

# BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



## BRBC Bulletin

**Sunday 31st March 2024**

**Welcome to our service today.**

### Events for the next week

#### THIS SUNDAY

*Easter Sunday –  
'Jesus is alive!'*

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Tim Carter

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children  
will go from the main  
service

#### NEXT SUNDAY

*Great power, great grace –  
Acts 4.32-35*

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Tim Carter

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children  
will go from the main  
service



Saturday 30th March 7:30pm	Dove English Orchestra Charity Concert
Sunday 31st March 10:30am	Celebration of Easter - Sunday Service
Sunday 31st March 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Tuesday 2nd April 4:00pm	Toy Library
Tuesday 2nd April 7:30pm	Merryfield House Group
Wednesday 3rd April 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Thursday 4th April 10:00am	Art Group
Thursday 4th April 1:30pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 4th April 7:45pm	Worship Group
Saturday 6th April 10:15am	Saturday Walk
Saturday 6th April 11:00am	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 7th April 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 7th April 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Wednesday 10th April 8:00pm	Prayer Meeting
Thursday 11th April 12:45pm	Lunch Club
Thursday 11th April 2:00pm	Craft Club
Thursday 11th April 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 12th April 11:30am	Easter Toy Library Club - Healthy Eating
Saturday 13th April 11:00am	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 14th April 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 14th April 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)

# Weekly Message

## 'It's all about Jesus, Stupid!'

The other week, I attended the ministers' retreat at Ashburnham, and those words sum up what I brought home with me – and, just to reassure you, dear reader, I'm the one being addressed as 'Stupid', not you. Over the years, I have often been asked what it is that I do, as a Baptist Minister, and I have rarely been happy with the way I have replied to that question – which is a bit criminal, really, since you think it would be a golden opportunity to talk about my faith. Instead, I have often lapsed into attempting to give an account of the different ways in which I spend my time - and while I love my work as a minister it is hard to make sermon preparation and pastoral visiting sound interesting, let alone worthwhile. But listening to Alex Harris speak at Ashburnham about Jesus' words to his disciples at the end of Matthew 28, it struck me that I should not be talking about what I do – instead, I should be talking about why I do what I do, which is to enable other people to have life-changing encounters with Jesus.

Alex made the helpful point that Jesus' words apply to how we live our lives every day; they do not just apply to those who are called to missionary work overseas. Most translations use a double imperative at the beginning of [Matthew 28:19](#): 'Go and make disciples...' Alex pointed out, however, that the word used for 'Go' is actually a participle, which could (and maybe even should) be translated, 'As you go, make disciples...' That means that anyone who crosses our path while we are on our way from A to B, has the opportunity to have an encounter with Jesus when they meet us. That's not to say that we should always be artificially inserting Jesus' name into the conversation. Sometimes it is simply a matter of being aware of what Jesus would have us say, so that we speak and respond to people in his name and our conversation can make a positive difference. But for me personally, when I am asked what I do as a minister, I have been convicted about making sure that Jesus forms part of my answer. I think that this may also make it feel more natural to offer to pray with people, since it becomes easier to see prayer as a way of inviting Jesus to come into whatever situation we have been talking about, and

provides an opportunity for the person being prayed for to experience Jesus at work.

Anyone reading this who has the gift of evangelism may well be frustrated that I am sharing such basic principles as if they are something new – but I am not a natural evangelist. However, I believe and hope and pray that Jesus will speak through me in any situation, and because he is alive (Hallelujah!) he is present by his Spirit and is actively looking for ways to work in me and through me. And that is true for us all.

Having been entrusted with the task of inviting other people to follow Jesus and his teaching, the disciples make their way down the mountain where they had gathered to worship Jesus. Worshipping him comes first though, ([Matthew 28:17](#)), and it didn't matter that some of those worshipping were troubled by doubts and unanswered questions. And as far as we are concerned, the reality of Jesus' resurrection is not diminished by any problems we may experience in getting our heads round it or understanding it. If Jesus is working through us to make a difference in someone's life, then it is his work and not ours, his authority and not ours. However hesitatingly we may represent him, and however inadequate we may feel, when we venture to speak in his name, we open a door and create an opportunity for him to work. Our words can be a catalyst for that person to have a life-changing encounter with Jesus.

And, actually, isn't that why we do church? When we gather together, that is an opportunity for us to worship and be recommissioned to speak and act in Jesus' name wherever we go. And aren't all our meetings, actually, opportunities for anyone who attends to have a life-changing encounter with Jesus? That doesn't mean that all our meetings have to have some form of religious content: that can actually get in the way of people meeting Jesus. But it does mean that whenever we gather, we can and should be inviting and expecting Jesus, as risen Lord, to be a present and active participant in everything we do. It has to be all about Jesus, doesn't it? Otherwise, what is the point?

Tim Carter

# Notices

## **Clocks go forward on Sunday 31st March**

At 1 am on Sunday 31 March, clocks will move forward an hour, marking the start of British Summer

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## **Coffee, Cake & Co.**

Coffee, Cake & Co will not be meeting over the Easter Holidays. Our next meeting will be on Monday 15th April 2024. Wishing you a blessed Easter from the Team.

PMA will also not be meeting until 15th April.

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## **BRBC Art Group Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Thursday 4 April 10-12pm in the Sports Hall.

All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be on offer.

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## **BRBC Lunch Club**

The next Church Lunch Club is on Thursday 11th April. The 2 course lunch will be served at 12.45. We ask for a small contribution of £4. All are welcome .

If you wish to attend please can you put your name on the list at Reception, or email me on [valeriej.hardwick@yahoo.com](mailto:valeriej.hardwick@yahoo.com) or ring the Church office on 01403 211150 to book your place.

Please let us know if you have any dietary or allergy requirements.

Any requiring lifts to or from the church , Please contact Chris Gargano Phone - 01403 266229 or email - [kcgargano@gmail.com](mailto:kcgargano@gmail.com)

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## **Walks**

Since the March walk did not go ahead, I plan to do the walk I had planned for then on 2nd April. It is a walk of approximately 8 miles from West Grinstead Station. The spring flowers are adorning all the woodlands so it will be a good opportunity to rejoice in the beauty of God's creation. Those wishing to join me should meet at church at 10.15am. The next afternoon stroll will be on Friday April 19th.

Mary Breeze

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## **Message from Eileen Cherriman and the Jepps**

Many will remember with gratitude all that Pat Harris did for our church and the community. Amongst many of her voluntary activities were wellness and Warnham Nature Reserve. To mark 10 years since her passing there will be a gentle walk from the Reserve on Saturday April 6 starting at 10am. It is hoped that those who knew Pat will come and enjoy the walk and visit the bench that was placed in her memory.

For any further details please contact Michael Vertue 07719 467861.

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## **Bric-a-Brac Donations needed by Horsham Matters!**

Horsham Matters are urgently requiring donations of bric a brac! If you're having a clear out, please consider donating any good quality items; these can be dropped off at 1 Redkiln Close Monday- Friday, 9:30am-4:00pm. Your kind donations will help create funds to support those living in need. For larger furniture, please send a photo to [info@horsham-matters.org.uk](mailto:info@horsham-matters.org.uk)

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## **Horsham District Foodbank 10 year Anniversary**

The Horsham District Foodbank is 10 years old this year and there will be a series of awareness events including fundraising campaigns throughout the year. However, this 10-year anniversary is not a celebration as the main aim is to end the need for foodbanks. A Just Giving page has been set up asking residents to donate £10. Additionally, the team are facing unprecedented demand for support from the foodbank and are desperate for donations to help them keep up with the need. These donations can be placed in the shopping trolley at the front of their Redkln offices, Monday- Friday 9:30-4pm or at any of their donation points including their Love it Again shop in West Street, Tesco, Lidl and Waitrose.

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## **BMS Birthday Scheme**

The BMS Birthday Scheme enables you to support the work of BMS World Mission by making a donation on your birthday. If you would like to join the scheme, contact Brenda Rowley – email:- [bren151@talktalk.net](mailto:bren151@talktalk.net) . Those celebrating birthdays this week are Beryl Martin on Sunday 31st March and Max Emerson on 1st and Susan Geoghegan on 4th April.

## For Prayer

Lent and Holy Week is gone, that journey over.  
Maundy Thursday called us to service and devotion.  
Good Friday pained us and stained us and drained us.  
Saturday stopped us in our tracks, reflecting.  
Easter Day brings us resurrection that never will be over.  
Christ is risen for us and within us.  
In the midst of our joys and delight:  
In the midst of suffering and pain:  
God is with us, God within us.

## Mission Prayer Request

Let us give thanks with Cally in Sao Paolo, Brazil, that funding has become available to allow the Eagle Project to buy a much needed new car, to employ a social worker as part of the team and to run all the sessions in the youth prisons until the end of the year. Let us continue to pray that the boys and the girls attending the various sessions will take note of what they learn and decide to leave their lives of crime.

*For the full prayer diary, please click [here](#).*

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**Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to [bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk) before 6pm on Wednesday.**

Brighton Road Baptist Church is part of God's family, where anyone and everyone is made welcome, and we are all equipped to live our lives for Jesus with a shared sense of unity and purpose. We warmly welcome you to our worship today and hope that you feel at home among us as we worship God together.

Church Office (01403) 211150  
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm  
Minister – Rev Dr Tim Carter (01403) 267587  
Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg 07926 045598  
[www.brbc-horsham.org.uk](http://www.brbc-horsham.org.uk)