



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

Wesley Somborne Link

One Church on two sites

30th May 2025



King's Somborne Methodist Church

New Things!

Sam Barnes, our Circuit Youth Worker, has highlighted that June has been dedicated National Month of Prayer, an initiative of 1277 Make Them Count. So what is this initiative about? Who is leading this and how is it relevant to Wesley and King's Somborne?

In Isaiah 43 v 18 "forget the former things, do not dwell on the past", the prophet gave a message from God to the people of Israel, telling them that they shouldn't just remember the things that happened a long time ago, but instead they should look for the new thing God is doing, because he is always doing new things. A favourite old shoe may not be fit for purpose anymore, if it doesn't fit or has holes, then it cannot be used, it needs to be recycled or thrown away. Having new shoes feels good and possibly exciting, just how the disciples must have felt on the first day of Pentecost, when they received the Holy Spirit. This was a reassurance from God that he is with us always, he never forgets us and whatever may happen in our lives, he will help us in new ways. God never runs out of new, good things to do for us, because his love for us is so great.

The '1277 Make Them Count' is an example of a good new thing! It is a national movement for church-based toddler groups. Why 1277? On average a UK child has just 1277 days between birth and starting nursery education, and the aim of the movement is to make these days count for children, for their families and for the toddler groups that they attend. Development from birth onwards can be challenging for parents/caregivers, it can be a time of questioning and loneliness. Toddler groups can offer support, hope and connection and children learn the value of social spaces and trusted adults, where they can hear the word of God and grow. (Taken from The Salvation Army Ministries).

We are asked to pray for the Toddler Groups in our Circuit, (see page 3). At Wesley we have Mini-Marvels which meet every Thursday (Term Time) and is led by a Wesley Team, who are supported by the adults attending. Mini-Marvels has been running for many years and encompasses a generational connection with the community, as does Messy Church in King's Somborne. As 1277 requests, we pray for those involved with Mini-Marvels, we pray for the work across the Circuit. At our Anniversary Service last week, we were minded to think about new shoots of growth and the interactions that take place at all toddler groups, to sow the seeds for the young people and their families to provide opportunities to build meaningful relationships, wherever their future lives may lead them.

Look for when Mini Marvels meet and take time to pray whilst the group is meeting.
You could also pray for the other groups whilst you pray for your church's group.

A prayer from Sam:

Give thanks for all who attend Mini Marvels.

Pray that the leaders have opportunities to share God's love in action and words.

Give thanks for the wonderful Leaders and all they do.

Pray for the leaders to be refreshed, revitalised and inspired as they plan sessions.

Pray for the needs of Mini Marvels—(finding volunteers, more families, resources).

Pray that relationships are built and your spirit touches the lives of those attending Mini Marvels

Pray for the other toddler groups within the Winchester Eastleigh and Romsey Methodist Circuit.



Blessings

Brenda and Paul



On Sunday 1st June, at 10.30am, the Service will be led by Revd John Archer
On Sunday 8th June, at 10.30am, the Service will be led by Revd Peter Rayson, followed by the GCM
These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:
[**www.wesleychurch.org.uk**](http://www.wesleychurch.org.uk)

Dates for Your Diary:

1st June: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd John Archer at Wesley 10.30am

1st June: Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 10.30am

5th June: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

6th June: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

6th June: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

8th June: Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am, followed by the General Church Meeting

8th June: Local Arrangements Service at King's Somborne at 10.30am

8th June: District Testimony Service at Wesley 4.00pm

12th June: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

12th June: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

15th June: Service led by Mrs Pat Fry at Wesley 10.30am

15th June: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm) - meeting on the Village Green for Picnic and Games

19th June: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

20th June: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

20th June: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

22nd June: Service led by the Mission Team at Wesley 10.30am

22nd June: Service led by Revd Robert Kitching at King's Somborne 10.30am

26th June: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

26th June: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

28th June: Café Wesley, 10.00-12 noon, (supporting Brickworks) and Lego Church (10.00-11.30am)

29th June: ReFresh Service led by Mrs Elizabeth Britton at Wesley 10.30am

29th June: Church Anniversary Service, with Holy Communion, led by Mr Peter Castle at King's Somborne 10.30am

3rd July: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am)

4th July: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

4th July: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

6th July: Service led by Dr John Evans at Wesley 10.30am

6th July: Service led by Mr Tom Belshaw at King's Somborne 10.30am

This week's ECO TIP



Add some indoor plants inside the house that could further help in reducing the toxic level in the air. English ivy, spider plant and aloe vera would be some of the best options for this purpose.



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN FRIENDS AT A

TEA PARTY

IN THE GARDEN

at 1, Mornington Drive

On Saturday, 15th June from 3pm – 5pm.

Please note the next edition of the Wesley Somborne Link will be on Friday 13th June, we need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 11th June. Many thanks!
Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or contact 01794 389153.



National Month of Prayer

June is “The National Month of Prayer “ it is an initiative of 1277 Make Them Count. It encourages churches, individuals and toddler communities to pray 3 ways – In groups, for groups and across groups in the UK.

At Wesley we will be encouraging you to pray for Wesley's toddler group Mini Marvels and also Toddler groups around the circuit.

This year the theme of the prayers are
“See I am doing a new thing” based on Isaiah 43: 18-21

Resources to help you pray will follow the information about each Toddler Group.



Toddler groups requesting prayer that
meet in the circuit



Mini Marvels Toddler Group



Wesley Methodist Church—Mini Marvels Toddler Group is run on Thursday mornings 9.00 to 11.00am during term time and is for our very young people, birth to pre-school, where families, parents, grandparents and carers come together to enjoy fun, games and fellowship:

Tiddlywinks
Toddler Group

Tiddlywinks Toddler Group

Romsey Methodist Church—Tiddlywinks meets on Mondays from 10.00 to 11.15am during term time. It is a place for parents / carers to have fun with their baby/toddler (age 0-3) and to meet other parents / carers.

DOVETOTS



Chandlers Ford Methodist Church—DOVETOTS meets Wednesdays from 13.45 to 15.15am during term time. For your little ones, accompanied under 5s.

SALE

in aid of



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

on Saturday 7th June

from 10 - 12 noon

at the Epworth Hall

Books



Jigsaw Puzzles



Plants



Raffles



Cakes



Refreshments



Hilary and Andrew are so very proud to announce the arrival of Charlie James Hooker, born Tuesday 6th May at 5am. 7lbs 13 oz.



Ella, big sister, very proud and being very 'helpful'!
May Charlie and all his loving family be in our prayers!



Latest news – January 2025

Dear Friends, at the start of another year, we want to say a very big thank you to all those who supported and prayed for us through last year. God has been faithful and once again exceeded our expectations as to what He can enable us to do. A big thank you also to those who made a monthly gift to The Brickworks through the year, or who had made a one-off donation. We so appreciate your support which enables the charity to do what it does in South Sudan. There have been many highlights:

- Supporting the Martha Clinic (right), paying salaries and providing most of its medicines.
- Funding Martha Eye Clinic and enabling a cataract camp to be organised with 105 successful cataract operations completed.
- Helping 23 teachers to train at Yei Teacher Training College and KajoKeji Christian College.
- Supporting the Bishop Allison Theological College which trains ordinands.
- Funding discipleship training programmes, youth camps and clergy training in three Dioceses.
- Visiting Yei in September with three others, providing training for health students and Martha staff. Teaching young people on the discipleship programme and coaching the local football team (see photo on page 2).
- Contributing to the purchase of a new ambulance for the Martha Clinic and towards a used car for the Bishop of Panyana.
- Repairing a primary school that had been damaged in the conflict so that it could re-open for returning refugees.



12 months' ago, we reported that from the start of 2024, we would only work in South Sudan and that our work helping in the refugee camps of Uganda had come to an end. We praise God that this decision does not seem to have caused problems, and, through 2024, we saw that many refugees from South Sudan were returning to their homes.

The programmes that we will support through this year will be similar to last year.

➤ Martha Clinic running costs, medicines and repairs	£40,000	53% primary health care
➤ Eye Clinic running costs, medicines and cataract camp	£17,000	<u>and eye clinic</u>
➤ Teacher training course fees and support	£18,000	25% teacher training
➤ St Philip's Nursery School plus desks and latrines	£ 8,000	<u>and support to schools</u>
➤ Discipleship training for young people	£11,000	
➤ Support for theological training	£ 4,000	22% Church Training
➤ Training for clergy and laity	£ 9,000	
➤ Other expenses inc. bank charges	<u>£ 1,000</u>	
➤ Total	£108,000	

The Brickworks, 12 Barton Walk, Bristol, BS16 1AB

Web: www.thebrickworks.org.uk | Email: thebrickworkssudan@gmail.com |

Registered Charity No. 1127606

We aim to keep a minimum reserve for emergencies of £10,000.

Half our expenditure this year will support the Diocese of Yei Martha Primary Health Centre and Eye Clinic. Quite simply, it could not function without this significant level of support. We are very grateful to St Michael's Church for its support for the Eye Clinic and to the Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church for its donation towards the cost of the cataract camp (the 2024 cataract team pictured). We are also very grateful to African Revival for its funding of some of the teacher training students, as well as paying for latrines at a primary school and for providing some locally made school desks.

During the last year, we passed the £2 million milestone since we launched the charity in 2009. We have trusted God to supply what we needed, and He has done that, often in ways which far exceeded our expectations. We know that those who receive this letter pray for us, and we hope that you will continue to do so. To those who give, thank you very much indeed.

We are thinking of making another visit to Yei in September 2025. If you would like to consider possibly joining us, please get in touch. Last year we explored a quicker and cheaper way of flying to Yei which reduced the cost per team member by £500 to around £1500. For a visit of only a week, it's a lot to pay but almost the whole cost is the cost of flights.

On behalf of the Trustees and those we work with in South Sudan, who will be helped in this year, thank you very much indeed.

John and Poppy Spens
On behalf of the Trustees

N.B. Week 1 of the 2025 Discipleship training starts on 27th January for 100 young people. Do please pray.



At Yei airstrip, before boarding the MAF plane



With Bishop Marandulu Levi, ECSS Bishop of Yei



Iain Nash coaching the Cathedral football team

A message received from: The Playhouse Foundation: Supportive Community Playgroup

Dear Supporter,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm reaching out to share a fantastic opportunity that we at The Playhouse Foundation are incredibly passionate about – and we'd welcome your help in spreading the word to any families who might benefit.

We're currently running **weekly Stay & Play early intervention sessions** at Barnabas Church Weeke in Winchester for children aged 2–5 who are showing signs of autism or have a diagnosis – though **no formal diagnosis is required** to attend.

What makes our group truly unique is that we have **on-site certified early intervention therapists** who not only support each child through engaging, play-based activities, but also **work directly with parents** during sessions – offering guidance, tools, and support to help strengthen family relationships and build developmental skills in communication and social interaction.

We keep our group small and welcoming, with a real focus on empowerment and connection – both between parents and their children, and between families who attend.

Here's a snapshot of what we offer:

- A supportive space for parents to learn techniques from professionals through play-based interactions with their child.
- Structured, child-led activities designed to encourage communication, connection, and social engagement.
- A chance to connect with other parents navigating similar challenges – building a positive, understanding community.
- Regular attendance supports early identification of needs and helps families access the right interventions early.
- A consistent, structured routine in a warm, welcoming setting – often so beneficial for children on the spectrum.

We're running six-week blocks of sessions, starting again in the new academic year on **17th September**. The **first session is free**, and then it's just £10 per week (£50 for the remaining five sessions). Future blocks are offered at £60 for six weeks. Refreshments are provided, and parents/carers stay for the whole session.

The application process is simple - parents just complete the online form [Playgroup Registration](#) and we will do the rest!

We'd be so grateful if you could pass this information along to any families or professionals in your network who might be interested – or let us know if there's a way we can connect directly.

If you have any questions or would like more information, just let us know – we'd love to chat.

Warm regards,

Victoria

Founder, Director & DSL of The Playhouse Foundation

<http://theplayhousefoundation.co.uk>

<http://www.facebook.com/theplayhousefoundation.co.uk>

<http://www.instagram.com/theplayhousefoundation/>

<https://app.goodhub.com/the-playhouse-foundation>

Registered Charity Number: 1164341

T: 07964 667903





Hello, a Murder Mystery radio play is being performed at Romsey Methodist church on 6th June to raise funds for the Methodist Women's current project -The Leprosy Mission, Nepal.

Please find attached a flier. It would be helpful to know if anyone intends to come to help us ensure there is enough food, but otherwise there is no need to book. Register your intention to come by emailing hjfe49@gmail.com.

with thanks, Hilary Evans

Dear All

Please find attached the details of the 2025 Pentecost Service which will be held at Christchurch on Sunday 8th June at 7pm. All welcome, please share as widely as possible.

Many thanks

Isobel

Isobel Tutt-Leppard, Secretary, Churches Together in Winchester

www.ctwin.org.uk



A Meditation for Pentecost

'I don't know who was the more surprised' - a perspective from Peter, based on Acts 2:1-21

(Taken from 'No Ordinary Man' Nick Fawcett 2000)

I don't know who was the more surprised, us or them? They were bewildered, certainly, unable to make head or tail of what was going on, amazed to hear us speaking to them in their own language and wondering what on earth it all could mean.

But if anything, our astonishment was the greater, each of us scarcely able to believe what was happening. Yes, I know we had been told to expect it, the promise given by Christ himself, but as to what it meant, what is actually involved, we'd no idea until the incredible moment when the Spirit came. No warning, no tell-tale signs, just bang! - and our lives were changed for ever.

Truthfully, I never thought I had it in me, to get out there and speak fearlessly for Christ—and as for sharing his ministry, continuing where he had left off, the very idea seemed ridiculous. Only that's what happened—gifts beyond our wildest imagining, power beyond our most fantastic dreams, a joy that burned unquenchably within us and a sense of purpose which nothing could contain.

We were no longer on our own, gazing wistfully to the heavens—Christ was with us, and in a way more wonderful than he'd ever been before; not just by our side, but in our hearts, filling our whole being with his presence. It was more than we'd ever expected, more than any of us had dared hope for, and we had to pinch ourselves to be sure it was true.

But it was, and I tell you what, impossible though it seems, I shouldn't wonder if God has more yet in store, new experiences of his love, new expressions of his purpose, not just for us but for everyone, his Spirit poured out on all. Just as the prophet said—nothing will surprise us now!

**Gracious God,
We are reminded today
of the renewing, transforming power of your Holy Spirit,
through which you have fired
ordinary people like us across the years
to live and work for you
in joyful faith and fearless service.
Help us to know today, through that same Spirit,
that you are able to take any person, any place,
any moment, any situation,
and achieve within each one things far more wonderful
than we can ever begin to imagine.
In Christ's name we pray.
Amen**



Pentecost Word Search

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

CHURCH
DISCIPLES
EXTRAORDINARY
FIFTIETH
FILLED
FIRE
FIRSTFRUITS
HEAVEN
LANGUAGES



OFFERING
PENTECOST
POWER
PRESENCE
SIGNS
SOUND
SPIRIT
SYMBOLIZED
TONGUES
WIND