard healthy? Does anything need binning? Different guests at the kitchen table shared how they are taking church outside the walls with projects from mindful exercise to pizza vans to candlelit liturgies on the beach.

One of the workshops was based on 'The Traitors' where we played a mini version to earn chocolate coins exploring trust and partnership, real talk and authenticity building relationship by listening to others' stories and being wholly and fully ourselves.

Sunday worship looked at the heart as an organ – where is the church fatigued and not getting enough oxygen? How are we ensuring our spiritual hearts are healthy? Are we enriching our hearts with oxygen to take risks to do God's work?

God definitely took me out of my comfort zone, but I feel blessed that I went to **Wholehearted** as I feel encouraged to find ways to develop my own spiritual life and that of our communities so that we are truly storing up heavenly treasures. So, is God calling you out of your comfort zone to help others store up heavenly treasures by being in relationship with Him?



**Cornerstone Away Day
Solidarity in Diversity**

Saturday 14th June 2025

10am-3pm

at Trinity Methodist Church, Storrington

Please make a note of the date
More details next month

We hope that you will be
able to come and join us as
we learn together through:

Worship
Fellowship



Transport will be provided





Reflections in Holy Week

**An opportunity to pause and reflect
through song, prayers, readings and silence**

abide in me

Monday 14th April London Road – 7.30pm

a little while

Tuesday 15th April St Andrews - 1.30pm

the hour has come

Wednesday 16th April Partridge Green – 10.30am



Partridge Green Open Gardens Weekend

June 21st-22nd

Do you enjoy arranging flowers? Or chatting to people over a strawberry tea?

Volunteers are needed to decorate the Partridge Green Chapel and serve teas over the weekend of June 21st to 22nd. For the first time, the Chapel is taking part in the Village Open Gardens Weekend. This is a fantastic opportunity to show off our beautiful Chapel and remind folk that we are there, for worship, fellowship and much more.

The PG folk are fully behind this venture but can't do all the work for this by themselves, not least because Margaret and Tony are opening their own garden for the weekend! Specifically, we need people to commit to decorating a windowsill, the communion table or the entrance porch with flowers. Maybe house groups or groups of friends could work together on one of these areas. A budget will be provided, but we would welcome donations towards the cost of the flowers.

We also need people to welcome visitors and to serve refreshments.

The Chapel will be open on Saturday 21st between 10.30-3.30pm and on the Sunday afternoon.

If you can help in any way, please contact Deacon Sarah.

Birthday Tea Final Celebration for 2025



Dear Friends

It has been a privilege and a joy for Gavin and I to invite you and your guests to our home every month to celebrate your birthdays over the past 8 and a half years. We have really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know you a little better in a less formal setting over a cup of tea and cake.

Our teas have evolved over our time together, sometimes having to use The Lounge at London Road because our group was too large for the Manse or during Covid we improvised by having our 'Social Distance' tea in our garden with each one having their own Scone with a pot of Cream and Jam, but we always made plan to be together. We have wonderful memories of sharing special milestones for instance Hilda Gent and Betty Venner's 100th birthdays along with many other milestones and remembering some of our members who are no longer with us.

Sadly, the 2nd of April will be our last Birthday Tea together as the manse will be undergoing some renovations and our time in ministry with you is rapidly coming to an end. We have decided to have a big celebration in the Wesley Hall at the London Road Chapel inviting everyone who has a birthday in April, May, June, July and August along with your guest as usual. The time will be from 2-4pm. (please note the change in time). Jacki will be sending out the invitations, so please keep a look out for them and let us know if you can join us. We would love to see you.

The Caring Team would like to continue with the Birthday Tea idea, but as this was something Gavin and I initiated and Jacki standing down, we don't know what the future will hold. It won't automatically fall to your new minister Tony and Mandy as they will come with their own way of sharing time with you in ministry and fellowship.

We would also like to take the opportunity to say a big thankyou to Jacki Reeves for all her assistance during this time with sending out the invitations every month, serving tea, baking and being very supportive. We couldn't have done it without her. Also, to the many other helpers who so generously gave of their time when we needed an extra pair of hands or a cake!

This leaves us with wishing you all many more 'Happy Birthday's' in the future.

With God's richest blessing

From Gavin and Angela



CALENDAR

Partridge Green

April

- 1 Open Door Club 2.30pm - 4.00pm
- 10 Village Café 2.00pm - 5.00pm
- 15 Open Door Club 2.30pm - 4.00pm
- 16 Holy Week 'the hour has come' 10.30am

London Road

April

- 1 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 2 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 2 Final Birthday Tea Party 2.00pm
- 2 Wednesday Club 7.30pm
- 4 Lent Lunch noon
- 4 Friday Café 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- 6 Sunday Lunch 12.30pm
- 8 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 8 Crafternoon 2.00pm
- 9 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 9 Birthday Tea Party 3.00pm
- 11 Lent Lunch noon
- 11 Friday Café 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- 8 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- 14 Holy Week 'abide in me' 7.30pm
- 14 Wednesday Day Club joining Holy Week service
- 15 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 16 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 18 Friday Café 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- 19 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- 22 Tuesday Prayers 09.30am
- 22 Crafternoon 2.00pm
- 23 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 23 Tea and Chat 2.30pm
- 25 Friday Café 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- 26 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- 29 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 30 Toddler Group 10.00am

St Andrews April

- 1 Prayers at Church 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- 1 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- 2 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am – 12.00pm
- 2 Lent Lunch noon
- 5 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- 7 Movie Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- 7 Sunshine and Showers 7.30pm - 9.00pm
- 8 Prayers at Church 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- 8 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- 9 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am – 12.00pm
- 9 Lent Lunch noon
- 11 Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 12 Church Film Night 4.30pm
- 14 Movie Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- 14 Sunshine and Showers 7.30pm - 9.00pm
- 15 Prayers at Church 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- 15 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- 15 Holy Week ‘a little while’ 1.30pm
- 16 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am – 12.00pm
- 18 Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 21 Movie Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- 22 Prayers at Church 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- 22 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- 23 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am – 12.00pm
- 25 Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 30 Movie Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- 25 Prayers at Church 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- 25 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- 26 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am – 12.00pm
- 27 Bright Stars 9.30am
- 27 Quiet Book Group 7.30pm - 9.00pm
- 28 Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon

I wrote last year about World Malaria Day, which is marked every year on 25th April, and I thought it would be interesting to revisit the topic to see what progress has been made over the past year in eradicating this deadly disease.



The good news is that 2024 marked the mass roll-out of the two vaccines previously mentioned, potentially saving thousands of young lives. The vaccine known as R21 has shown itself to be up to particularly effective, up to 75% in some studies, and the India Serum Institute which manufactures it is capable of producing sufficient vaccines to meet demand.

This is an immense scientific achievement, reached after many years of research and development, and should be celebrated.

However many problems remain, not least the challenge of finding the money to pay for the vaccines. The current model of financing vaccines requires countries to contribute to the cost and many of the places in greatest need, spend very little on healthcare. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for instance, a country as large as Western Europe, even accessing the country's children in order to vaccinate them, is an issue. There is civil unrest, a lack of electricity, few paved roads, insufficient trained medical staff, to name but a few of the issues! And there is also the challenge of deciding who to vaccinate first, the R21 can be given to babies from 5 months and four doses are needed in total, at different stages. As there is no upper age limit, ideally all young people should receive the full 4 doses, an immense challenge.

If anyone would like to find out more on this topic, I found a fascinating blog post entitled 'Malaria Vaccines: Turning a Scientific Triumph into Millions of Lives Saved' on the Center for Global Development website. The UNICEF website also has much interesting information and actively seeks donations, which go towards improving the lives of children worldwide including funding for vaccinations.

Carolyn King



Local Preacher News

At the Local Preachers' meeting in March, Ian George was interviewed by Rev Gavin Hancocks and gave his account of faith developing and his call to preach.

The preachers and worship leaders present were interested to hear Ian's story, and affirmed his call to preach. They recommended to the Circuit Meeting that Ian be admitted on Full Plan as a preacher transferring from another denomination. This was then ratified at the Circuit Meeting and so Ian will be admitted onto full plan at a service later this year. Please watch out for the date and come to support him there.

At the same meeting, long-serving preacher Rob Pitt asked to cease being an active preacher on the plan and attain the status of Emiritus. The preachers present granted his request and gave thanks for Rob's service to the Circuit as a preacher and for his time as Local Preachers' Secretary, which has been a blessing to the meeting. His quiet wisdom will be much missed.



Imagining the impossible! Don Stevens was a teenager when he just imagined operating a fleet of hospital ships. He founded Mercy Ships after a meeting with Mother Teresa. He, his wife and 4 children lived onboard the *Anastasis* (meaning Resurrection) for 10 years with medical teams and crew. All were volunteers, relying on God to supply their needs from the generosity and prayers of supporters. Work was difficult when they had no funds to fuel the generators. During their first 40 years, Mercy Ships have maintained 5 charity hospital vessels, visiting 600 ports in 55 of the world's poorest countries. About 50,000 local health professionals have been trained to maintain good standards after the ships leave.

More than 50% of the world's population live within 100 miles of the coast, so ships are an ideal way to deliver a state-of-the-art hospital to places where clean water, electricity and skilled medical workers are non-existent. [The *Global Mercy* is able to turn sea water into drinking water in the ship's laboratory.]

The *Anastasia* was joined by *Island Mercy* and *Caribbean Mercy* and in 2007 were replaced by *Africa Mercy*, and then in 2022, by *Global Mercy*. These 2 fully equipped charity-run ships being free, accessible surgery and medical care to people trapped by unjust poverty and in urgent need. The ships follow the 2000 year old ministry of Jesus, to bring hope, healing and transformation to people otherwise denied safe medical care.

The *Africa Mercy* started off as a rail ferry. The conversion, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, was the largest refit project of its kind in the UK. The hospital area covers most of the old rail deck and has 5 operating theatres, an x-ray unit, recovery suite, intensive care unit and wards for 86 beds.

The *Global Mercy* is the world's first purpose-built charity hospital ship with 6 theatres, 200 beds, a laboratory, eye and dental clinics and a general out-patient clinic.

Volunteers come from around the world and spend a few months onboard. Countless others support the ships with prayer and finance. This assures that everyone who comes for help will receive treatment and medication free of charge. Day staff are employed as porters, caterers, cleaners, laundry workers, etc which provides income for local families. English is the commonly used language but translators are always nearby to ensure that instructions are clearly understood. The ships are recognised as Christian and everyone who comes on board receives acceptance and loving kindness whatever their status or background.

Volunteer doctors and surgeons spend a few weeks on board and invite doctors from local hospitals to assist in the theatres and consulting rooms to update their skills and knowledge. Recovering patients remain in wards for nursing and therapies. On discharge, they attend the outpatient clinic until well enough for discharge.

Dr Wodome, born into a family of 16 children, persevered for many years until graduating as an eye doctor at a hospital in Lome, Togo. He was aware of advances in eye surgery but further training was not available in Togo. He thanks God for sending him to the Global Mercy where he was trained by a surgeon to master a complex cataract procedure. This effective, low-cost surgery is welcomed by low income families. Dr Wodome is adding to this blessing by training others in the skills he has acquired.

Becky is an occupational therapist and had been one of the team at the Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead before volunteering on *Global Mercy*. Before long she was invited to join the permanent staff and now leads the OT and rehabilitation centre. Her experience in restoring healing to limbs damaged by fire and other traumas is necessary in this new context where serious injuries have been neglected. The scars that result are painful and disfiguring with contraction of limbs in growing children. Many injuries, including snake bites, result in serious disabilities if left untreated. Lengthy delicate surgery by an orthopaedic surgeon is the only hope for victims. This is followed by many weeks in the care of the OT nurses: the results are often life-changing when the children are then able to attend schools and adults able to work and provide for their families, without living with that intense pain. Becky specialises in hand therapy following plastic surgery, where skin grafts are applied to replace scar damaged tissue.

Becky shares her small 2-berth ensuite cabin and curtains provide limited privacy around the beds. Each day begins with devotions attended by most members of her team and joined by trainees eager to update their knowledge. Becky may be on the rota to lecture in the ship's School of Nursing.

Mercy Ships publishes a monthly update showing patients before and (smiling) after surgery. Fudia was born crippled but now she is without pain and able to walk to school. Elisa and Houley both had enormous tumours on their faces, but after surgery, they are both able to speak and eat normally.

Visit mercyships.org.uk or meet some of the UK team at the Big Church Festival at Wiston near Steyning 22-24 August.

Jenny Jackson

PARTRIDGE GREEN

OPEN DOOR

Our meetings start at 2.30pm and are held in the Church Hall.
All friends from Cornerstone Methodist Church
are very welcome.

For further information
contact Alison James on 01403 711048.

Tuesday 1st April

Tuesday 15th April



This is a club where people can meet and make friends while enjoying a cup of tea and cake. Some Optional activities/table games will be available. There will be the occasional speaker or entertainment. We meet alternate Tuesday's and there is a £2 charge. For more information contact Margaret 01403 541736

PARTRIDGE GREEN

VILLAGE CAFÉ

2.00pm - 5.00pm
10th April



The Village Café meets takes place on the 2nd Thursday afternoon each month
from 2.00pm until 5.00pm.

This is an ecumenical project, working with St Michael's Church
(here in Partridge Green)

All friends from Cornerstone Methodist Church are very welcome.

Refreshments are free, but donations are appreciated, which are used to support
village organisations.

The Sunday Lunch at London Road

**6 April
at 12.30pm**

We welcome those of our Cornerstone family who live alone to join us for lunch on the above dates in the Wesley Hall at 12-30 pm. The cost is £6.

To book your place please contact Liz Sear (268075) or Audrey Fowler (261442).



Toddler Group

**London Road on Wednesdays
from 10.00am to 11.30am**



A wide variety of toys, books, activities, refreshments and listening ears - parenting can be tricky! No need to book - we look forward to meeting you.

Tea and Chat

Wednesday 23rd April at 2.30pm

Tea & Chat meets in Wesley Hall. After a warm welcome it provides the opportunity to meet in a friendly relaxed atmosphere and to chat and enjoy tea, scones and cakes. All are welcome.

Sue Checkland and Liz Sear

All welcome.





CHURCH FILM NIGHT

Our First Church Film Night will be on
Saturday 12th April,
when we will be watching a challenging film starring
Octavia Spencer as Papa...

[For CCLI reasons we are not allowed
to advertise the name of the film,
but if you catch me, I'll tell you ;)]
Film starts at 4.30pm with popcorn.

After the film, we will share our thoughts about it
over a meal together.

Suggested donation £5 per person.
Email deacon@dhcircuit.org to sign up, or use the
lists at the back of the church. Indicate any
dietary requirements, please.

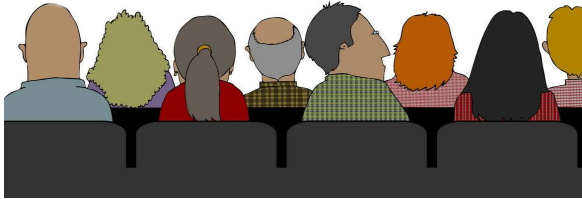


CRAFTERNOON

We meet at London Road
on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month
from 2.00pm- 4.00pm
Please bring your own craft or learn a new one

WEDNESDAY CLUB

at London Road



2nd April

Easy Movers with Sue Cailles - 7-30pm in Wesley Hall

14th April (Monday)

Please note change of date.

We will be taking part in the **Reflection for Holy Week** in the church at London Road at 7-30pm .

Tea/coffee will be served in the Lounge afterwards.

7th May

Behind the Scenes on Centre Court - Alan Chalmers
7-30pm in Wesley Hall.

Alan's job involved many leading roles on the Centre Court at Wimbledon for 40 years.

The talk will be followed by a Strawberry Supper, so if you would like to attend, please contact

Liz Sear(268075),

Ann Williams(268885)

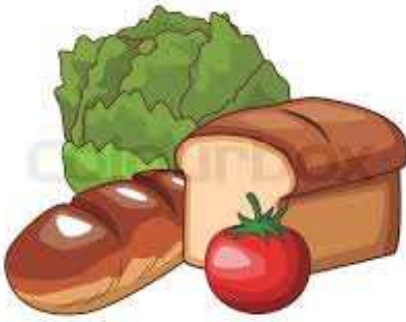
or

Angela Bramhill(731162)

by 1st May

Everyone welcome

Non members pay £3



HORSHAM COMMUNITY FRIDGE



**This is an environmental issue !
not one of poverty**



***The food is there for EVERYONE to use
so that it is not wasted***

The Community Fridge at London Road

***opens every Tuesday Morning from 10.00am to 11.00am
during which time refreshments are served
and***

***every Thursday Afternoon from 1.00pm to 2.00pm
where refreshments are served from 12.15pm***

The Community Fridge at St Andrews

opens on the first Saturday of the month from 10.00am - 11.00am

***As well as the Community Fridge at St Andrews,
at the same time, there is also a REFILL STATION***

Please come along and see what we have at the REFILL STATION — laundry liquid, washing up liquid, etc as well as loofahs, soap, Ecoballs for the washing machine....BUT we would also appreciate donations of **CLEAN** bottles in which people to take home their purchases (if they forget to bring their own bottles!). They need to be bottles which will stand on a scale to be filled, and the lids come off easily. Please wash them out thoroughly and give them to Sarah when you see her...

Thank you!

Please bring a bag !

Easy Movers

Fridays 10.30–12 noon Posture, mobility,
Refreshments and flexibility and
chat 10.30 balance

Exercises 11.15–12

£4 per person

With qualified
instructor

NO SESSION
on 4 April



Chair based or standing
St Andrews Church, Crawley Road,
Roffey, RH12 4DX

For information call
or text Sarah on
07869802024

Cornerstone Methodist
Church is a Registered
Charity: 1134052

Friday Cafe

at Cornerstone London Road



Your space for a Friday treat
Hot drinks £1, weekly menu of
cakes and snacks

Fridays 2.30–4.30pm

All Welcome

Cornerstone Methodist Church is a Registered Charity: 1134052



Join us at The Café at St Andrew's
Every Wednesday 10am to 12pm

Spoil yourself with homemade cakes and
freshly made tea and coffee

All are welcome

Come and be part of the community

We are members of the Chatty Café scheme



MOVIE MONDAYS

AT ST ANDREWS METHODIST CHURCH

MONDAYS	FREE ENTRY, REFRESHMENTS BY DONATION	2–4PM
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Methodist Church hand over three scrolls to Federation of Synagogues

The Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Federation of Synagogues are helping the Methodist Church with historic Torah and Book of Esther scrolls which were previously kept at Wesley College, Bristol.



On 28 January, ministers, rabbis and staff oversaw the handover of a Torah scroll previously in storage following the closure of Wesley College, a former Methodist theological college, in 2012. On 6 March, two Esther scrolls were also handed over from the Methodist Church to the Federation of Synagogues.

With limited information known about the Torah, the scroll had been kept in climate controlled archival storage while arrangements were made for it to be returned to the Jewish community. Following an inspection by a scribe, overseen by the Federation, it was determined, due to the nature of the parchment and the style of writing, that the Torah scroll was written in Baghdad and dates from the early nineteenth century.

While little is known about the scroll, it is thought that it may have reached Britain either through Methodist missions in Britain-held Iraq, or through British troops, merchants, or businesspeople. The Torah scroll has significant fire and water damage predating its time at Wesley College Bristol. However, it is believed that the scroll was donated to Wesley College in the late nineteenth-century to be used as a teaching aid.

In a meeting facilitated through the Board of Deputies, representatives from the Methodist Church, including Reverend Steven Cooper (Connexional Ecumenical Officer), Jude Levermore (Head of Mission), and Olivia Threlkeld (Heritage and Collections Officer), attended the handover and shared their knowledge about the scroll. The scroll was received by Federation of Synagogues CEO Avi Lazarus, Head of Burial Lawrence Littlestone, Av Beit Din Rabbi Shraga Feivel Zimmerman, and the Dayanim of the Beit Din.

Rabbi Zimmerman marked the occasion with a speech sharing the significance of the Torah to the Jewish people, thanking the Methodist Church for returning the scroll and acknowledging the representatives present for sharing in friendship and mutual respect.

Due to the damage, the Torah scroll will be buried in accordance with Jewish law.

Ahead of Purim, two other scrolls in storage, were received by the Federation. Both of the scrolls are the Megillat Esther; also thought to have been used as teaching aids for the Methodists at Wesley College. Having received the scrolls, the Federation will oversee the inspection and establish the next chapter for them.

As the scrolls were transferred into the care of the Federation, its Av Beit Din Rabbi Shraga Feivel Zimmerman reflected on the profound significance of the moment, stating:

"The Torah is the heart and soul of the Jewish people. It is our moral guide, our connection to Hashem, and the foundation of our nation throughout millennia of exile and persecution. The return of this sefer Torah is a powerful reminder of our eternal bond with the Torah and our enduring heritage."

Connexional Ecumenical Officer for the Methodist Church, Reverend Steven Cooper said:

"We are delighted to hand over these historic scrolls and grateful for the friendships we have developed with the Federation of Synagogues and the Board of Deputies in recent months. These scrolls have a long history, of which their time in Wesley College Bristol was one chapter. We look forward to the next chapter for these scrolls in the Jewish community. Mutual respect, understanding and deep faith has united us in partnership for the care of these scrolls. We look forward to continuing that commitment into the future."



DEADLINE FOR MAY EDITION



April 13th

Please do not leave your submission until the deadline date if possible
Outlook has limited space and you may be disappointed