

# NOTICES & NEWS

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## Worship in Church and Online

### Preachers and readings for Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Acts 4: 5-12;  
 Psalm 23;  
 1 John 3: 16-24;  
 John 10: 11-18

### Worship in Church: 10.30am

Apr 21<sup>st</sup> Revd. Barry Bishop  
 Apr 28<sup>th</sup> Local Arrangement  
 May 5<sup>th</sup> Revd. Barry Bishop HC  
 May 12<sup>th</sup> Revd. Barry Bishop

Flowers in church this week have been kindly provided by:  
 Mrs M Partridge

### Weekly Programme

#### Monday:

**Friendship Club** (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon) 2.30pm,  
**Badminton Club** 9.30 - 11.30am  
**BB&GA Anchors/Juniors** 5.30-8.15pm  
**Welcome Cafe** 5.00 - 8.15pm  
**Monday Makers** 7.30-9.30pm

#### Tuesday:

**JellyTotz** Parents & Toddlers 10-11.30am  
**Step"n"Style** (termtime) 3.45-7.30pm  
**Men's Social** (2<sup>nd</sup> Tue) 10.00-12noon

#### Wednesday:

**Welcome Cafe** 10.00 - 12noon  
**Welcome Garden** 9.30-12noon  
**Supastrikers** (termtime) 1.30-2.15pm

#### Thursday:

**Welcome Cafe** 10am - 12noon  
**BB&GA Company** 7.00-10.00pm  
**Craft Group** 10.00 - 12.00 weekly

#### Friday:

**Friday Lunch Club** 2<sup>nd</sup>&4<sup>th</sup> Fri

#### Saturday:

**Welcome Cafe** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of month

**Foodbank** - The collection crate is available in the church entrance every week.

## Church & PFA Events 2024

May 6<sup>th</sup> Plant Sale (HMC)  
 June 8<sup>th</sup> Jumble Sale (PFA)  
 June 15<sup>th</sup> Gloucester Model Railway Show (HMC)  
 June 29<sup>th</sup> Strawberry Fayre (PFA)  
 Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Jumble Sale (PFA)  
 Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Jumble Sale (HMC)

## Easter Offering 2024

Each year, the Methodist Church holds an Easter Offering Dedication Service. This tradition dates back to 1883, when women in Manchester collected £32 for missionary work overseas from 'Christmas pennies' at family gatherings on Christmas Day.

In March 1884, the London Districts distributed Easter envelopes and collecting bags asking for a penny a head, and collected around £100. In 1900, Women's Work raised £1655 for the work of overseas missions.

Since then, each successive Methodist women's movement has encouraged donations in support of God's mission. Recently Methodist Women in Britain (supported by the Global Relationships team) have produced an annual service of dedication, often used widely around the Connexion as a circuit service.

All the money raised through the Easter Offering goes to the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Great Britain for work in our Partner Churches around the world.

Methodist Women in Britain run this appeal and thank you for contributing in this way.

Our Easter Offering Dedication Service will be held at Hucclecote MC on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am and will include examples of where the funding is used.

## Pat & Martin Chopping

Pat and Martin will be visiting the area for a few days in June and are planning to meet with friends from church on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>.

They will be calling in during the Welcome Café opening, followed by a bring and share lunch, as in the past. All friends are welcome.

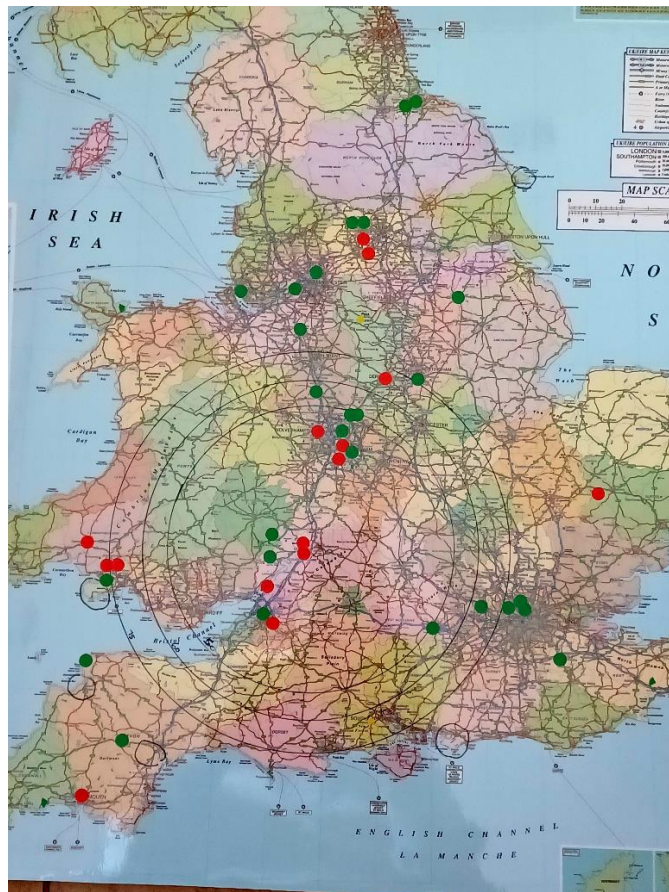
## Men's Social

The newly formed Men's Social met on the 9<sup>th</sup> April for their second meeting. It was well attended with 14 present, including 4 first timers. Coffee and cake were enjoyed by all.

One of the primary reasons behind the original idea was to get to know each other better, informally. Whilst we are not short of conversation, it was thought to be a good idea to find out how we all ended up in Gloucester. A large laminated map was used to indicate with a red dot for place of birth and green dot for other places of residence, geographically between birth and Gloucester.

An image of the map is shown below, which highlights one or two interesting facts:

- Only 3 were born in Gloucester (if you include Pirton), 2 of which remained local, the other moved away before returning.
- One or two moved away from their roots as young children due to their parent's occupation, when mobility of employments was less common. Others moved around due to their own occupation.
- An interesting discussion took place on accents, both variations locally and nationally
- Furthest north – 2 worked in Middleborough, 2 born in West Yorkshire
- Furthest south – 1 born in Plymouth, 1 lived in Devon, 1 lived in Kent, 1 lived in Nigeria



## Monday Makers

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Monday Makers, who make the greetings cards for the charity WaterAid, would like to recycle your old Easter Cards, please. We would also like any greetings cards to recycle, at any time of year. Please leave the cards, marked for Monday Makers, in 'The Welcome' for us to collect. Thank you. Monday Makers.

## HMC – Annual Church Meeting

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**This years Annual Church Meeting will take place on  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.**

All church members are invited to attend. Anyone who wishes to be nominated to be a Church Steward or a member of the Church Council please make a submission to Debbie Long as soon as possible.

The agenda for the meeting is below:

**Hucclecote Methodist Church**

**Annual Church Meeting to be held on Wednesday  
17 April 2024 at 7:30pm**

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**Agenda**

**Present & Apologies**

1. Opening prayer
2. Notes from the Annual Church Meeting held on 19 April 2023.
3. Remembering Church Members who have died since the last Annual Church meeting.
4. Appointment of Church Stewards
5. Appointment of representatives to the Church Council
6. Adoption of the Church Reports
7. Any other business
  - Size of banners proposal
  - Church letting for interfaith event
8. Date of next General Church Meeting

## Letter from the Foodbank

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**Adrian Slade**  
**107 Great Western Road**  
**Gloucester**  
**GL1 3NF**



I have recently been elected as the Chair of Gloucester Foodbank. As you may be aware Gloucester Foodbank is a Christian based charity and part of the Trussell Trust group of over 400 foodbanks. We work with many groups in Gloucester, and are pleased that so many people, of all faiths or none, work with us to feed the hungry in our city. I spent many years working for the diocese of Gloucester working ecumenically looking at how the churches can support asylum seekers, homeless, single parents and responding to the crises of climate change. When the previous Chair left, I put my name forward to take the role. Since my appointment I have been inspired by the dedication shown by our small paid team and over 70 volunteers. Over the past six months we have helped over 9000 people living in and around Gloucester. This has not just been by the supply of food and toiletries but also by trying to help resolve individual's issues which have led to food poverty.

I am grateful for the support of many churches and church members across the City. Your prayers and practical support are key to helping us meet the needs of clients in and around Gloucester.

Over the past year or so the demand for food and toiletries has far exceeded the donations from people via churches, supermarkets etc. We have thus had to spend over £80,000 buying essential items to help clients. We have been fortunate that we have benefited from a grant from the UK government – that support has now ended. It is likely that, in future, we will have to use our own funds for any purchases.

As you may be aware as well as operating from our Great Western Road headquarters. We have set up hubs at Elim Church, near Gloucester Park, and at St Philip & St James Church in Hucclecote. The local hubs not only provide food & toiletries but also offering the opportunity for a warm drink and a chance for clients to talk to our helpers and each other. We see this as the way forward for Gloucester Foodbank.

Either myself, or one of my colleagues would be pleased to meet your leaders to let you know more about how your support has helped local people, and to let you know of our plans for the future. We would also like to take the opportunity to discuss how your church might be able to help us. One option maybe by becoming another local hub or what we call a referral agency. The need to feed hungry individuals and families has increased over the past five years and shows no sign of decreasing any time soon.

If you would like myself or a colleague to meet your leadership team, please email me at [adrianslade@virginmedia.com](mailto:adrianslade@virginmedia.com) or [manager@gloucester.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:manager@gloucester.foodbank.org.uk)

Yours sincerely  
 Adrian Slade

## Plant Sale – Appeal for Garden Tools etc.

Our annual Plant and Garden Sale will take place Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May starting at 10.30am.

You may have already read a notice appealing for plants to sell. This note is all about **garden equipment**. We are looking for preloved equipment:

- spades, forks, canes, planters and ceramic pots etc.
- garden furniture, hand tools, shears, seeds.
- Lawn Mowers. If you have replaced your old mower or are thinking about it, we would like your old one, if it is in a saleable condition.
- anything else not mentioned above.

Please will you `Spring Clean` your garden shed and garage and put to one side, ready for our sale, anything that you no longer need in a saleable condition.

The hall will be open on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2-5pm to receive any donations of garden equipment. Please join us on sale day from 10.30am when the Café will be open for Coffee & Cakes.

**These are just a few examples of the tools and equipment which we can sell:**

