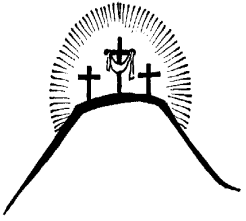


# St Mary's Church Burghfield

*Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others*

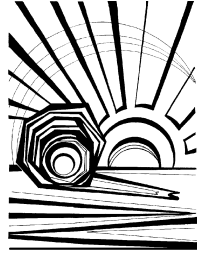
## APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our monthly newsletter, which we hope will keep you informed of what's happening in our parish life, the community and also more widely.



### **From death to Resurrection—Alleluia Christ is Risen!**

As you all receive this newsletter we are in the middle of Holy Week. The journey through Holy week takes us through the events of the last week of Jesus' life on earth. From the jubilation of Jesus' entry in Jerusalem, which we celebrated on Palm Sunday, to the tables in the Temple being overturned in his anger at those cheating and overcharging for the temple services and sac-



rifices, we move to Maundy Thursday remembering the Last Supper which Jesus shared with his close friends and the reenactment of which, we continue Sunday by Sunday through our Communion services. That first Maundy Thursday ended in chaos and betrayal as Jesus was arrested after his anguished night spent in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. We move then into Good Friday remembering the false trial and accusations leveled at Jesus and ultimately the agony and suffering he endured on the cross, demonstrating the full extent of his love for all humanity as he willingly gave his life to redeem each and every single person in his time and in all time to follow. The emptiness of Holy Saturday follows as his disciples mourn the death of their dear friend and teacher and they flounder lost and hopeless. Then a new day dawns and the extraordinary news of his resurrection begins to spread, and despair turns to joy, delight and celebration as they encounter the risen Christ.

We are an 'Easter People' we already know the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection, however Holy week serves as an opportunity each year, to remind us of just how great a story the Christian story is, and the impact it has had on the world and will continue to have for many, many generations to come. The meaning of Easter is still as relevant for you and I today as it was over 2000 years ago and its good to be reminded of that!

Holy week takes us through the full gamut of human experiences and emotions and is a microcosm of our lives. We too experience at one time or another, joy, delight, jubilation, despair, mourning, suffering, hope, new life and rebirth. Sometimes these emotions and experiences are linked and run parallel, other times they follow in sequence or are cyclical.

Whatever our experience or emotions at this present time, we can be assured that Jesus our saviour, our redeemer, has experienced them for himself and knows exactly how we feel. And more so, has promised to always be with us to strengthen and encourage, to lift up and challenge, to bring peace and reconciliation and to join in with both our pain and suffering or our joy and delight.

As we look in despair at our world, the violence and chaos, the corruption and greed, the suffering of the innocents, our times are no different to the times in which Jesus was born. Yet through the ages people have come to faith, they have trusted, waited patiently and found new hope and joy. And even in our current period of history we can do the same, there is always hope in Jesus Christ. There is always light in the darkness, Christ is the light of the world!

Wishing you all a renewed experience of Easter, a deepening understanding of our Christian faith, and the transformation in our lives which only comes through faith and trust in our risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia he is risen indeed!

Easter Blessings to you all

*Revd Glynn*



# Here's What's Happening!

Thurs 28th Mar	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 7.30pm Holy Communion
Fri 29th Mar	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 8-9am Walk of Witness, see page 3 2.00pm Last Hour of the Cross service in Church
Sat 30th Mar	10am Church Cleaning morning
Sunday 31st Mar	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 10am Parish Communion service & via Zoom
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 29th March - 15th APRIL</b>	
Tues 2nd April	3.30pm Interment of Ashes - RIP Felicity Absolom
Sunday 7th April	10am Parish Communion service & via Zoom
Mon 8th April	9am Morning Prayer in Church
Thurs 11th April	2pm Afternoon Tea & Whist Drive Fundraising event in Parish Centre
Sat 13th April	10am Interment of Ashes - RIP Beryl Malone
Sunday 14th April	10am Healing Service with Communion & via Zoom
Mon 15th April	8am Morning Prayer 9.30-11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church
<b>REVD GLYNN AWAY ON ANNUAL LEAVE 16th - 23rd April</b>	
Friday 19th April	6.30-8.45pm Family Film Night in Church - HOP - see page 9
Sunday 21st April	9am Breakfast@Church 10am Parish Communion service & via Zoom
Mon 22nd April	8am Morning Prayer 9.30-11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church
Wed 24th April	9.30am Ecumenical service at Burghfield Methodist Church
Sunday 28th April	10am Parish Communion service & via Zoom Followed by the APCM meeting 12-4pm Bucket List Wishes Dress sale in the Parish Centre see page 18
Mon 29th April	8am Morning Prayer 9.30-11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church
Thurs 2nd May	All Day Polling station in Church
Sunday 5th May	10am Parish Communion service & via Zoom 11.45am Baptism in Church
Thurs 9th May	9.30am Burghfield St Mary's School Ascension Day service in Church
Sunday 12th May	9am Short Parish Communion service in Church <b>10am Burghfield May Fayre on the Hatch, Burghfield Village</b>

## GOOD FRIDAY - 29th MARCH 2024

*Please see the invitation below to join in with local churches as we come together for a WALK OF WITNESS on Good Friday. The walk starts from the Mortimer Methodist Church car park and further details below.*

*Revd Glynn*

At Mortimer Methodist Church, for the last few years, we have organised a Walk of Witness on Good Friday. This usually **took** place late morning. This timing, when activities in other local Churches were often planned, made it difficult for people from other Churches to attend. This year we have moved the time to between 8-9.00am and are changing the emphasis slightly so that we cover not only Good Friday, but (briefly) the biblical story from the arrest to the burial of Jesus.

**Churches Together in  
Burghfield and Mortimer**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Walk of Witness 8.00 – 9.00am**

**A short walk around Mortimer,  
recalling the journey of Jesus  
from Gethsemane to the  
Cross**

**For information Tel 0118 9071822**

# HUGE THANKS GOES TO THE TEAM THAT CAME ALONG TO OUR COMMUNITY CHURCHYARD WORK PARTY IN MARCH.

Here's a few photos to show you what's involved.



Photo at the bottom right shows a remedy to the muddy bog leading from rear to tarmac carparks.

Bottom left enjoying a well earned cuppa!

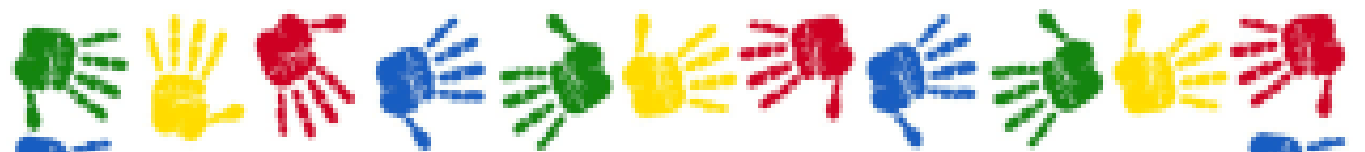


# Easter Family Crafty Church, March 2024

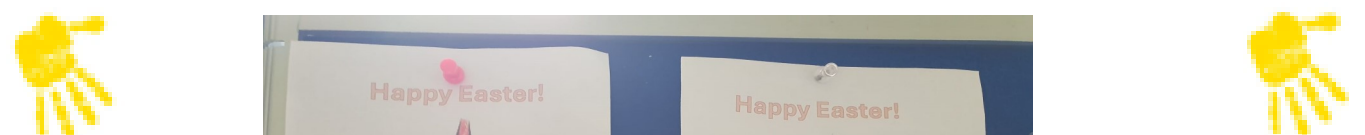
We hope everyone that came along to our Easter Crafty Church enjoyed themselves being creative and having a go at all our crafts and baking on offer. Many thanks to our wonderful team who made it all possible.



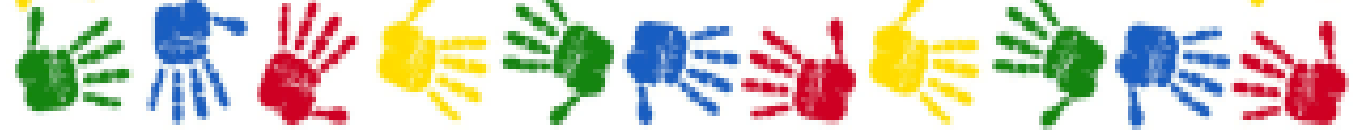
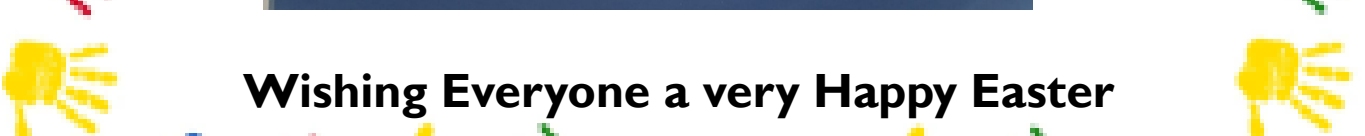
**Mothering Sunday** - A big Thank You to Margaret Towle and her daughter for making our beautiful Mothering Sunday posies.



**Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group** enjoyed our last session of the Spring term, we indulged in some lovely cake and Easter treats. We wanted to Thank everyone who has helped to make this such a successful & welcoming group and to all those who have come along to join in with our activities. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 15th April for our Sumer term of FUN.



**Wishing Everyone a very Happy Easter**





## Foreign currency:

You may remember in 2022 we asked anyone who had unwanted foreign banknotes or coins to donate them to the church, and after conversion to sterling the value would be added to our fundraising efforts.

We had an excellent response receiving over 120 different notes from 44 different countries (with all five continents represented), and almost 1500 coins from 70 countries. We found a company that converts all of this into sterling and who add 5% to the payment when it is to a charity. As a result, we have received an incredible £455.58!

The company provide a breakdown of the amount paid for each class of note and coin, making for interesting reading. Who would have known that 130 Burundi Francs in demonetised banknotes were worth a penny, or that 8080 Slovak Korun in withdrawn notes were worth £128.71! Banknotes are divided into current, withdrawn and demonetised notes with a different rate for each. Coins are divided into current and withdrawn. Only two notes were worthless – 2 withdrawn Bulgarian Leu. Coins that are demonetised, out of circulation or otherwise unexchangeable have a scrap value of £1.30 per kilo- we had 5 kilos worth.

The coins covered almost two centuries of use and included those of Napoleon III, Emperor of France, Vitor Emmanuel II King of Italy, and George IV King of Great Britain. Many thanks for taking part in the exercise, and if you find any more coins under mattresses or down the side of chairs, we now have an easy way of putting them to use.  
Colin Thompson



The clergy vestry at St Mary's contains many useful things. Robes, service booklets, Communion supplies, candles: if you want to find anything relating to our church services, the vestry is the first place to look. It even has its own sink: very useful for pouring away the water used to wash up after Communion services. But one thing was missing: a cold water supply with **A TAP**. For many years Anne Burtenshaw and others, walking to and from the Parish Centre kitchen with jugs of water, thought "If only..." and dropped hints to the Fabric team about how useful a water supply in the church would be.

And now it's finally happened! Some inspired work by Brian Thatcher, Clive Eatwell and Iain Buchanan has provided the necessary pipe work and the tap is fully operational, not just for use every Sunday but for Bumps, Babies & Toddlers on Monday mornings and any other group using the church during the week.

The photo shows Anne, Amy and Glynn admiring the latest addition to our church facilities.

**st Mary's Burghfield**

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others



# Whist Drive & Afternoon Tea

**Thursday 11th April, 2.30pm**

**Enjoy an afternoon tea and a friendly  
game of cards.**

**Donations welcome to church funds.**



**To book a place contact Anne on 07713911748 or  
[bannepocock@aol.com](mailto:bannepocock@aol.com)**



**st Mary's Burghfield**

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# FAMILY FILM NIGHT

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER FUN EVENING

**FRIDAY 19TH APRIL, 6.30 - 8.45PM**



**TO BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS PLEASE  
FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING  
TICKET TAILOR LINK**

**[HTTPS://BUYTICKETS.AT/STMARYSCHURCHBURGHFIELD/1202307](https://buytickets.at/stmaryschurchburghfield/1202307)**

**SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN 6YRS & OVER, CHILDREN  
UNDER 8YRS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**

# **Café Théologique**

**22nd April, 7-9pm, The Abbey School, Kendrick Road (senior school entrance), Reading**

**Dr Joanna Leidenhag - Thinking theologically about neuro-diversity.**

Dr Joanna Leidenhag is Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy at the University of Leeds. Join us as we consider and discuss questions relating to this theme. Admission is free, no booking required. Refreshments will be provided.

Any queries please contact Mark Amos at [amosma@theabbey.co.uk](mailto:amosma@theabbey.co.uk)

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**



Coming soon is our annual APCM which will take place on Sunday 28th April after our 10am service. Our annual reports will be sent out after Easter via email, though if you would like a printed copy please let Jo know at [stmarysburghfield@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysburghfield@outlook.com)

At the APCM we elect Church wardens and PCC members (elected for a 3year term of office) and we currently have vacancy to fill on the PCC. If anybody is interested in joining our committed team we would love to hear from you.

The agenda for the meeting is published in the A5 booklet which will be sent via email along the minutes of last years APCM. And our Financial Statement.

Anyone on the electoral roll is entitled to vote at the APCM.

### **Electoral roll.**

Prior to the APCM our electoral roll needs updating. Due to GDPR we are only able to publish the names of people on our electoral roll, so please check the printed list in the Church porch.

If your name is missing please let Jo know, or if your contact details have changed in the last year please also update these with Jo.

# St Mary's Fundraising

## Shopping online with Easy Fundraising

So far, 9 people are raising funds for St Mary's using Easyfundraising and have raised over £170. Thank you for raising this wonderful amount towards Church Funds just by doing your OnLine shopping!

If you shop OnLine, please use this Link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=49900&invite=1TDMFF&referral-campaign=c2s> to set up EasyFundraising and make all your Online purchases through EasyFundraising to help raise more free funds.

If you need any help setting this up, please speak to Anne P, Alison, Glynn or Jo.



**Garden Afternoon Tea at Eileen & Brian's home in Mortimer**

**5 June 2.30pm**

**Including a Plant Bring & Buy Sale**

**The cost to run our Church in 2023 was £8716 per month which is £287 per day !!**

**Recycle Your Ink Cartridges**

Recycling Box in the Church Porch.

*and help us raise funds this Spring!*



**UPCOMING EVENTS**, watch this space for confirmed dates....

**Barn Dance, 17th May - See page 12 for booking information**

**Summer Craft Evening, June Date TBC**

**Teddy Bears Olympics and BBQ, July Date TBC**



# **st Mary's Church Burghfield**

*Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others*

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for**

# **A Barn Dance**



**with a baked potato supper.  
Drinks on sale at the bar**

**Doors open at 7.00pm,  
Dancing starts 7.30pm**

**Tickets    £20.00 per person**

**To book a place contact Anne on 07713911748 or  
[bannepocock@aol.com](mailto:bannepocock@aol.com)**

(NB. Flat shoes or trainers recommended for safety. No spurs!!)



# Eco-Festival

**Save the date: Saturday 5th October 2024 - 11am-4 pm**

At a recent 'Creation Matters' meeting our committee discussed changing the name and format of the 'Festival of Creation' which we have hosted for the last two years. We decided to change the name to 'Eco-Festival', which we hope to hold annually and over just one day, during the season of 'Creationtide' in the church year. This is around September/October each year. We hope this will be an opportunity for the whole community to engage together, to highlight the importance of caring for God's beautiful creation; raising awareness of the extent of the Climate Crisis; how we as individuals or a community could make a difference, as well as having opportunities for eco-friendly market stalls.

If you or anyone you know, are involved in upcycling/recycling items; have produce grown locally for sale; would be interested in providing a 'market stall' or even offer to give a talk to let us know what you are involved in, both locally or elsewhere, please get in touch with Revd Glynn or the parish administrator. We would love to hear from you. In the meantime, please 'save the date' and put your thinking caps on for offers of help or steering us in the right direction for talks and market stalls with an 'eco friendly' theme.

## A few items from the Diocesan 'Care For Creation Newsletter' (February 2024)

### Ethical banking

Barclays bank has often been the target of climate action for its investment in the fossil fuel industry, but it isn't the only guilty bank. [Oxfam is the latest charity](#) to cease banking with Barclays, after protests were held by a group of Christian climate campaigners. Other organisations, including Christian Aid, Greenbelt and Sheffield Cathedral have also severed ties with Barclays, which has been the largest investor in fossil fuels in Europe since 2016.

[MotherTree](#) is an organisation that can help you switch, whether as an individual or representing a church. You can listen to a presentation from their CEO (see the money session of the sustainability talk recordings listed below), and their website can take you through the process.



### Lifestyle talks

The Bicester Festival of Sustainability took place last year, with many excellent talks on topics such as transport, food, homes, money and shopping, just follow the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzOX5dKtyhuKoTDaFPSPerHGS5Ac2IHL6>

**For more information on this newsletter or the environment go to:**

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/environment-and-social-justice/environmental-action/>

## EASY ECO TIPS April



Fit more active travel into your day and daily routine. Reevaluate your journeys: explore walking or cycling options, or modify your route to include some form of active travel, i.e. disembark a stop early and complete the remaining part of your journey on foot, indulge in a leisurely stroll, or opt for a bike ride along a cyclist-friendly route. Consider connecting with your local Ramblers or cycling group for shared experiences. Use the extra steps or the changed travel arrangements as a prompt to pray for God's creation, nature's preservation and the reduction in fossil fuel usage.

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture & defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at: [arochoa.org.uk/wild-christian](mailto:arochoa.org.uk/wild-christian)

**Local Outlet -St Oswald's Church on Fridays between 1-3pm**

local food collection points are as below:

**St Mary's Church- collection point in our church porch.**

**Tesco Express** in Burghfield – opening hours 6.00am –11pm

**Co-op** in Mortimer—opening hours 7.00 am –9pm

Donations may be made directly to their bank account, with the following details:

**Lloyds Bank, Newbury: Sorting Code 77-95-05**

**West Berks Foodbank: Account No. 72784660**

Or, you may send a cheque payable to “West Berks Foodbank” and send to: The Treasurer, West Berks Foodbank, 23 Charter Road, Newbury, Berks. RG14 7EW.

You may also wish to complete a **Gift Aid form to add 25% value to your donation**

**Please click [Here](#) to find out what food donations are urgently needed at the foodbank.**

**St Marys Food Bank contact person:**

Anne Eatwell  
07747 535540 or  
0118 9832666

If you have any questions or would like to offer help in any way please get in touch with Anne.

Foodbank have this [link](#) that you can follow and add to your Instagram feed:



**Received from  
West Berks Foodbank**

We are so very grateful for the regular support that the church has shown the Foodbank, it really is appreciated.



However, as last year, the stock level has fallen at the start of 2024 with demand for help being greater than donations received. With the BBC news reporting last week that the UK has seen the biggest rise in absolute poverty for 30 years, the number jumping to 12 million in 2022-2023, the help provided by Foodbanks is sadly very necessary. Please convey to your communities our thanks for your continued support. With your help, we will be able to continue to support those in crisis and help them to find a way out of their problems. To ensure donations are most useful, a shopping list of urgently needed items can always be found on the website at [Donate food | West Berks Foodbank](#)



# Christmas Craft Market

7th December 2024, 12-4pm

to run alongside our annual Christmas Tree Festival

**STALL HOLDERS NEEDED**

If you are interested  
in having a stall we'd  
love to hear from you



Contact Jo at  
[stmarysburghfield@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysburghfield@outlook.com)  
for more information

**St Mary's Burghfield**

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others





## Church Cleaning

Please join our happy band in cleaning our Church

**Our March cleaning dates are Saturday 30th March, 13th & 27th April all at 10am,** Many hands make light work and it is a joy to care for our beautiful building. Please don't forget to come and help.

Thank you in anticipation! Alison & Mike



## Emmaus

**What's Emmaus about?**

**It's a group of friends who meet twice a month on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday mornings of the month (10-11.30am) to enjoy**

**reading & talking about the Bible together, drinking coffee, munching biscuits & generally have a good chat.**



## DRESSES FOR BUCKET LIST WISHES

Support this amazing charity who operate from our Parish Centre 3 days a week. Contact the team at [team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk](mailto:team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk) to book an appointment to view the dresses they have available.



**We at St Mary's now offer an online donation page!**

**If you would like to donate, please click on the link:**

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/77b371b3-68f6-4729-a808-8fd58d9c589f>

**Thank you for supporting our ministry and mission**



## Contact Details

**Rector** -Revd Glynn Lautenbach

07979 151598 or Email: [RectorSMB@outlook.com](mailto:RectorSMB@outlook.com)

**Parish Administrator** Tuesday –Friday 08:45 –12:45 Office location & Homebased

If you need a face to face meeting please email or call on the below to arrange a date and time

Office Mobile– 07979 871608 Email: [stmarysburghfield@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysburghfield@outlook.com)

**To Contact the Churchwardens:**

Michael Wood– Email: [mike.wood@stmarysburghfield.org](mailto:mike.wood@stmarysburghfield.org)

Alison Eves—Email: [alison.eves@stmarysburghfield.org](mailto:alison.eves@stmarysburghfield.org)

Website: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/287/>

Find us on [Facebook](#) too! Photos and news of upcoming and recent events on our page “St Mary's Church Burghfield”.

Address: Church Lane, Burghfield Village, Reading, Berks, RG30 3TG

The PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No. 1167639





# st Mary's Church Burghfield

*Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others*

## **Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group**

### **Monday's**

**9.30-11am**

**(term time only)**



To find out more take a look at our Facebook page, Website or notice boards in Church.

St Mary's Church,  
Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG  
Tel : 07979 871608

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



DRESSES FOR  
[www.bucketlistwishes.org.uk](http://www.bucketlistwishes.org.uk)



# CHARITY PROM & WEDDING DRESS SALE DAY!

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 2024

12:00-16:00

UPPER ROOM AT THE PARISH CENTRE

ST MARY'S CHURCH

CHURCH LANE, BURGHEFIELD, RG30 3TG

PROM DRESSES JUST £20 EACH!  
WEDDING DRESSES £75 OR £150 EACH!

AVAILABLE SIZES 6-20

Proceeds will help local registered charity

'Bucket List Wishes'

grant more wishes for terminally ill adults

in and around Berkshire.

Please LIKE our 'Dresses for Bucket List Wishes'  
page on facebook for more dress news.





# st Mary's Church Burghfield



## Do you need a venue for a

Work Lunch Meeting, Venue for Training, Childs Birthday Party, Social Occasion or a Community Class?

St Mary's Parish Centre could be the ideal location for you.

We have plenty of FREE Parking.



Downstairs Room with access to kitchen



Upstairs Room with Beautiful vaulted ceiling



Mobile Kitchen Servery used in our upstairs room

Please contact our Parish Administrator if you would like to book or have a look around our facilities.

Either by calling 07979 871608 or email to [stmarysburghfield@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysburghfield@outlook.com)



Price per hour before 6pm	Price per hour after 6pm	Price per hour for Weekends
£14.20p	£16.85p	£16.85p

# Groups and Clubs currently held in our Parish Centre

## MONDAY

Pilates with Heather 9.30-11.30am (upper room)

Call Heather on 07785 25431

Dresses for Bucket List Wishes 1-7pm (upper room)

Contact: [team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk](mailto:team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk)

## WEDNESDAY

Yoga with Janet 9.45-11.45am (upper room)

Contact Janet on email [janetdaacre@hotmail.com](mailto:janetdaacre@hotmail.com)

Dresses for Bucket List Wishes 12-2pm (upper room)

Contact: [team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk](mailto:team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk)

 with Sarah 5.50-7.30pm (lower room)

Pilates with Heather 6.30 - 8.30 pm (upper room)

## THURSDAY

Yoga with Julie 7.30-9pm (upper room)

Contact Julie on email [julie\\_yoga@btinternet.com](mailto:julie_yoga@btinternet.com)

## FRIDAY

Yoga with Amanda 9.15-10.30am (upper room)

Contact Amanda on email [amandafox@protonmail.com](mailto:amandafox@protonmail.com)

Pilates with Heather 12.30-1.30pm (upper room)

## SATURDAY

Yoga Dance with Julie 10-11am (upper room)

## SUNDAY

Dresses for Bucket List Wishes 12-4pm (upper room)

Contact: [team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk](mailto:team@bucketlistwishes.org.uk)

