



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

Wesley Somborne Link

One Church on two sites

9th October 2026



King's Somborne Methodist Church

Last Sunday, 4th October, was Homelessness Sunday. The following is taken from the Housing Justice website:

DID YOU KNOW?

LATEST HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND:

Temporary Accommodation and Families

- **134,210** households lived in temporary accommodation as of December 2025, marking a 5.0% increase from the previous year
- **176,130** children were without a permanent home living in temporary accommodation
- **43,040** households (about 1 in 3) were placed in temporary accommodation outside of their local home area

Rough Sleeping

- **4,793** people were recorded sleeping rough on a single autumn night in 2025, representing a 56% increase compared to three years prior
- **733** women were identified among single-night rough sleeping counts, an 8% increase from the prior year
- **8,010** estimated individuals slept rough at some point across the month of December 2025

In Matthew chapter 21, Jesus offers, time and time again, a glimpse of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. Matthew's Gospel regularly uses imagery and quotes from the Old Testament, to root the story of Jesus as the Messiah predicted in the Old Testament. This reading is no different.

The stone that the builders rejected has become a cornerstone is a direct quote from Psalm 118. Jesus is using architectural imagery this time, making a reference to himself as the cornerstone – the critical stone upon which the rest of the building is built. The cornerstone needs to be placed in the correct position otherwise the rest of the building's walls would not align. Yet he is noting that this stone has been rejected, pointing us towards the cross.

Through this metaphor, Jesus is speaking, again, about the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom which, built on Jesus as the cornerstone, will be given to those who produce the fruits of the Kingdom. These fruits being both the values by which people thrive and the virtues which evidence these values.

As we commemorate Homelessness Sunday, we may wish to reflect upon our own values that we live by, and the virtues which evidence these values. In an age when there is much talk of hatred, division and distrust of the unknown, we must remember that love and welcome for the alien and stranger are key to the Christian narrative, and an understanding of God's Kingdom. Our calling is to build an inclusive community for everyone, and not just those who look or sound like me. The Kingdom of God is universal, and rooted in God's unrelenting generosity, and it is not bound by human made borders or policies. This makes our shared work one of building communities of love, resilience and cohesion. An endeavour for all of us, building God's Kingdom, with clear evidence of its fruits.

Rt. Rev Rob Wickham

On Sunday 11th October at 10.30am, the Service will be led by Revd Peter Rayson

On Sunday 18th October at 10.30am the Service will be led by Mr Mike Bowstead

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:

8th October: Mini-Marvels 9.00-11.00am at Wesley

8th October: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm at Wesley

11th October: Service (Bible Month) led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

11th October: Service led by Mr Andrew La Follette at King's Somborne 10.30am

14th October: Circuit Children, Youth and Families Leaders' Meeting 7.00pm on Zoom

15th October: Mini-Marvels 9.00-11.00am at Wesley

15th October: Renew Wellbeing Café 2.00-4.00pm at Wesley

16th October: Friday Fun Club (5.00-7.00pm) Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm) at Wesley

17th October: Café Wesley (supporting the British Legion) 10.00am-12noon and Brick Church (formerly Lego Church) 10.00-11.30am at Wesley

18th October: Service (Bible Month) led by Mr Mike Bowstead at Wesley 10.30am

21st October: Messy Church (3.30-5.30pm) at King's Somborne

22nd October: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm at Wesley

22nd October: Renew Wellbeing Café 2.00-4.00pm at Wesley

Saturday 24th October: Celebrating Wesley's 70th Anniversary

Sunday 25th October: Holy Communion Service at Wesley 10.30am

29th October: Renew Wellbeing Café 2.00-4.00pm at Wesley

1st November: Service led by the MWiB Team at Wesley 10.30am

1st November: Service led by Revd Robert Kitching at King's Somborne 10.30am



The next edition of the WSL will be on **Friday 23rd October**, we will need any items for inclusion to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by **Wednesday 21st October 2026**.

Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or by phone on 01794389153.

WESLEY AND KING'S SOMBORNE

Invitation to a two or three course Christmas Dinner

When: Thursday, December 10th

Where: The Golden Lion, Alresford Road, Winchester

Arrival: 6.30 pm for 6.45pm

Ticket cost: £36 per person for two courses (£4 gratuity included)

£43 per person for three courses (£4 gratuity included)

Menu choices:

Starters:

1. Lightly spiced red lentil soup
2. Baked goat's cheese with a black olive dressing
3. Chicken liver parfait, sourdough toast and chutney
4. Seafood timbale, saffron sauce, fennel and crispy leeks

Main Courses:

5. Traditional roast turkey with all the trimmings
6. Vegetarian Wellington
7. Fillet of sea bass, chorizo, cherry tomatoes, samphire and spinach
8. Pan roasted venison, dauphinoise potatoes, shallots, mushroom and madeira jus

Desserts:

9. Christmas pudding with brandy cream and rum and raisin ice cream
10. Apple crumble cheesecake
11. Chocolate cremeux, brandy snap, orange sorbet
12. Sticky toffee pudding, vanilla ice cream

To book your place:

Please do not pay the full amount for your meal just yet. For each guest simply place £9 in a sealed envelope, which will cover your deposit (£5) and gratuity (£4) on the evening. Please put your name/s on the front of the envelope and indicate your menu choices.

e.g. John Smith 5 & 10. You can choose EITHER a starter and a main, OR a main and a dessert. However, if you would like to have three courses, three numbers will be required.

If you wish to come, please book your place by Sunday, November 1st and return your envelope to Jan or Heather. Thank you.

Women's Fellowship

We enjoyed a well-attended and interesting afternoon at our September meeting when Barbara Hillier brought along and spoke to us about 'My Treasures'.

She started by showing us a recent photobook celebrating her 85th birthday where she was wearing, not a badge saying 85, but four saying 21 plus a one! All courtesy of her daughter.

Barbara has written five books about Chandlers Ford, has chaired the judging panel for the Rotary Club schools competition for many years for which she was made a Rotary Fellow, and proudly showed us the certificate she was given for this honour.

She has also chaired the local branch of the RSPB for 30 years and brought along the certificate awarded to her for long service. She has been a keen birdwatcher for many years and during her teaching career started Young Ornithologists Groups in various schools where she taught.

Other items she brought were photos of her sister and brother-in-law who were lucky enough to be picked as track judges at the 2012 Olympics, photos of her daughter's graduation in Winchester Cathedral and various items connected to her lifetime membership of the Methodist church. She has been a local preacher for over 25 years and has received a certificate for this achievement.

A cup of tea and cake was served at the end amid lots of chat and swapping of memories.

Thank you for supporting us.

Marilyn and Marion



Message from Margaret Billington:

It's that time of year again to think about shoe boxes. I enclose the leaflet about the school boxes if people are happy to do one or happy to give me a small donation, I'd be happy to do the shopping. Shoeboxes need to be back to me by half term, 22nd October.

On behalf of Rotary thank you very much.

Thanks Margaret

A blue leaflet for the Rotary Shoebox Scheme. At the top, the word "Rotary" is written in white, followed by the Rotary logo. Below this is a photograph of a person in a Santa Claus costume standing next to a large, pyramid-shaped stack of white shoeboxes. The person is holding a small box. In the background, there is a sign with a red cross and some text. Below the photograph, the text reads: "For disadvantaged & displaced children we now deliver in Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, - Ukraine via Poland." The next line is "Wessex Rotary Shoebox Scheme" in bold white text, followed by "(Wessex Rotary CIO Trust Fund)" and "Reg Charity No 1183094". At the bottom, there is an orange rounded rectangle containing the text: "For more information contact:", "TEL/EMAIL:", and "Final date for receipt of shoeboxes: by the 18th of October".

Rotary

*For disadvantaged & displaced children
we now deliver in Moldova, Montenegro,
Romania, - Ukraine via Poland.*

Wessex Rotary Shoebox Scheme
(Wessex Rotary CIO Trust Fund)
Reg Charity No 1183094

For more information contact:
TEL/EMAIL:
**Final date for receipt of shoeboxes:
by the 18th of October**

Stones and Silence

Rising in Rubble



**Methodist Women
in Britain**

for women, for justice, for Christ

**Southampton District
Day @ Chandler's Ford
Methodist Church SO53 2GJ**

Saturday 10th October

10.00 for 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Keynote speaker:

**Rev'd Rachel Bending
(District Chair)**

A day to consider the resilience of women.

Including: News from New Zealand's WFMUCW meeting in August

Workshops with: Bekah Legg from Restored charity who support women

Becca Wakelin about SHE our District Partnership for 2026/27 through All we Can

Rachel Bending exploring how women respond to challenging situations

Creche available – to book a place please email <anne-marie.jenkins@outlook.com.

Bring your lunch. Drinks provided. **Donations** invited to support MWiB District funds.

Parking at the church. 10 minutes walk from station.

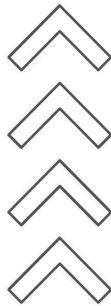
All are Welcome. Come with a friend or two or even three. See you there.



A LONG WAY ROUND TO ROME



IN THE TRACKS OF ST. PAUL BY MOTORCYCLE



16th OCTOBER, 7:30 - 9PM

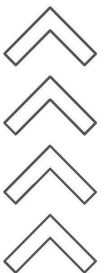
(DOORS OPEN 7PM)

ROMSEY METHODIST CHURCH

**Coffee, cake, and a
conversation that
matters!**

Revd. Tom Benson will present his recent 15,000 km motorcycle ride from Braishfield to Rome and back the long way round, calling at many of the places visited by St. Paul.

romseymethodist.church/events



Romsey Methodist Church
building a community for Christ



ALRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Jacklyns Lane, Alresford, SO24 9JJ

MUSIC FOR AN AUTUMN EVENING

Candover Valley Choir

Saturday 17th October at 6.30 pm



**Tickets - £10 to include fruit punch,
coffee and biscuits (under 18s free)
available on the day at the door or
in advance by phoning 01962
736554**



Pray with us today

Today we remember
every person who died over this last year because their home was damp and cold,
those who were ill because their home could not deal with extreme heat,
those who were forced to paint their walls black to hide the mould,
the young children now developing respiratory problems.

We keep a minute of silence as we remember.

Today we **call** for
warm, healthy homes for everyone,
less money to be wasted on energy inefficiency,
a thriving environment for us all to live in.

We call for these things with compassion and respect.

Today we **commit** to
speaking out about the everyday experiences of those living in the UK's unfit homes,
standing in solidarity with those affected by the housing emergency that now touches so many
of us,
demanding an approach to home improvement that considers us as humans and not as prob-
lems.

We make this commitment individually and collectively with determination and passion.

We remember.

We call.

We commit.

The Revd Ian Rutherford

Featured in *Living for Jesus and Justice – Daily Prayers for Radical Christians* (DLT, 2026)

Homelessness

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

Mental Health Issues

Broken Families

Boarding House

Couch Surf

Struggling

Desperate

Addiction

Depressed

Violence

Starving

Survivor

Homeless

Housing

Alcohol

Begging

Shelter

Concern

System

Scared

Drugs

Abuse

Alone