



Sinfin Moor Church

Arleston Lane, Sinfin Moor, Derby DE24 3DH

A Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) serving

Sinfin Moor and Stenson Fields

August Newsletter

(Published Sunday 2nd August 2026)

Welcome to our Monthly Newsletter

A reminder that at any of our Church Services, please be considerate to others and ensure your phone is set to silent or switched off. Thank you for your consideration.



The Church is fitted with an inductive loop system.

Hearing aid users should switch to the 'T' position (if so fitted) or adjust your hearing aid as required.

With it being the first service of the month, Communion will be served at the rail, please come forward when asked to do so by the Usher. If you cannot easily come to the rail, please tell the Usher and we will happily serve you Communion to you at your seat. Should you require a blessing, please come to the rail when asked to do so, and tell the person who is presiding or tell the Usher if you cannot get to the rail.

Paul's Piece – “Hope is a person and His name is Jesus”

This year I had the privilege of attending the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in Westminster Hall, along with Rev Will Eley from our neighbouring parish and our local MP, Baggy Shanker. The theme was 'Hope for the future' — a timely and challenging subject, especially with 180 MPs gathered together. We began with contributions from the Speakers of both Houses, the Commons and the Lords, who spoke about the importance of faith in our world at this time. One sentence from Lord Forsyth of Drumlean particularly stayed with me:



*“we can be committed without being certain about everything,
and we can lead without pretending to have all the answers”*

He was echoing the words of the prophet Micah: that we are called to walk humbly, love mercy and act justly.

We then heard from MP Tim Farron, who chaired our time of worship. Together we sang *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, before prayers were led by a number of MPs and peers. The keynote speaker, Clare Williams-Sarpong, reminded us:



*"No person, no party, no institution
can bear the weight of ultimate hope,"*

She reflected that politics cannot carry the weight of the answers it was never meant to provide. Tim Farron returned to this theme in his closing remarks:

*"If we place our hope in this party or that, in this leader or that,
we are going to be disappointed, crushed even,"*

He added that finite earthly powers eventually turn to dust. At first, that may sound rather bleak. But Tim went on to offer a wider and more hopeful perspective for all who serve in public life, pointing to the good news of the Christian faith: in Jesus, there is:

*"one in whom you can place your trust, whose rule lasts forever,
and who is not just awesome and reliable, but also loves you".*

Ruth Naomi Floyd also helped lead us in reflection and worship, adding depth and beauty to the morning. I came away encouraged that Christian hope is not wishful thinking, nor is it dependent on any one party, leader or institution. It is rooted in the faithfulness of God, and it calls us to live with humility, mercy and justice here in our own communities in the south of Derby and as a Country.



Please remember all who serve in public office in your prayers.

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

You can watch the Parliamentary Prayer breakfast on the Christians in Parliament website
https://www.youtube.com/live/zPvx1DHTleE?si=iDCNvY7_do4jKno



Rev Fiona's August Update



Can I tell you about Sally? She moved to Boundary Moor Gardens just over a year ago on her own and didn't know anyone living here. Just a few weeks after she arrived a flyer came through her door for our estate annual summer gathering and she decided to walk past at a distance and see what we all looked like - if we looked friendly and to decide if she was brave enough to come and say hello! She did come and say hello but only stayed a short while, but quite a few of us were able to introduce ourselves and chat and she joined our community WhatsApp group.

At Christmas Sally brought her Mum along as well to our Christmas celebration and they both stayed and joined in with the nativity and really got involved - in fact, Sally's Mum has knitted two camels

for this year's knitted nativity! Just a few weeks ago we had our annual summer gathering for 2026. Sally was on the organising team, she turned up to help set up and helped with one of the activities - she brought her Mum again who has become an adopted member of our estate community. We talked about how unsure she was last year - and she said how she couldn't believe what a difference living here with such a community had been for her.



I'd also like to tell you about Ben, he's in Year 6 at Ash Croft Primary school. At the beginning of July I ran a transition space which enables the Year 6 children to pause and think about their move up to secondary school. We thought about friendships, how wonderfully and marvellously we are made and how valued each child is. We considered our place in our community and made use of the calm jars to find peace.

A week later - I was on the playground collecting the next group for our lunchtime reflective space when I saw Ben. He was stood by the door on his own so I asked if he was ok and how he was feeling about going up to secondary school - he started off by playing it cool - it's good Fiona, it'll be ok but then, when he realised no one else was around, he said how he was actually quite scared. So we had a chat about going from being the oldest and biggest in Primary school to the youngest in Secondary - we didn't chat for long but I hope he felt heard and that saying it out loud had helped. I said I'd be praying for him - and he smiled.

Slowly and gently relationships are built, lives are shared and we can show, in the simple things in life, the love of God through our actions and conversations. You never know how God will use you through the little seemingly insignificant things you can do - for someone that may be massive and who knows how God will work through that.

With every blessing.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fiona". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. It is enclosed within a faint, dotted rectangular border.

PS. All names have been changed to protect identity.

A Reflection on Diversity in Worship

Rev. Gael Browne

First, thank you so so much to those of you who took the time to come to my ordination to the priesthood in late June - I was so thrilled to see many Sinfin Moor faces there, and felt very loved and supported. And thanks to those who have prayed for me and encouraged me over this last year.

It was an absolute joy to preside at communion the following day, and again, I thank you all for being so open to me robing and leading in a way that might have felt alien to some.

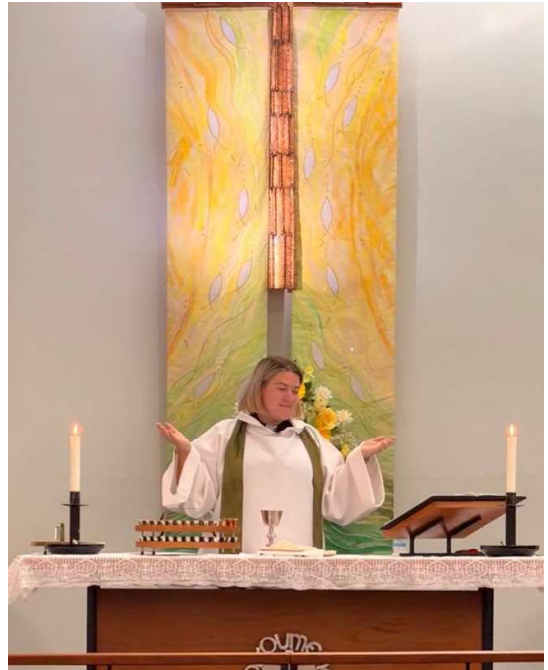
It felt important to me to do this for a number of reasons:

1. Cheekily, I love to provoke! Not in a 'for nothing' kind of way, but in a way that makes people stop and think, 'how does this make me feel and why?' I think provoking people to curiosity, and doing something other than the norm, is a great way to increase learning and understanding of not only our faith and what we believe, but of ourselves and our 'why'. We ask questions.
2. It also felt apt on the back of our series on 'worship', to embody what we'd been speaking on, and show a different way of approaching things. It was an opportunity to increase our diversity of worship, which feels particularly important as one of our values as an LEP.
3. I have trained in the Anglican church and been taught specifically how to 'do' communion to fulfil the rubrics of Common Worship, so coming to a point where I could put all of that into practice felt fulfilling and gave me chance to practice something which has only ever been theory.

... fast forward four weeks later, and I was presiding at communion during café church. Now, if you were there, you would have seen me in jeans and a fleece, sat on the steps of the dais, surrounded by children sat on pillows, with a coffee table between us, loaded with cobs and trinkets and bits...

We celebrated communion together, as a meal - relaxed, generous. The liturgy was as informal as I could possibly legally make it! And there was a different 'feel'. Not irreverent, just differently enacted.

Now. In both of those circumstances, at least in my heart: joy. Celebration. Remembering. Both have an air of drama or theatre - we are telling the story of Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again. So, whether I am up high behind the table, dressed differently and moving my body in a way that signifies things and invites people to come and meet Jesus in the bread and wine, or whether I am (literally) down low on the floor with the children, making a mess(!), and inviting people to a feast, the same God is being honoured and worshipped and glorified, the same God is delighting over us, and there is no right or wrong way to do things.



Each has their place and appropriate time, and each church in different denominations with different ways of doing things is practising and acting the same thing out, in varying ways. Each will inspire different responses in people, and none of them are bad. One perhaps inspires awe and wonder and a renewed sense of God's holiness and our smallness - our place in the great history and mystery of faith. The other perhaps inspires a sense of family in a way that is healing and inclusive and gives permission for people to come as they are. It reminds us of Jesus' humanity and the meal he shared, and reminds us that he came low to meet us in the flesh.

But what I really want to say is this - I hope and pray that as we learn about and share these Holy Habits, particularly as we have looked at 'worship', we would remember that God is in it *all*, and he loves it *all*. The kingdom is beautiful because it is diverse, and we all express our worship in different ways, and can learn from each other. No matter what decade the song we're singing comes from, no matter what the vicar is wearing, no matter what shape the tables are in or what order we do things or whether we say the old or new Lord's prayer or... whatever, God is generous, and he meets us in it, if we have eyes to see.

This is incredibly freeing stuff. This means, we can 'give it a go'. We can try new things. We can 'get it wrong', because there is no 'wrong'. Our worship isn't dependent on us, and praise God!! Because if it were, it would never be good enough.

Perhaps remembering the gem from our home group session a couple of weeks back after Paul's sermon on Mary and Martha, 'Jesus chides Martha not for her work, but for her attitude.' It's not about what we see on the outside; it's about the *heart* of things.

Amen!

Anna Chaplain

I wonder what comes to mind when you think of the word Chaplain?

The word chaplain has its roots in the 4th century, derived from the medieval Latin *cappellanus*, meaning "custodian of a cloak".

This title is closely associated with the story of St Martin of Tours, a Roman soldier remembered for cutting his cloak in two to share it with a man who was cold and in need. That act of mercy has long been seen as a powerful image of Christian compassion in action.

It is a simple yet moving reminder of the call to notice those in need and to respond with kindness, generosity, and care. Over time, the word developed through Old French before becoming the modern English word "chaplain". And chaplaincy today continues that same spirit of compassionate service, offering spiritual and pastoral support in places such as hospitals, schools, workplaces, care settings, and the wider community. In this way, chaplaincy remains a valuable ministry of presence, listening, and hope.

Chaplaincy is something that has been on my heart for many years. Even before I became a Lay Minister, I sensed that God was calling me towards this kind of pastoral ministry. However, the right opportunity did not seem to arise. Then, last year, I came across the name Anna Chaplaincy through an article that I had read, and I felt as though God was gently opening the door for me to look again at this calling.

After much prayer and speaking to some of my friends I decided that this was the time to be trained to be an Anna Chaplain.

And I am delighted to share that, earlier this year in February, through the funding of Sinfin Moor Church, and their ongoing support, I completed my training through the Bible Reading Fellowship who train people for different kinds of ministries. The Bible Reading Fellowship are a Christian charity who have a vision to help people grow in faith and in their understanding of the Bible.

The BRF ministries have placed the name Anna in front of the word Chaplain which is taken from Luke 2:36-38. Which highlights the wonderful story of the widow Anna, a faithful older woman who worshipped and served God in the Temple alongside Simeon. Her story is a wonderful reminder that, whatever our age, we are never beyond God's calling and purpose.

Anna Chaplaincy is a specific role in supporting the elderly, offering a listening ear, spiritual encouragement, and companionship. At the heart of Anna Chaplaincy is a simple commitment: to offer person-centred spiritual care to older people, whether they have a strong faith, little faith, or no faith at all.

This support is available to people living in their own homes, as well as those in care homes and sheltered housing, and extends to friends, family members, and care staff who may also value encouragement and companionship.

I will be licensed in the near future to work in partnership alongside the BRF and Sinfin Moor Church working within the parish of Sinfin Moor.

My Anna Chaplain role offers

- Listening and companionship
- A safe place to talk through worries and concerns
- Prayer
- Home Communion

Jean Desborough

Monthly Prayer List for June



Thank you for the success of all who have had operations over the last month.

Thank you, Lord, for the joy of welcoming 2 children and 1 adult into Your family as they got baptised.

Thank you that the Holy Habits groups are going well, friendships getting deeper, delicious food to eat. Getting a better biblical understanding about the meaning of Following Jesus' example of having a serving attitude to all we meet.



Help us to share our faith with others as an act of worship to You.

Pray for each of our church leaders that God will guide and protect them in all they do. And for their families as they love support and release them to do the work the Lord ordained for them.

For each of the Churches within Sinfin, that we can build on relationships, connections and support to enable a deeper unity so providing more help in our local areas.

Pray for all those within our church family that are struggling with ill health, physically and emotionally. Especially those dear friends who are unable to attend due to either being in care homes or physical and emotional restrictions.

For all who are struggling financially give them the help they need and the peace to know You are our provider. Thank you, Lord for those we have been able help, alongside Food4 thought, to provide food parcels.

For all the young people that they will seek you as they struggle with many areas of their life. So many have a lack of self-esteem and self-worth. Those struggling with their sense of identity and those in difficult situations. Pray that God will put the right people around them.

Thank you for the young people from CODA who attended the youth group at our church and pray that it will continue into the new academic year. Help us to be good servants as we come alongside them.

Prayer is our most powerful tool when we pray in true faith even faith as big as a mustard seed, how do I know? It's because the Bible tells us so.

Thank you for your commitment to pray. Let us keep seeking the Lord in all we do.



Please remember to get in touch for any prayer requests names won't be mentioned but situations will be, give us the privilege of praying for you.

My contact for any prayer requests is, Glenn Roe Mobile

07949654286 email, roeglennard@gmail.com or wendy.roe1@hotmail.com



From Holy Habits Wednesday Lunchtime group on Boundary Moor Gardens

I asked the group: "If you were describing our Holy Habits group to a close friend, what would you say?"

We said:

"It's a refuge."

"When I stopped being able to go to church - God brought church to me!"

"Friendship. Fellowship. Talking and getting to know people who you maybe don't always get to know just at church on Sunday."

"A place where I can share myself where there is love and understanding.....apart from Chris (joke!)"

"A nice ambience"

"Relaxed and friendly"

"A safe space to be open, ask questions and pray for each other."

"It's a joy - being in the presence of God in this place, being with these people. It's just a joy!"

Sinfin Fun Day

Another fantastic weather day on our latest event, we held a stall at the Sinfin fun day down on sinfin park. Better known to us at the church as the "Colin Attenborough Pavillion".

We used the same idea we had at the school fayre, using a treasure hunt pirate theme and what an amazing time we had. We gave out over 200!! That's right200 bags containing our café church services, summer connect activities and a bible verse in it, and of course a few sweet goodies.

We had so many fantastic conversations with known and some new faces. We even met the Mayor of Derby!!!!.



A massive thanks to Joshua for setting up the Gazebo for us, and to our helpers for the day, Cathy, Margaret, Fiona and Martin.

We wonder what the next event will be.

Thanks for reading

Chris, Julie and Lauren

.

Welcome to a new corner of the newsletter where each month we interview one of our wonderful children in church to see what they've been up to, what they have learnt etc. Ladies and Gentlemen I give you

"THE GOSPEL TRUTH"

Name: Henry

Q1. Over the last month, have you been to anything new or done something new in church?

Yes, we had a different style of communion at café church. All the children had to bring something that showed how much they love God.

I bought a star with a painted patterns on and the letter H for my name in the middle, because it reminds me of the gap between earth and the stars, and that gap is how much I love God.....ALOT!

Summer Connect – Kids

The song "Schools out for summer" comes to mind right now.

Monday 27th July was our official first summer connect - kids session, and boy what a session! We had 29 children in total come to visit and return to take part in a variety of activities and crafts, colouring, lego building, playdough and even some outdoor, mainly because we needed more room!

We had some fantastic chalk art outside, which I am sure some of you may have seen by now. If not, make sure you head to the back of the church near the allotment side before they disappear.

We finished off with a massive group dance session outside lead by a special guest (Our Oliver dressed up), and finally ended with some wonderful food to fill everyone's tummy's before they headed home.

Can you believe that all of that happened in just 1 hour!!!! How incredibly exciting and exhausting it was, but totally worth it!

Thank you to our incredible summer kids team that have helped to set up, clear up and helped man some stations!

Now.....time for a very big cup of coffee and maybe a nap.

Summer Team

Treasurer's Update - August

Firstly, the ongoing saga of the Methodist grant towards our Solar Panels. If you read my piece in the last Newsletter, you may recall I told you that there was a glimmer of light at the end of tunnel. Well, we made it to the end of the tunnel and emerged into the bright sunshine; I am delighted to tell you that we have now received the grant, and it has been returned to our ECO fund which is where we borrowed the money from to pay for the Solar Panels. Everything is now where it should be, and it is one less thing to bother about.

We are now entering our quieter time for income since many of our users have finished for the six week summer holidays, this means that our income will be down until September when these groups are back.

Finances for the Church are generally on a good level and there are no concerns about paying our way, at the least for the foreseeable future.

I am very grateful to those of you who actually give money to the Church, whether it be cash in the offering basket or direct to the bank account. Having such a regular income allows us to pay our way in the big wide world.

The Church Council agreed at their last meeting to pay a rate of 55p for every mile that is done by both clergy and lay people (you and me) when the car is used on Church business. This is maximum rate that can be paid under HMRC regulations. I know that some of you use your cars on Church business, but normally do not claim money back, and I thank you for this. By not claiming we cannot truly reflect the cost of running our Church. Anyway, the point is, if you do use your car on Church business and wish to claim money back for doing so, please speak to me and I will tell you how we can do it.

That's it for now, if you want to know more about any of this or our finances in general, speak to me, I am quite approachable.

Ian Sant
Treasurer

Heath Court Services

You are invited to a time of worship at Heath Court at 2.00 pm (note the start time is now 2.00 pm) on the first Friday of every month.

You can be certain of a warm welcome, and there are always some lovely refreshments afterwards.



Chairs

Please can anyone help with setting up chairs on a Saturday evening with Peter Martin from September ready for a Sunday morning service. It would only be the 1st and 3rd weekend on the rota as Anne very graciously already helps with the rest.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community Meals

Our next Community Meal will be on Monday 3 August.

Children's activities will be available from 11am.

August Community Meal dates are:

Monday 10 August

Monday 17 August

Monday 24 August

Monday 31 August (*Bank Holiday*)



Please note: Connect will continue to meet weekly
from 10am to 1pm.

Church Community Prayer Meetings

Each week we meet to pray together for our church and local community for around 30 minutes at the Church Centre on Thursdays 9am. All are welcome to join and you are not required to pray aloud. We follow the Celtic Daily Morning Prayer that has some written prayer that we say together, some short bible readings, then we hear a reflection, meditation and move into a time of 'open prayer' for current needs and concerns, and life in the surrounding area, including praying for the church and its activities. You are welcome to join.



“You can do more than pray after you’ve prayed,
but you cannot do more than pray until
you have prayed.”

John Bunyan

Other opportunities to share together in prayer are through:

- the Prayer List in this newsletter - Contact Glen roeglennard@gmail.com with any requests
- at Heath Court on Thursdays 10:00am in the Quiet Room
- and with the CoDA (School) prayer group - the next meeting is September 7th 2.00pm in the Church Centre Welcome Area. contact Fiona fiona@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk

Movie Afternoon, August 9th, 3pm - *Big Hero 6*

Join us as we round off our *Holy Habits: Serving* series with an afternoon of film, friendship and snacks! We'll be watching *Big Hero 6* together - a heartwarming, funny and action-packed story that has more to say about serving others than you might expect...

As you watch, see if you can spot moments that explore what it means to use our gifts for the good of others, how compassion can change lives, and the difference that friendship and community make when life is difficult. Like all good stories, it reminds us that serving isn't always about grand gestures; often it begins with showing up for one another.

Of course, no movie afternoon would be complete without sharing snacks together too - a fitting way to continue practising the holy habits we've been exploring, from eating together to enjoying fellowship as God's family.

Whether you've followed the whole series or are simply looking for a relaxed afternoon with good company and a great film, we'd love you to come along, and feel free to invite neighbours and family and friends! A great opportunity to share faith in a relaxed way.





Brownies

Sinfin
girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

**Girls have nonstop
fun, learning and
adventure**

for ages 7 to 10



'I like doing things
outside... we get
to learn about our
environment and
how to care for it'

Jessica



Brownies is full of
firsts: she might
grow her first plant,
bake her first
cake, put up (and
take down) her first
tent, light her first fire,
go on her first fun-packed
weekend away with
guiding friends.



There's something for every girl
at Brownies, and plenty of
moments she'll never forget.

**To find out more search Brownies
at girlguiding.org.uk**

Registered charity number: 504343



Scam emails and texts

Please remember: the church will never ask for money by email or text message. If you receive a message that seems suspicious, please check carefully that it has come from a known and trusted church email address before replying.

The Government gives the following advice about reporting scams and phishing:

Report internet scams and phishing

You can report misleading websites, emails, phone numbers, phone calls or text messages that you think may be suspicious.

Do not give out private information, such as bank details or passwords. Do not reply to suspicious text messages, download attachments, or click links in emails unless you are sure they are genuine.

Emails

Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

The [National Cyber Security Centre \(NCSC\)](#) will investigate it.

Text messages

Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 - it's free.

This will report the message to your mobile phone provider.

If you are ever unsure about a message claiming to be from the church, please contact us another way before taking any action.

Smile Time (or grimace)

Blessed are the fishermen, for they shalt have net income

Blessed are the musicians, for they shalt be noteworthy

Blessed are they that turn off their mobiles, for they shalt have peace

Blessed are those who speak as lawyers, for they shalt be brief

Blessed are the sweet makers, for they shalt make a mint

Blessed are they who give hugs, for they are truly appreciated (more than they'll ever know)

What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

Dauids' Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Samson. He brought the house down

.

CHURCH MINISTER AND CONTACT DETAILS

Enabling Minister*	Rev'd Paul Desborough	01332 756336 07958 618507	paul@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Fiona Barber	07966 520390	fiona@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Gael Browne	07405 922557	gael@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Lay Minister*	Jean Desborough	07415 671004	reader-jean@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Secretary*			
Stewards*	Lauren Foster		
	Joy Hughes	Ian Sant (Treasurer)	finance@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
	Melanie Sant		
Church Council	Pam Burrows	Christopher Froggatt	
	Joy Hughes	Glenn Roe	
	Wendy Roe		

**Are also members of the Church Council*

Parish Safeguarding Officer	Rev Paul Desborough (interim)	safeguarding@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Room Bookings	Melanie Sant	01332 721927 bookings@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Webmaster	Rev'd Paul Desborough	
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	Jean Desborough	01332 756336
Prayer Diary	Glenn Roe	07949 654286 roeglennard@gmail.com
Property Steward		
Newsletter Editor	Joy Hughes	07428 132799 jehughes5@hotmail.com

Diary Dates - July

Sunday 2 nd	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Communion
Monday 3 rd	10.00 am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome)
Sunday 9 th	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 10 th	10.00 am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome)
Sunday 16 th	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Communion
Monday 17 th	10.00am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome)
Sunday 23 rd	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 24 th	10.00am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome)
Sunday 30 th	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 31 st	10.00am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome)

Thursday 3rd September Closing date for items to go in the September 2026 Newsletter.

Normal Weekly Meetings

Monday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm	Connect Coffee Morning
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
Tuesday	9.15 - 10.00 am	Yoga Group
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	1.30 - 2.30 pm	Seated Exercise Group
	6.30 - 8.00 pm	Cubs (Term time)
	8.15 - 9.15 pm	Footlights Stage School Adult Fun Tap
Wednesday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Sinfin Moor Church Friendship Club
	6.30 - 7.00 pm	Brownies (Term Time)
Thursday	8.00 am and 9.30 am	Slimming World
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.30 pm	<u>Squirrels (Term Time) in Middle Bay</u>
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
	7.00 - 8-30 pm	Scouts (Term time)
Friday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Footlights Stage School - Ballet

Please advise the Editor when there are changes to ANY of the above