

BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



BRBC Bulletin

Sunday 23rd February 2025

Welcome to our service today.

Events for the next week

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

Sunday 2nd March

Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness

10:30am Sunday Service

led by Ken Carter

with David Wickersham

10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)

Meeting Rooms - Children will go
from the main service



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Sunday 23rd February 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 23rd February 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
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
Tuesday 4th March 1:00pm	BRBC Babies & Toddlers
Tuesday 4th March 4:00pm	Toy Library
Tuesday 4th March 7:45pm	Allsorts Housegroup
Wednesday 5th March 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Wednesday 5th March 7:00pm	Hillside House Group
Thursday 6th March 10:00am	Art Group
Thursday 6th March 2:00pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 6th March 7:45pm	Worship Group
Saturday 8th March 12:30pm	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 9th March 10:30am	Sunday Service
Monday 10th March 2:30pm	PMA

Weekly Message

A Reluctant Prophet

Have you ever felt challenged to take on a task that filled you with dread and that left you searching frantically for reasons to duck the issue entirely? There are several instances to be found in Scripture (e.g. Moses, Gideon) where someone is faced with undertaking a task that they feel is overwhelming and which, to use modern parlance, is way beyond their pay grade. One of the most extreme and notable examples of someone showing great reluctance to do God's bidding is the prophet, Jonah, about whom more in a moment.

In the early years of this century, Eryl (my wife) and I paid what was to be our only visit to Spring Harvest. We had a good time and Spring Harvest was quite an eye opener. Graham Kendrick and a multi talented band provided the music and R.T. Kendall was the main speaker. I soon realised why R.T. Kendall was regarded as one of the greatest preachers of his generation as he launched into Jonah.

The opening words of the Book of Jonah are "Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah saying 'Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me'". But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

We know what happens next! Jonah travels on a ship, gets thrown overboard at the height of a tremendous storm and is swallowed alive by a great fish. He's in the belly of the fish for 3 days and 3 nights and is praying desperately to God for deliverance. At the end of chapter 2 we read that God made the fish spew out Jonah on to dry land, and at the start of chapter 3 we read, "The word of the Lord came a second time to Jonah,

saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city and proclaim to it the message that I tell you'. So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord."

R.T. Kendall preached on those verses for what must have been at least 40 minutes. You could have heard a pin drop as hundreds of us sat spellbound by his oratory. The central theme of his sermon was learning to start again. Failure may come before success. It's what we ultimately do that really matters. Jonah was given a second chance to heed God's call, and it's a pattern we frequently observe in Scripture (e.g. Peter).

There's a strange ending to the story of Jonah. God's call through Jonah led to repentance, so was Jonah happy? Not at all. He threw his teddy out of the pram and sulked! We're not told precisely why, but Jonah's successful preaching seems to have left the preacher puzzled and confused: he even reproaches God! A strange prophet but an amazing story. Do we need a second chance?

Robin Thomas

Notices

PMA – Pleasant Monday Afternoon

All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable afternoon in the Main Hall from 2.30-3.45pm on Monday 24th February. Our speaker will be Katherine Mansell, Terry and Jackie Hillier's daughter. She will tell us about her work with London City Mission amongst the homeless around Waterloo Station.

Please note that there will be no Coffee, Cake and Co. on Feb 24th. The next one will be on Monday March 3rd as it now alternates with PMA.

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.

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.

Walks

For those who enjoy a walk in the countryside there will be an opportunity to join a group meeting at church at 10.15am on Saturday 1st March. Walk location to be decided on later – partly dependent on the weather between now and then.

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.

June Jarvis Thanksgiving Service

A Thanksgiving Service for the life of June Jarvis will take place at 2pm on Friday 14th March.

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

Horsham Matters Foodbank

When it began in 2014, the foodbank provided 119 individual food parcels a month. Currently it is providing 800 individual parcels a month - and this in the more prosperous part of the country.

Our foodbank needs the following items of food: tinned potatoes, instant mash, long-life custard, small bags of sugar, general cleaning items and washing up liquid. Recently, someone said, "When I have felt like I had nothing or no-one, Horsham Matters has been there."

Please continue to help people through the Horsham Food Bank and make use of the food-bank container in the church Reception. Thank you.

Horsham Churches Together Prayer and Worship Evening
The next HCT Prayer & Worship evening will be at 6pm on Sunday 16th March at Kingdom Faith Church.

BMS Birthday Scheme

Celebrating a birthday this week is Jill Boniface on Sunday 23rd 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 <https://www.brbc-horsham.org.uk/Hubb/?p=ConsentAndMailing> and login or create an account to sign up to receive the weekly bulletin email. Help us save paper!

For Prayer

As this week is the third anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, let us pray for all those involved in seeking to find a way to end the fighting which has claimed so many lives and brought such suffering. Pray that they will be given the wisdom to find a just solution soon.

Mission Prayer Request

Give thanks for the Deepgruh Foundation led by Prabhakar Salvi and his team working in the remote tribal locations of central India. Praise God for the projects going on in the villages to improve community life and for the churches that have been planted. Pray for protection for the new believers.

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
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm
Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg 07926 045598
Church Secretary – Ken Carter
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