

BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



BRBC Bulletin

Sunday 16th February 2025

Welcome to our service today.

Events for the next week

Sunday 16th February

10:30am Sunday Service

led by Rev Joth Hunt

10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)

Meeting Rooms - Children will go
from the main service

Sunday 23rd February

Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness

10:30am Sunday Service

led by Michael Hogg

10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)

Meeting Rooms - Children will go
from the main service



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Sunday 16th February 9:15am	Mission Prayer Meeting
Sunday 16th February 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 16th February 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Tuesday 18th February 3:30pm	Toy Library - Family Fun
Tuesday 18th February 7:45pm	Allsorts Housegroup
Wednesday 19th February 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Wednesday 19th February 7:00pm	Hillside House Group
Thursday 20th February 10:00am	Men's Coffee Morning
Thursday 20th February 10:00am	Art Group
Thursday 20th February 2:00pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 20th February 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 21st February 2:00pm	Afternoon Stroll
Saturday 22nd February 10:00am	February Day of Prayer
Sunday 23rd February 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 23rd February 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 24th February 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company
Monday 24th February 2:30pm	PMA
Tuesday 25th February 1:00pm	BRBC Babies & Toddlers
Tuesday 25th February 4:00pm	Toy Library
Wednesday 26th February 7:45pm	Church Members Meeting
Thursday 27th February 2:00pm	Craft Club
Thursday 27th February 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 28th February 2:00pm	Thanksgiving Service - Don Stewart
Saturday 1st March 10:15am	Saturday Walk
Saturday 1st March 12:30pm	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 2nd March 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 2nd March 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Sunday 2nd March 7:00pm	Prayer Gathering
Monday 3rd March 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company

Weekly Message

Different kinds of love

Friday last week, 14th February, was Saint Valentine's Day, the day when we are invited to celebrate love. But what exactly is love? It is not an easy word to define, but the most helpful book I have ever read on the subject is *The Four Loves* by C S Lewis. He perceptively suggests that the English word 'love' has several distinct but related meanings. We can describe them in the following ways.

Affection. This is the kind of love that is found in families. It is the love of parents for their children, and of children for their parents. It is a feeling of accepting and valuing, which leads to a sense of belonging and togetherness. It offers support and produces trust. It is said that this kind of love is the basis of a stable society, and that without this kind of strong family life society itself can begin to flounder.

Friendship. This kind of love comes when two people share the same interest which they enjoy doing together. It can arise from any shared activity, and that activity can be almost anything. It may be a sport which they both play or watch. It may be walking or swimming or cycling. It may be listening to music, playing music or singing in a choir. It may be visiting stately homes and their gardens. It may be collecting stamps or pottery. Many friendships are formed in churches, because the members all share a common commitment to Jesus Christ. Whatever is the link, friends always like to compare notes on what they have seen and done, and that always strengthens the relationship.

Romance. This kind of love, as mentioned above, is highlighted every year on Saint Valentine's Day. It is a pleasant, joyful and exciting feeling of attraction to another person. It can be based on the appeal of physical appearance or personality. It is the theme of countless songs, and is often what many people have in mind when they use the word 'love'. Two people suddenly or gradually realise that they 'just click'. The feeling may be short-lived, or it may last a lifetime.

Agape. This is a Greek word (pronounced 'agger-pay') which appears many times in the New Testament. It refers to God's love as demonstrated so clearly in the life and ministry of Jesus. It is unselfish love, the love which puts the other person first. It discovers a person's needs and seeks to deal

with them. It is a love which is perpetually giving and always does so generously. Above all it is a sacrificial love, which particularly in the case of persecuted Christians may lead to the ultimate sacrifice, as it did for Jesus.

We may or may not have experienced the other three kinds of love, but this last one is the kind of love which all followers of Jesus are called to show. That is demanding, but it brings much blessing.

Howard Gordon

Notices

Mission Prayer Meeting

On Sunday 16th February at 9.15am there will be an opportunity to hear recent news from our overseas mission workers and to pray for them. All are welcome to join in the Main Hall.

BRBC Art Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 20th February in the Main Hall 10-12pm. All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Robert Hardwick

Men's Coffee Morning

All men are invited to join the coffee morning on Thursday 20th February from 10.30a.m. onwards in the chapel. Our speaker will be Keith Johnson, who will share his thoughts with us about Creation, the Cosmos, Mankind and God.

Brian Carey. 07813739896.

Please note 01403 264903 is no longer operative.

Walks

The next Friday afternoon country stroll will be on February 21st from the Nymans overflow car park. Meet at church at 2pm. National Trust cards are not needed for parking or the walk but would be required for going in for a cuppa afterwards.

BRBC Day of Prayer on Saturday 22nd February

As you are all well aware, 2025 will be a very different year for us all and potentially the beginning of a new era in the history of BRBC as we commence the task of seeking a new senior minister to lead our church.

It is important that everyone in our church has the opportunity to contribute to this process and we will share more in the coming weeks about how you can each be involved. One vital component which will underpin this whole process is prayer and during the months of February, March and April there will be designated opportunities when we can come together as a church family to earnestly seek God's leading and guidance in this crucial matter.

On Saturday 22nd February we shall be holding the first of three days of prayer - seeking to listen to God for the future of BRBC regarding our vision, ministry and mission. The Main Church will be set out for informal prayer with different prayer stations between 10:00am and 4:00pm and you are welcome to come and spend time quietly in God's presence by yourself or with others in the fellowship to pray, reflect and discern where God might be leading us. There will be opportunities to share your thoughts privately or engage in discussion with members of the diaconate if you would like to do so.

In addition to the informal prayer in the Main Church, there will also be an opportunity for a half-hour prayer gathering in the Chapel from 10:00am - 10:30am and from 3:30pm - 4:00pm which will be led by our minister Michael.

If you are not able to make it to the church building that day, you may wish to set aside time during the day to pray wherever you are. You may also choose to 'fast' in some way if able and it is appropriate to do so. Any queries about this - please contact Revd Michael Hogg 07926 045598 michael.hogg@brbc-horsham.org.uk

We ask you to make every effort to join with us on the first of these 3 important days of prayer and we very much look forward to sharing this time with you as we embark on this journey together. More details will follow on the March and April days in due course.

BRBC AGM & February Church Members' Meeting

I am writing to remind Church Members that our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 26 February in the Main Church. This is an important meeting when we take time to reflect on the previous year, consider future priorities, appoint key roles and review & approve essential policies & procedures which underpin our church activities.

The AGM will commence at 7:45pm and this will be followed immediately by our usual February Church Members Meeting at which we will be sharing more about the developing plans and timeline for the ministerial recruitment process as well as welcoming new friends into membership.

Documents for both meetings will be available over the next few days on the Members' Area of the website for review prior to the meeting and a small number of printed copies of those documents will be available on the evening.

We would encourage members to make every effort to attend in person, or online, as these are important occasions where we can review our activities and make firm decisions to direct our future life and work, so it is important that as many of us as possible are involved in these discussions. I look forward to seeing you there.

Ken Carter, Church Secretary

Marking three years of war in Ukraine

At 11am on Monday 24th February 2025, there will be time of prayer for Ukraine and its people, marking three years of war. This is taking place in St Mary's Church, Horsham, and will be led by Rev Michael Hogg from Brighton Road Baptist Church.

Oasis Quiz Night

A reminder about the Quiz Night at Brighton Road starting at 7pm on Saturday 15th March, 2025. Come with your friends/colleagues/neighbours as a team of 6 or be joined to a table to make a team for a great fun-filled evening. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-of-all-quizzes-back-by-popular-demand-for-2025-tickets-1204778156899) or through the Oasis website.

Coffee, Cake & Company

Every Monday morning, except for school holidays, we have welcomed people into church to enjoy coffee, tea, cake and companionship for a time together. This brief notice is to let everyone know that after half term, we shall be meeting every two weeks on a Monday morning instead of every week, alternating with PMA, which meets every other Monday afternoon.

In the light of this change, we look forward very much to welcoming you back to Coffee, Cake & Company on Monday 3rd March with PMA re-starting its meetings on Monday 24th February.

World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer (WDP) in 2025 will be held on Friday, March 7. The theme will be "I Made You Wonderful" (Psalm 139:14) and comes from the Cook Islands. The 2025 WDP program invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.

When we can receive this profound truth, everything in our life changes and we begin to radiate and shine from within. We also learn how to treat every other person as made wonderful by God. Come to one of the World Day of Prayer services, at a time that suits you:

- 10:30am Holy Trinity Church, Rushams Rd, – the service will be followed by refreshments, and it would be good if everyone attending could bring or wear a flower – as bright and colourful as possible!
- 1:30pm St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 3 Springfield Road.
- 7pm St John's Church, Broadbridge Heath, – led by the youth of St Johns.

Message from Chris Gargano

In a recent bulletin we were encouraged to think and pray about what our Lord wants us to do to help within the church. We all have gifts and interests which we could put to use. Is anyone interested in sitting alongside and helping those who are partially sighted at the Craft Club? The leader explains fully what/how to make that week's item. The helpers job is to assist, explain and encourage the participants. It is a joyful 2hrs with free tea and cake. Can you give up 2 hrs of your time on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays between 2 and 4pm? Contact Chris Gargano if interested. Tel-01403 266229 email- kcgargano@gmail.com

Thanksgiving Service for the life of Don Stewart

All are welcome to join together to celebrate and give thanks for the life of Don Stewart on Friday 28th February at 2pm at BRBC, followed by refreshments. Please feel free to wear clothing that you are comfortable in; black attire is not required. Family Flowers only. Don's family are so grateful for your prayers and support over recent weeks.

Flowers

Flowers today are given by Jill Boniface in loving memory of dear Bernard.

BMS Birthday Scheme

Celebrating a birthday this week is Judy McMahon on Thursday 20th February.

For Prayer

Pray for our families especially during this half term week. Pray that they will be able to find enjoyable and creative things to do. Pray for the event being planned by Toy Library and Saturday Kitchen on Tuesday 18th Feb.

Mission Prayer Request

Praise God that the new groups run by the Eagle Project at the youth prisons in Sao Paulo are going really well. Cally is sad, though, that the girls' unit is moving to another place outside the city which is a long way for the team to travel. Pray that the application to work at another girls' unit will be approved. Pray, too that they will soon be able to find somewhere to act as a headquarters. Nothing has worked out yet.

Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to 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](tel:01403211150)
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm
Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg [07926 045598](tel:07926045598)
Church Secretary – Ken Carter
www.brbc-horsham.org.uk