



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

Wesley Somborne Link

One Church on two sites

21st February 2025



King's Somborne Methodist Church



What value have these plastic bricks?



Did you know? Lego is the world's largest toy manufacturer. On August 10th 2022, they celebrated their 90th Anniversary. Lego is best known for these little plastic bricks; however, the Lego company is the world's largest tyre manufacturer, the mini variety, and they produce over 700 million of them a year! The multi-coloured bricks can be seen everywhere, not surprising as there are over 400 billion around the world.

From 1932, Ole Kirk Christiansen, founder of Lego, began his career as making wooden toys, step ladders and ironing boards! Today, the company is valued at over £7157700000 but Lego, which derives from the Danish word "leggodt", meaning to "play well", had a rollercoaster beginning. Shortly after Ole Kirk sold his finely made wooden toys, he lost his wife Kristine. He was left with four sons to bring up and as a family they struggled for many years. As if that wasn't enough to contend with, in 1942 a factory fire destroyed everything, including his blueprints and stock. Showing immense courage, Ole Kirk rebuilt and was excited to learn that a plastic moulding machine had been newly invented and having been sent some plastic bricks, he replicated them and so in 1949, the modern-day plastic bricks were produced.

The word "Lego" in Latin means "I put together" or "I assemble". Ole Kirk credited his resilience and success to the fact that he was a devout Christian. He lived out his faith in many ways, he prayed daily with his workers, he taught in Sunday School, and he was an active member of the YMCA/YWCA. He and his family also funded the building of a church. Ole Kirk's son Godfred, who succeeded him as head of the company, said this of his father:

"I am convinced that Father's faith in God, which was evident in everything he did, helped carry him through his grief and the difficulties that followed. His faith made him an active man, it gave him courage to take on new responsibilities – and the strength to see a job through despite hardship."

John Kraemer works on constructing Lego people-sized parishes and churches. John suffers from cerebral palsy and as he grew, his faith became very important to him. He decided to construct churches out of Lego bricks, complete with people in pews, doors and windows and an altar. As John builds, he prays for the Church, for those with disabilities and everyone struggling to find a place in the Church. He believes that Christians are called to evangelise in their own creative ways and that there is always hope in the face of darkness.

In 1 Peter 2:9-10, he says "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvellous light", a signpost for the church today. A church can be distorted, burned out and the people in it hard to fit together sometimes. We are not a perfect stone or piece of Lego, but we are assured that God is at work and our church continues to be built. Acknowledging that, we should let God continue his work and go where he leads us.

(Article based on "The Christian Origins of LEGO" - Paul Batura, November 2022; "Lego Theology" - Kelly Larson, October 2017; and "Legos—a way to give glory to God" - Deanna Bartolini, February 2020)

Come on Sunday morning to Wesley and see for yourselves what can be created, either by making creations from Lego or by finding fellowship in chatting!

Brenda Yarrien

**On Sunday 23rd February, at 10.30am, the Service will be led by the Revd Peter Rayson and Mr Sam Barnes
On Sunday 2nd March, at 10.30am, the Service of Holy Communion will be led by Revd Peter Rayson
These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:
www.wesleychurch.org.uk**

Dates for Your Diary:

21st February: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

21st February: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

22nd February: Café Wesley (supporting Church Flowers) and Lego Church (10.00-12 noon)

23rd February: Lego Church Service led by Revd Peter Rayson and Mr Sam Barnes at Wesley 10.30am

23rd February: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd John Archer at King's Somborne 10.30am

27th February: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

27th February: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

2nd March: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

2nd March: Service led by Mrs Su Parsons at King's Somborne 10.30am

6th March: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

7th March: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

7th March: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

9th March: Service led by Mr Tom Belshaw at Wesley 10.30am

9th March: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 10.30am

13th March: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

13th March: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

16th March: Service led by Mr Graham Hepburn at Wesley 10.30am

16th March: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm)

20th March: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

21st March: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

21st March: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

22nd March: Café Wesley (supporting Winchester) and Lego Church (10.00-12 noon)

23rd March: Service led by Revd Tim Searle at Wesley 10.30am

23rd March: Service led by Revd Robert Kitching at King's Somborne 10.30am

Wednesday 26th March: Church Council at Wesley at 7.30pm

27th March: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

27th March: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

30th March: ReFresh Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

30th March: Service led by Dr Mike Wood at King's Somborne 10.30am

Tuesday 1st April: Easter Is at Wesley (9.00am to Noon)



BANANAS



Most of us enjoy eating a banana!but where was it grown?.....did the farmers get a fair price?

Our local supermarkets usually display that they are selling Fairtrade bananas – but what is Fairtrade? Together with Fairtrade farmers and workers, Fairtrade has a vision in which trade is based on fairness, so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods. It protects workers' rights and the environment. Almost one in three bananas sold in the UK is Fairtrade. Sainsbury, alone, sell an incredible 650 million Fairtrade bananas a year – enough to go around the world three times!

When you are shopping look out for the Fairtrade label on the bananas, but keep on looking in other aisles, as there are many other products, which Fairtrade certify. For example, all our local supermarkets sell their tea and coffee products. M&S and Waitrose pride themselves on selling more than 200 products. Tesco, Sainsbury and Aldi also sell a huge variety of Fairtrade products. Be on the lookout for jams, sugar and fresh vegetables.



Fairtrade cover key areas for environmental protection, including greenhouse gas reduction, soil and water quality and biodiversity protection. They also give a better quality of life for the producers. We can all play a small part in the vision of Fairtrade, if we think about what goes into our shopping basket!

Please note the next edition of the Wesley Somborne Link will be on Friday 7th March 2025, we need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 5th March 2025. Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or contact 01794 389153.

FRIDAY FUN CLUB

7th February

CRAFTS

February
Learning
about
Moses

21st February

7th March

GAMES

March
Learning
about
Lent &
Mothering
Sunday

21st March

April
learning
about
Easter

4th April

WORSHIP

SNACK

5:00 to 6:30pm

For young people aged between 5-11 years

Cost £1 per session

A registration form needs to be completed to attend club.

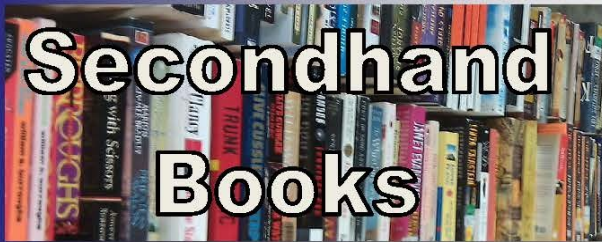
All young people need to be collected by parent / guardian at the end of the session.



Cards



**Drop in
for a
chat**



**Secondhand
Books**



**Secondhand
Jigsaws**

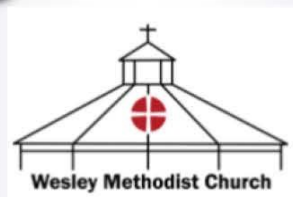
**4th Saturday
Every month
This week
10:00 - 12:00**

**create a
scene
challenge**



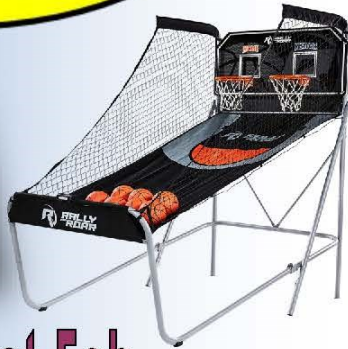
**LEGO
CHURCH**

Bacon roll



All are welcome (ages from 0-100years)!

FEEL GOOD FRIDAY



21st Feb

Dodge Ball / Hockey Challenges



21st March
Nerf battle



BEETLE DRIVE



Easter Bingo / Beetle Drive

Program

Feb - April 2025

7th Feb

Normal Games out



7th March

Pizza Making



4th April

Sessions may also include time for Manhunt or board games.

If you have any suggestions for May to July program let a leader know.

All are welcome (ages from 11-16years)!



WUCA
Winchester Ukrainian
Cultural Association

24.02.2025

THREE YEARS SINCE THE START OF THE FULL-SCALE INVASION OF UKRAINE

Join us on this day to commemorate the bravery of Ukrainian people and to learn that Ukraine is so much more than the war

5:30pm, The United Church, SO23 8RZ

A **Concert** by talents of Ukrainian community in Winchester. Insightful and educational presentation about Ukrainian history and achievements.

7:15pm at The Abbey Gardens, SO23 9RE

A **Vigil** (Pray) for Ukraine.



Free entry

contact us
wuca.office@gmail.com

An Invitation to Watch 'The Chosen' – a TV biography of Jesus Christ

This is an invitation to join friends at The United Church Winchester, at 7.00 pm on Wednesday the 5th, 12th and 19th March to watch an episode of the TV series 'The Chosen'. There will be refreshments served beforehand, each show will last around an hour (followed by a discussion), attendance is free, and all are welcome.

The Chosen is a TV series written and produced by an independent Christian team in America, funded by the public through crowdfunding. This means there is no obligation to any commercial organisation and the series is freely available to all (via their website – details below). The initial plan raised only enough money to film four episodes, and all cast members (bar one) were unknown actors. Since then, four Seasons (of 6-8 episodes each) have been made and released, with Season Five due for release before Easter 2025. To date it has been watched worldwide (subtitled or dubbed) in 26 different languages, with more than 250 million views of at least one episode. It's a phenomenon!

Generally, the stories are fairly biblically accurate, but the organisation does say this: "The Chosen is based on the true stories of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some locations and timelines have been combined or condensed. Back stories and some characters have been added. However, all Biblical content and any artistic imaginations are designed to support the truth and intention of the Scriptures. Viewers are encouraged to read the gospels."

Some of the comments about the show include: 'It's a must'. 'Makes you want to go back and read what it actually says in Scripture.' 'Gives breadth and depth to the stories' 'The portrayal of Jesus is particularly good treading the line between, and showing both, fully man and fully God.' 'It brings Scripture to life, it's living it with them, not just words'.

Come and see what all the excitement in the Christian community is all about regarding the show – make your own mind up! For more information contact Pat Fry or Tim Clifford.

For a taster of the show see The Chosen website at: <https://watch.thechosen.tv/>

Here are the dates for Tuesday small groups, commencing at 7.30pm until Easter:

25th February

11th March

25th March

8th April

For venues, please contact Margaret and Richard Rogers 01962 880842.

For the Thursday afternoon small group, which meets in the Meeting Room (Blue Room) at Wesley, at 2.30pm, please contact Libby or Brian Merriman for further information.

All are welcome to attend any of these groups, in which the Fruits of the Spirit will be explored.



St Catherine's Church, Littleton, Winchester

Anna Chaplain

(P/T 16 hours per week, 3 years fixed term)

St Catherine's Church serves a semi-rural population on the edge of Winchester. An important part of that service is our ministry to the older members of our community and their families and carers, including those living and working in the nursing homes situated within the parish. Seeking to develop this ministry further, we appointed our first Anna Chaplain in 2022. The position is now vacant and we are now looking to the appointment of a new part-time, paid Anna Chaplain.

The Anna Chaplaincy is a pioneering role offering spiritual support to older people and their relatives and carers. It supports the wellbeing of people of all faiths or none, and encompasses a wider role within the community as an advocate and champion of the contribution older people make to society. At the same time, it encourages the wider church to celebrate and cherish older members of the congregation, as well as other members of the community.

The successful candidate will work in collaboration with the Rector and Ministry Team as well as the network of Parish Visitors for the parish and the wider Downs Benefice. He or she will also be part of the growing Anna Chaplaincy network, part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF).

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practising Christian (Equality Act 2010).

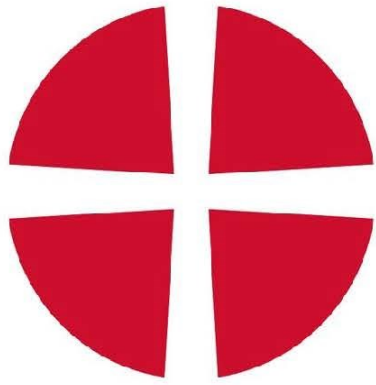
For an application pack please contact: office@downsbenefice.org.uk

To apply, please submit cv and covering letter. Closing date for applications: Monday 10th March 2025

Interviews to be held on: Wednesday 2nd April 2025

St Catherine's Church, Littleton is affiliated to Anne Chaplaincy. The Anna Chaplaincy© name and logo are registered trademarks of Bible Reading Fellowship, a charity (233280) and company limited by guarantee (301324), registered in England and Wales.





Celebration Service

Second Anniversary of the re-opening of Canada Common Chapel

When: Sunday 23rd March

Time: 2.30pm

**Where: Canada Common Chapel,
Canada Common, West Wellow,
SO51 6DH**

Everyone is welcome to this
interdenominational Service

Speaker Revd Andrew de Ville

Worship leader Pastor Peter Castle

Musician Julia McKinley

Please stay for Refreshments after
the Service.

For more details contact Pastor Peter
Castle on pandccastle@hotmail.co.uk



Website: [Silchester Christian Retreat Centre](http://www.silchesterchristianretreatcentre.co.uk)

For enquiries or to book for any of the Retreat Days please contact Angela Hiscock angela.hiscock@btinternet.com or phone her on 01256 850432 Numbers are limited.

All days run from 10am-3pm. Refreshments from 9.45am.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Hot and cold drinks, including cup-a-soup provided.

Suggested donation per person: £10.

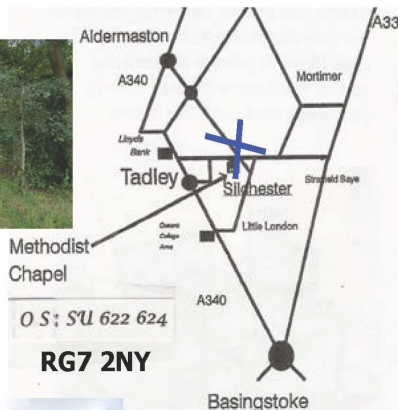
Location



Paddle.worthy.windmill



Entrance from Pamber Road



Car parking and entrance to hall at rear of the Church.

RETREAT CENTRE SILCHESTER RG7 2NY PROGRAMME 2025



Come and join us for a day of refreshment and reflection at Silchester Methodist Church.

Our retreats are to enable you to explore and experience meeting with God; to be explorers and journeyers. On each day, themed multi-sensory experiences are available to choose from.

Thursday 20th February 2pm

A Bit of Peace and Quiet

Reflect on how we use our hands and how Jesus used His hands, by looking at art and exploring creativity.

A taste of a Silchester Retreat Day at St Andrew's Church, South Ham, Basingstoke RG22 6ER



Artwork by Sieger Koder

Saturday 8th March Being Attentive to God

Explore how to tune in

I have calmed and quieted my soul.....

Psalm 131:2 (NRSVA)

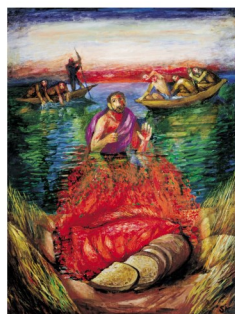


Wednesday 30th April From Easter to Pentecost

Travel with the disciples as they meet the risen Jesus.

"It is the Lord" John 21:7 (NIV)

Artwork by Sieger Koder

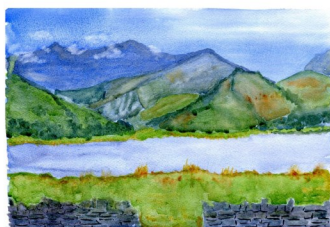


Saturday 21st June

"He makes me lie down
He restores my soul."

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life"

Psalm 23 (NRSVA)



Wednesday 6th August Just Peace

Becoming peacemakers

".... seek peace, and pursue it."

Psalm 34:14 (NRSVA)

Saturday 4th October "Come to Me.."

An invitation to take time to learn the rhythms of Grace.

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

Mark 6.31 (NIV)



Saturday 22nd November What does Advent mean for you?

Except where otherwise identified, all artwork and photos by a member of the Retreat Leadership Team.

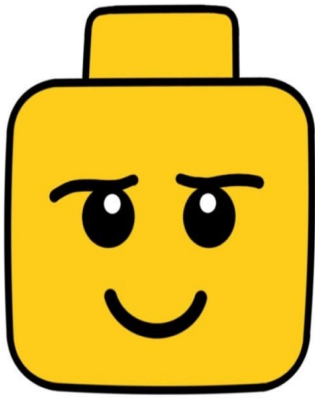
*Immerse yourself in the love of God.
Be patient as God is patient,
Be kind as God is kind,
Be selfless as God is selfless.
Immerse yourself in the love of God.
Rejoice in the truth,
Endure all that is bad,
Hope for all that is good.
Immerse yourself in the love of God.
Care for your neighbour,
Give to the poor,
Speak out for justice.
Immerse yourself in the love of God,
Love is God's heart,
Love is God's language,
Love never ends.
Immerse yourself in the love of God.*

Christine Sine <http://godspace-msa.com>

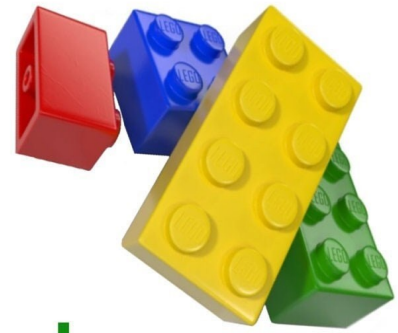
"Almighty God, inspire us with creative solutions to the challenges we face. Grant us the ability to think outside the box and to approach problems with fresh perspectives. May our creativity lead to successful outcomes. Amen."



www.prayersfor.com



Brick building



Word Search

S S E N I S U B T N E D I S E R P
Q R T R B B X T J R L R D T Z Y T
R D V L A S G X L V R E Q B K M D
R K Z Q S B D N B J V T G Y R T Y
M A S T E R B U I L D E R O R M N
I D Z K P O L W T D P Z J V R W D
N N N B L M D E N S L B P S T D J
I D B P A D M X Q K A I K Y B W X
F Y U S T M D M T T Z C U R K T M
I D C E E N B I M X I R B B J W J
G T O T S Y L A Z R M J R K T Q T
U O M S D E N P B D D M V N T V Z
R N K Q S L Z R K Q Y T N L T M Y
E S T Q M X B L R Y N D Q Q G N P

LEGO
Bricks
Master builder
Mini figure
Studs

Baseplates
Building
Duplo
Sets
Tiles

SNOT
MOC
Emmet
President Business
Batman