BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

BRBC Bulletin Sunday 9th February 2025 Welcome to our service today.

Events for the next week

Sunday 2nd February Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness Communion Service 10:30am Sunday Service led by Michael Hogg 10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club) Meeting Rooms - Children will go from the main service Sunday 9th 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 9th February 10:30am Sunday 9th February 10:45am Monday 10th February 10:00am Monday 10th February 2:30pm Tuesday 11th February 10:30am Tuesday 11th February 1:00pm Tuesday 11th February 4:00pm Wednesday 12th February 8:00pm Thursday 13th February 12:45pm Thursday 13th February 2:00pm Thursday 13th February 7:45pm Saturday 15th February 12:30pm Sunday 16th February 9:15am Sunday 16th February 10:30am Sunday 16th February 10:45am Tuesday 18th February 10:30am Tuesday 18th February 3:30pm Tuesday 18th February 7:45pm Wednesday 19th February 2:30pm Wednesday 19th February 7:00pm Thursday 20th February 10:00am Thursday 20th February 2:00pm Thursday 20th February 7:45pm Friday 21st February 2:00pm Sunday 23rd February 10:30am Sunday 23rd February 10:45am Monday 24th February 10:00am Monday 24th February 2:30pm

Sunday Service **BRBK** (Kids' Club) Coffee, Cake & Company PMA Alpha Course **BRBC Babies & Toddlers** Toy Library **Prayer Gathering** I unch Club Craft Club Worship Group Saturday Kitchen **Mission Prayer Meeting Sunday Service BRBK** (Kids' Club) Alpha Course Toy Library - Family Fun Allsorts Housegroup Johnson House Group Hillside House Group Art Group Women's Fellowship Worship Group Afternoon Stroll Sunday Service BRBK (Kids' Club) Coffee, Cake & Company PMA

Weekly Message The Greatness of Little Kindnesses

J.R.R. Tolkien's character Gandalf says in the movie "The Hobbit": "Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check, but that is not what I have found. It is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love."

Can our small acts of loving-kindness in this troubled world really make such a difference?

On 27th January 2025, the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the German Nazi concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau was commemorated, marked by testimonies and addresses from survivors. One eyewitness of the atrocities has said, "Our time in Auschwitz taught us the value of even the smallest act of kindness. It gave us strength to carry on."

It is astonishing to think that any little lights of kindness could survive being extinguished by such vast, unimaginable darkness. Yet testimony of kindness in the camp, amidst such cruelty, burns bright, and still spreads. Kindness is a universal language which knows no bounds. It has been said that "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see".

Kindness originates with God; a reflection of His very nature, for God is love (<u>1 John 4:8</u>) and love is kind (<u>1 Corinthians 13:4</u>). God exercises and delights in kindness on earth (<u>Jeremiah 9:25</u>), drawing people to Himself "with unfailing kindness." (<u>Jeremiah 31:3</u>) Isaiah proclaims, "I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord … the many good things he has done … according to his compassion and many kindnesses." (<u>Isaiah 63:7</u>) Kindness is a universal currency, the "riches of [God's] kindness" (Romans 2:4), to be spent by anyone and received by anyone. God's costliest gift of kindness is in the Person of His Son, for in Christ "the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared …" (Titus 3:4). Here, "the incomparable riches" of God's grace are "expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:7)

The kindness of Christ, the kindness that is Christ, is a universal covering – garments that God's chosen people clothe themselves with (<u>Colossians 3:12</u>). We are commanded, "clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh." (<u>Romans 13:14</u>). "For all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (<u>Galatians 3:27</u>). May our daily fashion come from the wardrobe of kindness.

God's act of kindness, through Christ, is a catalyst for transformation because "God's kindness is intended to lead [us] to repentance" (<u>Romans 2:4</u>). And as fruit produced by the Holy Spirit (<u>Galatians 5:22</u>) kindness is a hallmark of the church, authenticating those submitting to the Spirit.

I pray, God's blaze of kindness to us in Christ sparks our little flames of kindness to overcome the immediate darkness wherever we are and whatever or whoever we are faced with. Amen.

Revd Michael Hogg

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.

PMA – Pleasant Monday Afternoon

All are welcome to join the group who meet fortnightly in the Main Hall from 2.30-3.45pm. On Monday 10th February we are looking forward to hearing all about Wiltshire Farm Foods. We will also have a short time of worship and enjoy a cup of tea together.

BRBC Art Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 20th February 2025 in the Main Hall 10-12pm. All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Robert Hardwick

BRBC Lunch Club

The next Church Lunch Club is on Thursday 13th February. The 2course lunch will be served at 12.45. We ask for a small contribution of £4. All are welcome. If you wish to attend please put your name on the list at Reception, email me on 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 Valerie Hardwick and Chris Gargano

Advance Notice!

The World Day of Prayer will take place as usual on the first Friday in March, 7th March. It is a service for everyone and hopefully at a time to suit you as there will be three venues in Horsham at three different times on that day. The women of the Cook Islands have prepared the service. See posters on the board at Reception.

Walks

The next Friday afternoon country stroll will be on February 21st. Meet at church at 2pm. Further details will appear in next week's bulletin.

Oasis Quiz Night

Back by popular demand, Oasis is excited to welcome you to their Quiz of all Quizes night at Brighton Road Baptist Church 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.

We will be having a raffle on the evening and ensuring that we raise funds for Oasis to be able to continue the free services they offer in Horsham and Crawley and surrounding areas.

Snacks will be on the table; please be sure to bring soft drinks (no alcohol please) with you on the night. Doors will open at 6.30pm and the quiz will start promptly at 7pm.

Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite (<u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-of-all-quizzes-back-by-popular-demand-for-2025-tickets-1204778156899</u>) or through the Oasis website.

Message from Clair England

Toy Library and Saturday Kitchen are organising a Family Fun session during half term. If you have any small and medium sized boxes, plastic trays, tops etc we would appreciate your donations. Thank you.

Message from Chris Gargano

In last weeks 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 .

BMS Birthday Scheme

Celebrating a birthday this week is Marion Richardson on Thursday 13th February.

Email Bulletin

Did you know that you can access the bulletin online? Scan the QR code on the front of this bulletin with your phone's camera or go to <u>www.brbc-horsham.org.uk/Hubb/?p=ConsentAndMailing</u> and login or create an account to sign up to receive the weekly bulletin email. Help us save paper!

For Prayer

Let us pray for those of our fellowship who are being cared for in residential homes and for those who are in their own homes but are unable to get out and about because of illness or frailty. Pray that they will experience the love and care of family and friends and feel that they are still part of our church family.

Mission Prayer Request

Give thanks for the good time some of us enjoyed when the Lynches visited us recently and told of their work in Bangladesh. Let us pray for them as they return to Bangladesh on February 20th, a country continuing to face insecurity at the moment. Pray for wisdom for the interim government and for protection for those in the missions training programme to be able to continue their outreach work in safety.

Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to <u>bulletin@brbc-</u> <u>horsham.org.uk</u> 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 Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg 07926 045598 Church Secretary – Ken Carter www.brbc-horsham.org.uk