

NEWS



From

United Reformed Churches
of Romsey and Braishfield

APRIL 2025

www.abbeyurc.org.uk

Abbey United Reformed Church

www.abbeyurc.org.uk

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Services

Sunday Family Worship		10.30am
Monthly Bible Study first Sunday evening On Zoom (ID: 864 1780 6994 Password: learning)		6.30pm

Weekday Meetings – any updates will be on our worship sheet

Monday (2 nd)	BALM (Bereavement) Group	10.30am
Thursday	Refreshments and warm space. Open to all, in Abbey Hall Lounge	10am - 11.30am
Wednesday (1 st 3 rd)	Church Table Tennis	2.30pm

For baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact the Minister

A MESSAGE FROM REVD MIKE

April 2025

Dear friends in Christ,

I write this Message with still four weeks to go before Holy Week when we remember the completion of Jesus' earthly life and ministry and the fulfilment of all that had been written about him for so many years before. Holy Week is, in my opinion, the most profound and meaningful time of the Christian year as the reality of the depth of God's love for all people was shown to the world: Jesus died for our sins that we may all be restored in relationship with God, for all time.

Yet some people – within, and outside, the church – really cannot come to terms with the idea that God would 'send' his Son Jesus to the most brutal death ever devised by the Romans, to public execution on a cross.



How could a loving father ever do that to a beloved son? It's impossible, isn't it? Yes, the more we reflect on the possibility of any loving father sacrificing his son to death, the more impossible it seems. So how do we explain it?

We need to go back to the Christmas story. Here, we see Jesus being called Immanuel, meaning 'God-with-us', and this draws us to the reality that, as John 1:14 puts it, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (NRSV). In other words, Jesus was God 'incarnate' – Jesus was the earthly presence of God's very self.

So, the picture of a distant, seemingly divorced God 'sending' his son to death is not the reality of what is happening. It is God's very earthly self that is suffering and dying there on that cross, for you and for me – and for all people. As we think about the days of Holy Week, and the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the 'emptiness' of Holy Saturday, let us remember that it is God's very self, who so loved the world, that makes it possible for newness of life in relationship, by that veritable explosion of new life that burst from the closed tomb, the Light that no darkness could overcome.



I pray that we will all be energised, enthused and empowered by the glorious Resurrection to continue the ministry Christ calls us, as a Fellowship of churches together and as individuals, to pursue throughout the year.

In Christian love, **Mike**

PRAYER FOR APRIL

Prayer for Holy Week and Easter

Holy week prayer is a practice Christians find helpful to focus our thoughts and prepare our hearts during the time we mark the most pivotal events of our faith. Perhaps this year it's more important than ever before, to develop a personal practice of prayer and meditation during this holy time. With so many demands on our time and attention, opening and closing each day of Holy Week with prayer can quieten our hearts.

It's an important time to remember that the cross isn't simply a piece of jewellery we wear or an icon we embrace, but it was the symbol of that reconciling love of our God in Christ Jesus.

Prayers for Holy Saturday

Morning: Father God, we can't begin to understand the mystery of this day when Jesus' body lay in that tomb and the disciples waited together in despair and reflection. For all those times when we can't see you at work, for all the hours of waiting between prayers and answers, for all the times we walk by faith, we thank you that you're patient with our restless wondering. You are at work even when we don't see you. Increase our faith, in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



Evening: Loving God, tonight we come before you in silence. In the stillness, may we sense your presence and know you are near. Jesus said he would never leave us nor forsake us. He demonstrated his love on the cross and we receive that love tonight. We praise you in silence and in peace. In Jesus' name, Amen.



MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Material for May 2025 to be submitted
by **5pm** (latest) on **Thursday, 24 April 2025**
Please email to abbeyurcnews@gmail.com

Alternatively, you could call Carole C, pop it in her letter box, or leave in the pigeon-hole at the back of the church. Thank you.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

We continue our Zoom Lenten Bible studies at 6.30pm on Zoom (ID 864 1780 6994 PC learning), when we will look more deeply at the Gospel verses we usually hear at the morning service at Abbey URC, on 6 and 13 April. Each session is self-contained so if you cannot make both of them, please do attend the one you can!

OUR NEWS

On Sunday, 23 March Revd Terry Hinks will be holding his final service at Cores End URC. After 39 years of ordained ministry, Terry and Elizabeth are looking forward to retirement in the Cotswolds and spending more time with their family. Thank you for your time with us at Romsey and Braishfield URC Churches, we wish you a happy retirement.



Wishing Jean a very happy 95th birthday in early April!
Hope you have a lovely day!

I would like to thank the Church for the beautiful flowers which were brought by Angela. It certainly made my day. I am pleased to say I am gradually getting better. Thank you again.

Alan

Thank you from Geoff and myself for the beautiful flowers and cards we received for our 20th anniversary.

Val

Thank you for the lovely flowers that Jill delivered to us. They brightened our dining room and reminded us of all our good friends at church. They lasted a long time and reminded us that the year is turning. With our love and assuring that we continue to improve although at snail's pace.

Ruby and Derek

It was such a lovely surprise to see Barbara with the beautiful flowers. Thank you so much. Flowers always cheer me up. I do hope that I am able to come more regularly soon.

Angela P



S P R I N G S P R I N G

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Tuesday 8 April | 7:45PM

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EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP

Easter Sunday is a day of celebration as we receive once again the good news that Christ is risen, the tomb stands empty and a new life is offered to us all. To celebrate this Easter, we will be offering a family service to which all are invited.

The service will be one of joy, offering an opportunity to all ages to hear the good news of the Easter message and rejoice in the celebration of sharing a simple meal of bread and juice together, irrespective of age. If



you have the family visiting why not bring them along to mark the celebration; as the Worship Leader for the service, I ask you also to dress for a celebration.

The cross will be outside the church for you to add flowers to bring added colour to the front of the church on this special day. I hope to see you there.

Andy B

EASTER RAFFLE



Thank you to everyone who has donated Easter eggs, or purchased raffle tickets! Raffle tickets are £1 per strip and will be sold after Sunday worship until 13 April. All proceeds will go towards church funds. The raffle will be drawn before the Easter morning service.

BINGO WITH BRING AND SHARE TEA

We will be holding an afternoon of Bingo followed by a bring and share tea on Saturday, 26 April. Meet us in the Abbey Hall at 3pm for 6 games of Bingo – with fun prizes for the first person to call “House!”. The cost will be £5 per person, children free. Following the bingo we will share tea and there will be a raffle in aid of church funds. Please bring something to share with others. We look forward to you joining us.

Please add your name to the list at the back of the church, so that we have some idea of how many to expect. Hot drinks will be provided. If you need transport, then please let me know.

Carole

EASTER BREAKFAST



We enjoy welcoming Easter morning together in Abbey Hall Lounge with an Easter breakfast. Join us at **9am** on Sunday, 20 April; please sign up on the form at the back of church by Sunday, 13 April to ensure we cater for everyone. Speak to Carole, Sylvia or Sarah if you have any food allergies or intolerances.

Everyone is very welcome to join us. It is a lovely social morning filled with chat; breakfast of yoghurt, fruit, cereal, toast, juice, boiled eggs and tea/coffee is provided. Cost £2.50 per head, payable on the day. Please sign up on the list at the back of church.

Breakfast is finished and we are all ready to join the Easter service at 10.30am. We look forward to you joining us to welcome Easter.

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NO DOWN TIME?**

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FOLLOWED BY

BRING AND SHARE TEA

IN ABBEY HALL



26 APRIL 2025

STARTING AT 3PM

Fun prizes

Raffle

Free hot drinks

£5 per person for 6 games
of Bingo, children free.

IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS

MIKE and MARIE'S CHANGE OF MANSE

Mike and Marie's move has now taken place and went very smoothly. Thank you for all your good wishes – they are settling in very well! The same phone number has been transferred to the new manse in Chandlers Ford, and Revd Mike's email address also remains as before.



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or scan the QR code and open browser

Enquiries: Telephone 023 8042 1844,

or e-mail bitterne_sec@yahoo.co.uk



JOIN US FOR A WARM WELCOME ON A THURSDAY MORNING



Whatever the weather, there is always a very warm welcome in Abbey Hall Lounge on Thursday mornings for everyone. From 10am-11.30am you'll find a place where you can meet with friends, find some company, read the newspaper or a book, or just sit quietly whilst enjoying a free cup of tea or coffee - and a biscuit! It's a space ready for you to make your own, no pressure and no obligation - just a warm welcome for everyone.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ROMSEY HOPE CHOIR – EASTER 2025

The Hope Choir will be visiting 7 homes this Easter. Are you able to join them to sing Easter hymns with the residents on any of these dates.

31 March 10.30am Fryers House, Oakleigh Gardens SO51 5AD
2 April 2.30pm Cedar Lawn, off Braishfield Road SO51 7PA
3 April 10.30am Abbeyfield House, Mill Lane SO51 8EW
4 April 11.00am Woodley Grange, Winchester Rd SO51 7NU
9 April 11.00am Mottisfont Lodge, Alma Road SO51 8AG
10 April 11.00am Durban House, Woodley Lane SO51 7JL
11 April 1.30pm Marie Louise, Newton Lane SO51 8GZ

Please arrive 10 minutes prior to the advertised start. For queries please contact: Mary Harrison 0788 171 3337.

MORNING PRAYERS

If you would like to take the opportunity to reflect upon God's word and to pray for the needs of the world, and the Church, in your own time during the week, here are the Psalm and Gospel readings for the month.



April 6	Psalm 126	John 12:1-8
13	Psalm 118:1-2 & 19-29	Luke 19:28-40 or Luke 22:14–23:56
20	Psalm 118:1-2 & 14-24	John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12
27	Psalm 150	John 20:19-31

CALENDAR

March		
30	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Morning Worship led by Chris Roles. Everyone welcome!
30	6.30pm	Lent Bible Study on Zoom ID 864 1780 6994 PW learning
31	10.20am	Hope Easter Choir at Fryers House, Oakleigh Gardens SO51 5AD
April		
1	6.30pm	Lent Ecumenical Study Group in St Joseph's meeting room, 26 Abbey Water, Romsey
2	2.30pm	Church Table Tennis in Abbey Hall
2	2.20pm	Hope Easter Choir at Cedar Lawn, off Braishfield Road SO51 7PA
2	4.00pm	Ecumenical Lent Study Group in Romsey Abbey Church Rooms
3	10-11.30am	Abbey URC Friends warm welcome coffee morning in Abbey Hall Lounge, everyone welcome
3	10.20am	Hope Easter Choir at Abbeyfield House, Mill Lane SO51 8EW
4	10.50am	Hope Easter Choir at Woodley Grange, Winchester Rd SO51 7NU
4	12noon-1.30pm	Lent lunch hosted by Romsey Abbey
5	10am-12.30pm	Church open for quiet reflection and prayer
6	10.30am	Morning Worship including Holy Communion led by Revd Mike Perrott
6	6.30pm	Bible Study on Zoom ID 864 1780 6994 PW learning
6	6.30pm	Lent Bible Study on Zoom ID 864 1780 6994 PW learning
8	6.30pm	Lent Ecumenical Study Group in St Joseph's meeting room, 26 Abbey Water, Romsey
8	8-9.30pm	Chill Out Tuesday in Abbey Hall Lounge
8	7.45pm	Rock Choir Concert in aid of church roof repair funds
9	4pm	Ecumenical Lent Study Group in Romsey Abbey Church Rooms
9	10.50am	Hope Easter Choir at Mottisfont Lodge, Alma Road SO51 8AG
10	10-11.30am	Warm welcome coffee morning Abbey Hall Lounge
10	10.50am	Hope Easter Choir at Durban House, Woodley Lane SO51 7JL

10	7.30pm	Fabric Group Meeting in Abbey Hall Lounge
11	12noon-1.30pm	Lent lunch hosted by Romsey Baptist Church
11	1.20 pm	Hope Easter Choir at Marie Louise, Newton Lane SO51 8GZ
12	10am-12.30pm	Church open for Reflection and quiet meditation
12	2.30pm	Sunnenday Concert - A Mosaic of Music
13	10.30am	Palm Sunday Morning Worship led by Joan Smith
13	6.30pm	Lent Bible Study on Zoom ID 864 1780 6994 PW learning
14	10.30am	BALM in Abbey Hall Lounge
15	7.30pm	Finance Group meeting in Abbey Hall Lounge
16	2.30pm	Church Table Tennis in Abbey Hall
18	12noon	Good Friday Open Air Act of Witness
19	10am-12.30pm	Church open for Reflection and quiet meditation
20	9am	Easter Breakfast in Abbey Hall, £2.50 per person.
20	10.30am	Easter Communion Morning Worship led by Andy Bevan
22	7.30pm	Elders Meeting in Abbey Hall Lounge
24	10-11.30am	Warm welcome coffee morning in Abbey Hall Lounge
24	5pm	Deadline for May's magazine
26	10am-12.30pm	Church open for quiet reflection and prayer
26	12noon	Wedding of James Moffatt/Natasha Bryant
26	3pm	Bingo in Abbey Hall followed by bring and share tea. £5.00 per adult and children free. Please bring items of food to share.
27	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Sue Brown
30	7.30pm	Churches Together in Romsey at Abbey Rooms
May		
1	10-11.30am	Warm welcome coffee morning in Abbey Hall Lounge
3	10am-12.30pm	Church open for quiet reflection and prayer
4	10.30am	Morning Worship including Holy Communion led by Revd Sarah Hall

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Lent is a journey that leads us towards the cross.

Anonymous

Braishfield United Reformed Church

Minister:	The Reverend Mike Perrott, MA e-mail: revd.mike13@gmail.com Day off: Mondays	01794 512163
	The Reverend Doctor Sarah Hall e-mail: sarah.hall.swhg@gmail.com Day off: Thursdays	02380 768004
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Treasurer:	Sharon Whitfield	01794 521937
Serving Elders:	Shirley Smith Allison Symes Sharon Whitfield	01794 368447 02380 262803 01794 521937

April

6	9.30	Holy Communion led by the Revd Mike Perrott
13	10.00	Palm Sunday: Family Worship led by Margaret Axford
20	10.00	Easter Sunday: Family Worship led by Gwen Collins
27	10.00	Family Worship led by the Revd Wendy White

May

4	9.30	Holy Communion led by the Revd Dr Sarah Hall
11	10.00	Christian Aid Service led by Andy Bevan
18	10.00	Family Worship led by David Stone
25	10.00	Family Worship led by the Rev Mike Perrott

June

1	9.30	Holy Communion led by the Rev Mike Perrott
8	10.00	Family Worship

Please note that the third Sunday of the month is the time to bring in tinned goods etc for the food bank collection.



News from Braishfield



It seems like yesterday I was writing about Christmas events and now we are almost at Easter. I did see my first Easter egg in the shops just after Christmas so there is a link! My reaction to that, by the way, was mild annoyance as it was too soon to have those in the shops. March onwards is fine for me.



It has been lovely to finally see sunshine. Braishfield looks especially nice when the sun comes through the windows. We are looking ahead to our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services this month. All are welcome. If you join us, you will hopefully see the sunlight coming through the glass!

Our Christian Aid Service will be on 11 May. All are welcome. We look forward to welcoming our friends from All Saints Parish Church as this is a United Service. The village churches take it in turns to host the Christian Aid Service.



Many thanks to all who came to the church's Annual General Meeting, which was held after a short service on Sunday, 16 March. Thanks also go to all who help the church. It makes a big difference, not least because we had the majority of the appointments filled before that meeting so well done all! It saves a lot of time and we can go into the year ahead knowing who is doing what.

There will inevitably be tasks to do in the church garden over the next few months. Help is appreciated. At least the weather should be getting better! Also please do let the Fabric Group know if there is anything amiss they need to deal with.

We were pleased to hear the Revd Mike and Marie Perrott's recent move to Valley Park, Chandler's Ford went well. Some of our congregation who already live in Chandler's Ford are happy to recommend the area (the Symes clan basically!).



Our sympathies go to Pat Old, Sharon Fielding and all of the family of Dave Old who recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all from all of us at Braishfield URC.

Please also do let us know if there is anyone you would like us to remember in prayer.

Allison Symes



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REVD MIKE'S PREACHING ROTA FOR APRIL

6	9.30 am	Braishfield URC Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Abbey URC Holy Communion
13	10.30 am	Bitterne Park URC Palm Sunday
20	10.30 am	Avenue St Andrew's URC Easter Communion
27	10.30 am	Revd Mike on annual leave

ROUND THE SOUTHERN FELLOWSHIP OF UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Bitterne

17-20 April 2025: Maundy Thursday 7.30 pm
Good Friday Tenebrae at 7.30 pm



Ideas for Keeping Lent Holy

by Nadia Bolz-Weber; adapted by Rev Sarah Hall

- ♥ Pray for your enemies
- ♥ Take 5 minutes of silence at noon
- ♥ Look out the window until you find something of beauty you had not noticed before.
- ♥ Give 3 items to charity
- ♥ Call an old friend
- ♥ Pray the paper (pray for people and situations in today's news)
- ♥ Pay a few sincere compliments
- ♥ Forgive someone
- ♥ Don't use the Internet except for necessities
- ♥ Ask for help
- ♥ Tell someone what you are grateful for
- ♥ Introduce yourself to a neighbour
- ♥ No shopping day

Avenue St Andrews



Monthly Coffee and Cake usually held final Saturday each month from 10.30am to noon in The Concourse. Cafetière coffees, teas and cold drinks are served and a trolley of homemade cakes is wheeled round for customers to make their selection. Donations for Church funds are collected as people leave.

MINISTERS' ANNUAL LEAVE

Revd Mike will be on annual leave from Monday, 21 April to Tuesday, 29 April, with exception of Saturday 26 April when he will be officiating at the marriage of Natasha Bryant and James Moffett at Abbey URC. We wish them God's blessing and happiness for their future lives together.



Revd Sarah will be on annual leave from Monday, 21 April until Sunday, 27 April.

Should you need to contact a Minister during these dates please contact Andy Bevan tel. 07483 319618 or email andybevan1@btinternet.com

35 YEARS OF REJOICE AND SING!

The URC and Reform magazine will be at Coventry Central Hall from 12 noon on Saturday 3 May with a hymn-filled, songful celebration of the URC's hymn book, Rejoice and Sing, which is celebrating its 35th anniversary. As well as lots of hymn singing from 2pm, there will be talks including a panel discussion with those involved with the creation of Rejoice and Sing

Email reform@urc.org.uk with the title of your favourite hymn (and tune if needed), the reason why you like it, along with your name and the name of the church you attend, if you're happy to share it. These will be used to help select the hymns for the event and will be featured in Reform magazine too. For tickets for this event available [HERE](#).



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CHRISTIAN AID: THE FUTURE OF CHOCOLATE

Chocolate is a global favourite, a treat enjoyed by millions. But behind the indulgence lies a growing crisis—one that could make chocolate scarcer and more expensive in the coming years. Climate change is wreaking havoc on cocoa (it's primary ingredient) production, with extreme weather, rising temperatures and unpredictable rainfall devastating crops and leaving farmers struggling to survive. Cocoa trees are highly sensitive to climate conditions. They need stable temperatures, well-distributed rainfall and rich soil to thrive. However, a recent report by Christian Aid reveals how human-caused climate change is exacerbating conditions for cocoa farmers in key growing regions like Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire—where over 50% of the world's cocoa is produced.

In 2024 alone, climate change made extreme heat waves 10 times more likely, adding six-weeks' worth of days above 32°C (89.6°F) in 71% of cocoa-producing areas. These temperatures are well above the optimal conditions for cocoa cultivation, putting yields in danger. This isn't a short-term issue. Research suggests that by 2050, rising temperatures could make many of today's cocoa-growing regions unsuitable for production. If trends continue, the future of chocolate - and the millions of farmers who depend on it - remains uncertain.

For the full Christian Aid report please visit their web site at www.christianaid.or.uk

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AMERICAN ADVENTURES – PART 2

Howdy folks! My next stop was with Nate Bruss and his family; it's been so lovely sharing their home and being part of this family. We've been working, practising in the forge, collecting maple sap and the kids taught me how to play chess! I also went out riding with the family, which was absolutely magical in the snow! Nate is helping me improve my shoeing, and he's practising for a 4-man competition on the weekend – we'll be driving to Kentucky for him to take part, only a 15-hour drive!



After a long drive, a quick overnight stop then back on the road again, we finally arrived in Kentucky ready for Nate's competition. Meghan Coyle was kind enough to put me up, and let me ride in the van with her for some jobs. The World Horseshoeing Classic Competition was an amazing three day 4-man shoeing competition! I got to meet so many amazing farriers as well as scribe for the judges. What an opportunity for me, and who knows - maybe I'll be competing there one day....

Then it was on to New York State and my stay with Jeremy Scudder, he's an amazing shoemaker and the judge at my next competition. He gave me a hand in the forge with some parts of the next competition. A super lovely guy who let me get on with things - so I was burning, nailing on, and finishing throughout our stops.

We then drove 4 hours to Pennsylvania for the Forge for a Lifetime Competition, Jeremy as the Judge and I was competing. The first round was a speed round of 15 minutes to make a plain stamp front with a toe clip, the second was the draft shoe round to make two shoes in 60 minutes. That afternoon I learnt how to wash and shuck oysters, and got to try



them raw and cooked! The next day I had 3 shoe making classes. The first was a pair of concave shoes, the second was a pair of fully fullered shoes and the final class was a three-shoe class which went amazingly. I got ribbons for coming 4th place 3 times, 2nd place twice and overall 3rd for my class division!



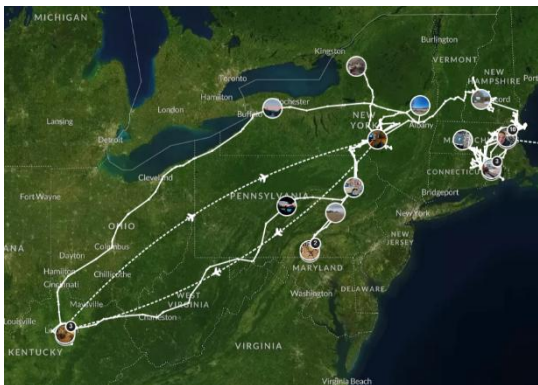
On our way back to New York State on the Sunday, we visited Gettysburg where the pivotal battle of the American Civil War took place, and where Abraham Lincoln gave his famous address. The trip back to Jeremy's, and the second week with him, didn't really go to plan. Not only I was sick on the way back, but a huge storm was chasing us all the

way back – leading to a massive power cut for over 24 hours, when we actually got back! On Sunday/Monday I was still poorly, then Jeremy was ill on Wednesday/ Thursday! We took turns making sure each other were OK and hydrated, and only had one working day that week – but we got through it!



My next stop was with Ben Mangan and his family in Carthage, at the top of New York State – only about 35 minutes' drive from Lake Ontario, so the weather will be getting colder again! Ben's children are my age, which makes a nice change. So far, we have been out on the quad-bikes, practised some shooting and collected and processed maple sap! However, it has just started snowing again so the sap is slowing down and we've got to wait for the weather to warm up again.

Today we went to the family's local church, which was nice, and I felt quite at home as they sang very similar hymns as we do when we're at Synod.



What a trip this has been! So far, I've travelled 9,919 miles since I left the UK, temperatures have been between -20 to +8, I've travelled through 10 states, and been welcomed by some amazing farriers and their families - and still have 5 weeks of my adventure to go!

Kathleen x

ROMSEY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Some of us went to Salisbury Cathedral to see (or watched on Zoom) Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe in conversation with the Bishop of Sherborne. She was arbitrarily imprisoned in Iran for six years and gained the strength to endure her captivity by thinking of her very young daughter. We continue to write to the Moroccan government urging them to release Nasser Zefzafi, who was sentenced to twenty years in prison for peacefully protesting. His health has been deteriorating, and authorities are denying him the medical care he needs.

At the beginning of April, we'll be at the Southampton Marathon cheering on the runners while also raising the profile of Amnesty International.

John H

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.

1 John 4:11

BEN CARTER'S JAZZ: AN UPDATE

In 2024, we shared the exciting news about Ben Carter, a talented local jazz saxophonist, who had launched a crowdfunding campaign to record his debut album. Now, we're thrilled to report that Ben's album Pulsar was released in the summer of 2024 to glowing reviews and has even been featured on Jazz FM!

Ben, who grew up in Hythe and was one of Kirsty's piano students, began his musical career playing with local youth jazz groups, such as the Romsey Area Youth Jazz Orchestra and Southampton Youth Jazz Orchestra, before studying at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. At just 23, Ben's dedication to jazz and his original compositions culminated in the creation of his first album Pulsar—a title inspired by the rhythmic pulses of collapsing stars.

Since its release, Pulsar has made waves in the jazz community, with a track from the album even receiving airplay on Jazz FM. Ben's goal remains clear: "My main goal is for as many people as possible to listen to my music and hopefully enjoy it."

The album is available on Spotify and iTunes, or you can purchase a CD through Ben's website at www.bencartersax.uk or by speaking to Kirsty (£12 + p&p). For those who love supporting local talent, this is a fantastic way to bring Ben's sound into your home.

Beyond the album, Ben continues to perform with his band, the Ben Carter Quintet, and is also part of a new group, Impossible Conversations, which blends funk and modern jazz. With upcoming gigs in cities like Birmingham, Manchester, Nottingham, and Cambridge, this group is receiving high praise. A recent jazz critic described their performance as "exceptional" and compared them to the Ezra Collective, a band that went on to win the Mercury Music Prize.

Locally, Ben also recently joined Kirsty to perform at the Honeypot Children's Charity Christmas Carol Concert in Romsey Abbey, where they helped raise over £10,000 for young carers.

We're excited to see where Ben's musical journey takes him next and look forward to hearing more from both Pulsar and Impossible Conversations in the months ahead.



SUNNENDAY

Presents

"A MOSAIC OF MUSIC"

*A selection of arias, art songs, folk songs and songs
from the shows*

With SOPHIE AYNSLEY – Accompanist

SATURDAY 12th APRIL 2025

AT 2.30 pm

*Abbey United Reformed Church, Romsey
Market Place, Romsey SO51 8EL*

Tickets £5, available on the door