



LINK-UP

March 2017

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

From the Chair

At a recent meeting someone prayed for the Church in Godalming that the love we show each other will be seen as God's love for the world and that the unity we have is the unity in Christ.

Lent starts in March - a time that people who don't attend any church or know Jesus, have heard of. How can we explain, it's not just about giving up something, but it's about helping prepare for Easter.

There is a Churches Together Open Meeting at Busbridge Church on Wednesday 15 March starting at 19:45. Anyone can attend. We will show the AV presentation of what we did together last year, and the United Service this year.

Also do come to hear about the idea of a Churches Together evening service on the 5th Sunday of any month! There will be one on 30 April at Busbridge Church at 18:30. Let's Act and Pray and Worship together in 2017. *Michael Stubbs*, Chair of Godalming and District Churches Together, michaeleashing@aol.com

Events for your diary - more detail in *News of the Churches* and on the Churches Together in Godalming and District website: www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar

Monday 13 March - 10:30 - 11:30. Come and pray for Feba, a media organisation with partners in most of the most troubled countries in the world at 42 Minster Lane, Godalming. Further details from Shelagh Godwin, jimdogshome@aol.com

Saturday 25 March 2017

08:30 - Churches Together prayer breakfast, Godalming United Church

10:00 to 13:00 - Coffee Stop raising money for TTT, Godalming Baptist Church

10:30 to 12:30 - Children's cinema at Godalming Baptist Church. Free entry

19:30 - *Stars in their Eyes*, Wilfred Noyce Centre (see Busbridge Church below)

Sunday 30 April 2017

18:30 - Churches Together evening service at Busbridge Church

St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

As well as hosting an ecumenical Lent group at Penny Rivers's house on Wednesday mornings during Lent, St John's will have an additional group meeting (mainly) at the church on Wednesday evenings to discuss the 'Twelve Church Principles' outlined to the church in the autumn. We'll also be helping people bring spirituality into their home environment by providing small icons for free to members of the congregation and those who come to our groups.

An ordinand from Shere Parish, Mike Currier, is with us on placement until Easter, and Patrick Webb, a youth worker from Grayshott Parish, will join us for Holy Week to experience a different church tradition as part of his discernment process too.

www.farncombe.org.uk

Busbridge and Hambledon Church - 150th Anniversary, Sunday 5 March, 10:00

The Church was consecrated on 1st March 1867. Much has happened in the 150 years since then, and the world is a very different place. Yet the gospel message of Jesus Christ remains the same.

This 150th anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate the past, as well as looking ahead to the continuing ministry here. On Sunday 5 March, we shall be celebrating with a service in church at 10:00, and will be delighted to welcome back many previous church members and clergy. After the service we will be looking to the future with a short ceremony in the Rectory garden. You may already know we now have plans to adapt and extend the Rectory building for ministry, and will be praying for and committing the whole site to God and the continuing exercise of Christian ministry, both in this place and beyond. All are welcome to join us for this service, and for a Spring barbecue lunch afterwards.

Prime Time Tea and Talk - Youth Praise at 50, 14 March, 14:30

Join us for a talk by Bishop Michael Baughen followed by time to catch up with friends over tea and cake.

Back in the 1960s a group of young Ministers, under the leadership of Michael Baughen, saw the urgent need for a new approach to Christian youth music. Michael will tell the inspiring story of how 'Youth Praise' was launched 50 years ago, with amazing impact and then of the ongoing productions of Youth praise 2 and Psalm Praise. There will be music and singing to enjoy together. If you have copies of Youth Praise on your bookshelf, please bring them along!

This is an event for the whole community to enjoy and not restricted to those on the Prime Time list. It is a free event, although donations towards the cost of refreshments would be welcomed. For catering purposes, please let us know if you wish to attend. For further details or to book a place please contact Penny Naylor at the Church office (01483 421267) or email: penny.naylor@bhcgodalming.org

Stars in their Eyes, Saturday 25 March 2017

Many residents of Busbridge and beyond spent the winter honing their musical talents ready for *Stars in their Eyes* in The Wilfrid Noyce Centre on Saturday 25 March at 19:30. Hosted by "our" Harry Hill and a Celebrity Panel of Judges, each will perform in the guise of a favourite pop star or group to win our coveted trophy. Votes are cast by the audience, who can buy as many votes as they wish at £1 each. Dutiful spouses please note! Entry tickets cost £5 each and are available from Busbridge Church Office, by emailing stars@bhcgodalming.org, or on the door. www.bhcgodalming.org

Godalming Baptist Church - Life issues sessions

Our series of life issues sessions is now under way. Here are some dates for your diary.

- Saturday 18 March 2017, 10:00 to 12:00: A question of gender
- Wednesday 22 March 2017, 10:00 to 16:00: Waverley Abbey away day
- Saturday 22nd April 2017, 10:00 to 12:00: Focusing on end of life issues - Part 2 - from a Practical and Medical Perspective
- Saturday 20 May 2017, 10:00 to 16:00: Managing conflict

www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Hascombe

Meet Dr Brian Hanson, Sunday 5 March, 10:00

We have the privilege of welcoming Dr Brian Hanson – president of the Society for the Maintenance of the Faith.

Each Church of England has what is called a Patron, and the society was the sole patron of St Peter's Church until we became a joint benefice at the turn of this millennium. The patronage is now shared with the Bishop of Guildford.

The history behind the patron of a Church is a fascinating one and dates back to well before 1215, and Dr Hanson will give us a little more insight into the evolution of the system through the years and up until the present day when the role of the Patron is still very relevant, but largely unseen and by many, misunderstood.

Please come and meet Dr Hanson and learn a more about this interesting subject. He will happily answer questions after his short talk.

Manna Ministries - Looking for volunteers

Manna Academy of Christian performing arts is looking for volunteers. Can you spare an hour of your time every week? Manna Ministries is looking for volunteers aged 18+ who have a heart to serve children aged 4 to 16 and see them share

Jesus through the power of performing arts. We need volunteers in Eastbourne, Reigate and Guildford.

Sponsoring of Manna Ministries

If you are, or were going to, sponsor Manna Ministries, please can you do it through the Stewardship scheme and whether anonymously or named can you mention 'Godalming Churches' and if possible agree to sponsor them for a stated period of time? It makes their accounting easier and helps landlords have more confidence with their rent. I have some paper copies of the sponsor forms, or you can go on the Manna Ministries website. If you have any queries, please contact Michael Stubbs. www.mannaministries.org.uk

Trinity Trust Team

We have been greatly encouraged by the messages of support and donations to bless our ministry since our appeal in January, so our heartfelt thanks to all who have responded so positively.

Buoyed by this wave of support and enthusiasm, we are planning on launching our TTT Oak Tree Fund before Easter, so look out for the publicity that will be distributed to churches over the coming weeks.

We begin our Lent walk with a family service at St Peter and St Paul's on Sunday 5 March and will be sharing scripture and insights with all our groups throughout Lent, culminating in us visiting local schools with our Easter drama delivered in assemblies over the last two weeks of March where we proclaim what Christ's death and resurrection offers to thousands of children, young people and staff locally.

Please pray for:-

- Gods vision for the mission of TTT to be made clear
- The success of the Oak Tree Fund in securing our future financially
- All those who currently donate to TTT (both corporately and individually)
- Grant applications in process and for new opportunities to bid for funds
- Volunteers to step forward as company secretary and to join a working party exploring funding and fund raising channels

We continue to thank all those who play a part in and support the youth ministry of the Trinity Trust Team. Our thanks and blessing all. Andy Poulsom, Director, TTT 01483 420206/07876 142197, andytrinitytrustteam@hotmail.co.uk

Items for the April *Link-Up* by Friday 19 March to: farrow.matt@gmail.com