



LINK-UP

September 2017

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

From the Chair

Christians United and "Who"?

Christians United - No, not a football team! (But perhaps we should have a Churches Together team - any takers?) but what it felt like at the Worship@The Bandstand.

It was lovely to worship together; people from five Denominations took part in a service organised by Rev James Rattue from St John's Farncombe. The interdenominational band was led by Alan Harvey from Busbridge & Hambledon. Other people who took part were from St Edmunds, Godalming United Church, The Way Church and Godalming Baptist Church. Refreshments (with a biscuit tin for donations!) were provided by Saint Peter & Paul.

Do come next year - it's a great way to spend an hour or so worshipping together in a variety of songs. And surely we can spend an hour or two with people who may be different from us - gives us practice for heaven?!

Manna Ministries is the 'Who'. They are an amazing Christian performing arts group run by the Crick family who live by faith to provide the opportunity for young people to find their talents in a safe and supportive situation and in a Christian setting.

On their website they say "We are an ecumenical ministry reaching all denominations and unchurched families in our communities. Uniting the families in their love for the arts."

They would like to come to your Church, group or organisation to explain their amazing mission and tell their amazing testimony.

I used the word AMAZING a few times cos they are. Do get to hear about them this year - your life will be changed and so will others by the way they show the Glory of God in all they do. Their website is www.mannaministries.org.uk or contact me.

Michael Stubbs, Chair of Godalming and District Churches Together, michaeleashing@aol.com

Events for your diary

Below is a selection of the many events taking place during September 2017 and beyond. More detail can be found in the sections below and on the Churches Together website: www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar

Saturday 9 September

Heritage Open Day - a number of churches and other places are open over the weekend, with displays of their history etc. A good opportunity to look round another church

Ride+Stride to raise funds for church restoration, contact Ian Honeysett, Honeysett@btinternet.com
19:30 - Charity music night in aid of Busbridge Church Old Rectory at the Star Pub, Witley

Sunday 10 September

Heritage Open Day - www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Tuesday 12 September

10:00 to 16:00 - Hearing Champions hearing aid maintenance training, Diocesan House, Guildford

Sunday 17 September

17:00 to 18:00 - Churches Together event - "0-30 in 60 minutes", Busbridge Church Centre. A time to pray for young people from 0 to 30 years old or their leaders or groups. This is an ecumenical prayer time.

Saturday 23 September

08:30 to 10:00 - Churches Together prayer breakfast, St John the Evangelist, Farncombe

Tuesday 3 October

19:00 - Surrey Villages in the past, Godalming Baptist Church

Thursday 5 October

19:00 - Human Trafficking life issues event, Godalming Baptist Church

Friday 20 October

20:00 - *Blessed are the peacemakers*, a talk on the Balfour Declaration, Godalming United Church

Saturday 9 December

19:00 - Raggedy doll performed by Manna Ministries, The Leatherhead Theatre KT22 8DN

News of the Churches and organisations

Busbridge Church

Charity music night, Saturday 9 September

Come and enjoy a night of music in aid of the Old Rectory at the Star Pub, Witley from 19:30. Various bands from around the local area are set to entertain you. Tickets (£5 single, £10 family) available online at www.bhcgodalming.org/tickets.

Godalming Baptist Church

Where is this year going - autumn already! After Holiday At Home and the Fusion Getaway it was good to draw breath in August - though Friendship Lunch and Sing For Fun continued!

Sing for Fun

Sing For Fun is a wonderful uplifting group held every Tuesday at 14:00 at Godalming Baptist Church for those with memory difficulties and their carers. A great time of singing, music and prose and just being together. Please do let others know of this group - a warm welcome awaits.

Transformed Lives

Turning to the autumn, we are starting daytime and evening sessions of *Transformed Lives*, study material from CWR looking at Ephesians.

Surrey villages - then and now - Tuesday 3 October

On Tuesday 3 October from 19:30 to 21:00 (coffee at 19:00) we will have a fascinating talk with PowerPoint presentation 'Surrey Villages, Then and Now' led by David Rose, back by popular demand after leading on 'Guildford Shops in the Past' earlier in the year. Cost will be no more than £5 depending on numbers. Please contact Sally Pollard on 01483-428646 or e-mail pollard3@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to come. Bring a friend or neighbour too!

Human trafficking, Thursday 5 October

We also have a Life Issue event 'Human Trafficking' on Thursday 5 October from 19:00 (coffee from 18:45) to 21:00 led by Suzette Jones from Guildford Diocese. Human Trafficking has recently been highlighted as a huge problem in our society. Do come and hear more about this tragic life that some are enduring after being enticed to our country with promises of good pay and work when reality is just terrible. Please contact Sally as above.

Appointment of Moderator

We have now appointed our Moderator, Revd Mike Stanbrook. Mike will chair our meetings and support us all as we begin the process of seeking God's will for our new Pastor. Please continue to pray for us.

We send our love and prayers to Revd Jane Vlach as she begins her ministry at St Peter & St Paul and also to Revd Ian Forsyth, the new Pastor at Milford Baptist Church.

Make a Difference Week

At the end of the month we have Make A Difference Week. Details to follow.

www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

Godalming United Church

The musical Methodist tradition is very much alive at GUC. Over nine days at the end of August the Rowling family toured north-east Scotland with the National Methodist Youth Brass band: Keith (Dad) playing the flugel horn, Julie (Mum) cornet, Eloise tenor horn, and William "hitting things" (ie percussion).

The band was hosted by various Methodist churches in the region, and concerts were at a range of indoor and outdoor venues - Aberdeen, Duffy Park, Fyvie Castle, Buchie, Elgin, Inverness, Peterhead, Fraserburgh lighthouse, and, unusually, Stonehaven outdoor swimming pool!

Immediately before this, William was performing in the late-night Prom in the Albert hall on 17 August in the world premiere of Michael Gordon's *Big Space* with the BBC Proms Youth Ensemble. Wow!

www.guc.org.uk

Godalming Quakers

Blessed are the Peacemakers, Friday 20 October

On Friday 20 October at 20:00, there will be a talk at Godalming United Church by the historian Mary Grey on the Balfour Declaration. www.godalmingquakers.org

Manna Ministries

Godalming academy

Manna Ministries' Godalming academy runs on Tuesdays at Godalming Baptist Church from 16.15 for an hour for children aged 5 to 9 years It is going strong and would love new members.

Raggedy Doll, Saturday 9 December 2017, 19:00

Manna Ministries presents *Raggedy Doll*, a show based on the song of the same name by Philippa Hanna, featuring live music from Philippa Hanna. This year's performance will be at The Leatherhead Theatre, 7 Church St, Leatherhead KT22 8DN. Tickets are £10 per person or £30 for a family or group of 2 adults and 2 children. Carers, disabled and OAPs £7. www.mannaministries.org.uk/raggedy-doll-2017

Fundraising for microphones

Manna Ministries needs your help. Every show we need microphones to give children the best possible platform. At present, and for the last 9 shows, we have had to hire these, which is costly. If we had our own microphones, these funds could be put back into the charity to help us reach out to more children. If you would like to make a donation please visit: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/manna-academy

We also are trying to raise funds for an outside office space for us as a family, as we are still using a bedroom to run the whole ministry and it is crowding out our home.

Looking for volunteers

Can you spare an hour of your time every week? Manna Ministries is looking for volunteers aged 18+ in Eastbourne, Reigate and Guildford who have a heart to serve children aged 4 to 16 and see them share Jesus through the power of performing arts.

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

Diocese of Guildford

Hearing Champions: hearing aid maintenance training

Hearing Champions: hearing aid maintenance training sessions will take part on Tuesday 12 September and Tuesday 14 November at the Diocesan House, Quarry Street, Guildford GU1 3XG from 10:00 to 16:00. Sandwich lunch and refreshments are provided. There will also be an opportunity to purchase a basic maintenance toolkit.

Read my lips: lipreading courses

These will take place on Thursday afternoons from 14:00 to 16:00 at The Octagon, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Godalming GU7 1ES. Classes are £5 per session, payable termly in advance. The first class is a taster session and will be free. Classes are limited to 10 people, completion of a booking form is required. 14 September to 30 November 2017 (half term 26 October). 11 January 2018 to 20 March 2018 (half term 15 February).

To find out more, please contact Tracey Wade, Sensory Inclusion Adviser in the Diocese of Guildford Communities Engagement Team. Tel: 01483 790327 or 18001 01483 790327. Mob: 07531 268476. Email: tracey.wade@cofeguildford.org.uk

Items for next month's *Link-UP*

Please send items for the October 2017 edition of *Link-Up* to Matt Farrow: farrow.matt@gmail.com by Friday 23 September for issue during the week commencing Monday 25 September.