



# LINK-UP

January 2018

*Keeping Churches in Touch*

[www.godalmingchurches.org](http://www.godalmingchurches.org)

## From the Chair

### **Into the New Year, Together.!**

On New Year's Eve there was an amazing joint service at Busbridge Church led by Andy Poulson and Matt Blake of the Trinity Trust Team entitled "God of the Infinite and the Intimate" with Christians from throughout Godalming and beyond worshipping together. Do look out for 5th Sunday services in 2018.

This month there are three opportunities for us to come together: on Sunday 21 January there is the annual united service at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, as well as our prayer for the young people of the area. The following week – on Saturday 27 January – our monthly prayer breakfast will take place at The Barn, Old Farm House, Farnham Road, Elstead. More details can be found below.



Do attend the above and let's be United Christians and step out together in 2018.

*Michael Stubbs, Chair of Godalming and District Churches Together, [michaeleashing@aol.com](mailto:michaeleashing@aol.com)*

## Events for your diary

Below is a selection of the many events taking place during January 2018 and beyond. More detail can be found in the sections below and on the Churches Together website: [www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar](http://www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar)

### **Saturday 20 January 2018**

10:00 to 13:00 – Seven Laws for Life, Godalming Baptist Church

### **Sunday 21 January 2018**

10:00 – Annual united service, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Parish Church of SS Peter and Paul  
17:00 – 0 to 30 in one hour – prayer for young people of the area, Busbridge Church Centre

### **Saturday 27 January 2018**

08:30 to 10:00 – Churches Together prayer breakfast, The Barn, Old Farm House, Farnham Road, Elstead. For more information, please contact 01483 416303.

### **Saturday 3 February 2018**

18:30 - Birthday celebration concert of music by Shelagh Godwin, Busbridge Church

### **Sunday 11 February 2018**

14:30 to 16:30 - Sunday afternoon music and tea, to celebrate St Valentine, The Octagon, SS Peter and Paul

### **Sunday 11 March 2018**

15:00 – Meditation presents *The Journey*, Hambledon Church

# News of the Churches and organisations

## Parish of Godalming

### **Annual United Service, Sunday 21 January, 10:00**

As part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, there will be a united service at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, led by Rev. Jane Vlach. All welcome of any age including activities for children.

### **Celebrating St Valentine, Sunday 11 February, 14:30 to 16:30**

Sunday afternoon music and tea, to celebrate St Valentine, provided by the Lammas Handbell Ringers, on in the Octagon, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul. Tickets £6. Contact Jacky Tickner 415702 or Barbara Saunders 415600.

[www.parishofgodalming.org.uk](http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk)

## Busbridge and Hambledon Church

### **Birthday celebration concert, Saturday 3 February, 18:30**

You are invited to a birthday celebration concert of music written by Shelagh Godwin over the past 55 years, followed by a celebratory drink. Busbridge Church, Godalming GU7 1XA

### **Meditation presents *The Journey*, Sunday 11 March, 15:00**

A one-hour reflection on the life of Jesus with readings and songs, followed by refreshments. There will be a retiring collection in support of the Old Rectory project. Hambledon Church, Hambledon GU8 4DS.

[www.bhcgodalming.org](http://www.bhcgodalming.org)

## St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

The concert by Pink Floyd tribute band, *Any Colour You Like*, at St. John's Church in Farncombe on Saturday 9 December raised a magnificent £2,260 for the Trinity Trust Team. Thank you to all who attended and/or donated. By popular demand the band will return on 8 December 2018 for another TTT fundraiser.

[www.farncombe.org.uk](http://www.farncombe.org.uk)

## Godalming Baptist Church

### **Seven laws for life, Saturday 20 January 2018, 10:00 to 13:00**

This lively three hour seminar, led by Lynette and Mike Brooks from CWR, considers the seven key elements of a dynamic Christian life. Through Biblically based teaching, discover ways of cultivating an effective prayer life, keeping your faith alive through difficult circumstances, helping others, and overcoming doubt and fear. This event is open to all - both men and women - and is a great way for us all to start the new year together. Tickets cost £7. Please reserve a place by Friday 12 January by contacting Sally Pollard or Janet Fry as above.

### **Daytime Alpha course, starting Tuesday 16 January 2018**

We are also starting a daytime Alpha course with a crèche provided on Tuesday 16 January from 10:15 to 11:45. Please do let anyone know who may be interested in coming.

[www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk)

## Godalming United Church

Our Minister Rev'd Paul Hulme is on Sabbatical leave until the last week in March. We look forward to welcoming him back during Holy Week.

### **Covenant Service, Sunday 7 January, 10:30**

A reaffirmation of our faith marked by Methodist churches worldwide since the time of John Wesley. We contemplate the direction our lives will follow in 2018: New Year - a good time for spiritual renewal.

### **Pantomime, 3 and 4 February**

*Puss in Boots* pantomime (4 performances). Specially written for Godalming United Church, and customised to give parts to all of the numerous youngsters in the production. Always a sell-out, so book your tickets in good time on 01483 421433. Good traditional family entertainment.

[www.guc.org.uk](http://www.guc.org.uk)

## Manna Ministries

### Cinema M16:15

Manna Ministries runs movie nights showing thought provoking Christian films to the general public for a donation on the night. Every Cinema M16:15 showing is staged old style, we have classic cinema adverts and usherettes. Next screenings are: 3 February and 3 March.

### 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.

### 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](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/manna-academy)

### 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](http://www.mannaministries.org.uk)

## Trinity Trust Team

This month we will be delivering/supporting over 20 sessions of life-learning in Rodborough over a concentrated three-week period as we look to equip all Year 11 students in key areas such as managing their interaction with social media, staying safe online and maintaining emotional wellbeing (in partnership with the CAMHS team). We will resume the delivery of similar sessions at Broadwater after half term.

It can be tempting to reminisce our own teenage years and bemoan the current youth culture where many teenagers seem to have an umbilical-like attachment to their mobile devices and a perceived lack of imagination whereas we might have spent our leisure time building soap box carts and tree houses, free from the pressures of being 'liked' or 'tagged' via social media.

The reality is, for many young people their sense of community and self-worth is largely defined by their online presence, and their imaginations are stirred by the content they access online so (even if this seems depressing and alien to us) we need to do all we can to educate young people and support them into managing their potential addictive tendencies/harmful channels/content despite offering, in many ways, a counter-cultural pathway. Whether we like it or not, it's the world we/they live in so we need to optimise the opportunities we have to positively influence this generation through these sessions.

Please pray for:

- all the young people we engage with, whether within a school, church or community context and that we continue to receive opportunities to role model Christ through our presence in their lives
- energy and inspiration as we seek fresh and creative ways to engage young people in Christianity and offer an alternative view to that of the prevailing culture
- all those who currently donate to TTT (both corporately and individually) for new opportunities to bid for funding and for those currently supporting our fundraising efforts.
- a vision of drawing together many of the young people who attend the various TTT-run weekly groups and programmes to pray together and provide peer support

[www.trinitytrustteam.co.uk](http://www.trinitytrustteam.co.uk)

## Diocese of Guildford

### **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. 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](mailto:tracey.wade@cofeguildford.org.uk)

### *Items for next month's Link-UP*

Please send items for the February 2018 edition of *Link-Up* to Matt Farrow: [farrow.matt@gmail.com](mailto:farrow.matt@gmail.com) by Friday 26 January for issue during the week commencing Monday 29 January.