

# Diary of Events

| AM   | PM   |
|--|--|
| 1 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                           |  |
| 2 Little Oaks Toddlers (9:30-11:00)                | Boys' Brigade (18:00)                        |
| 3  |  |
| 4 <b>Breakfast Church (9:00), Seminar (10:25)</b>  | Romanian Fellowship (16:00)                  |
| 5 Little Tykes Toddlers (10:00-12:00)              |  |
| 6 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                           | Alpha Course (19:00)                         |
| 7  | Girls' Brigade (17:15), Table Tennis (19:30) |
| 8 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                           |  |
| 9 Little Oaks Toddlers (9:30-11:00)                | Boys' Brigade (18:00)                        |
| 10   |  |
| 11 <b>Breakfast Church (9:00), Seminar (10:25)</b> |  |
| 12   |  |
| 13 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                          |  |
| 14   |  |
| 15 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                          |  |
| 16   |  |
| 17   |  |
| 18 <b>Breakfast Church (9:00), Seminar (10:25)</b> |  |
| 19 Little Tykes Toddlers (10:00-12:00)             |  |
| 20 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                          | Alpha Course (19:00)                         |
| 21   | Girls' Brigade (17:15), LED Study (19:30)    |
| 22 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                          | Townswomen's Guild (13:45)                   |
| 23 Little Oaks Toddlers (9:30-11:00)               | Boys' Brigade (18:00)                        |
| 24   |  |
| 25 <b>Breakfast Church (9:00), Seminar (10:25)</b> |  |
| 26 Little Tykes Toddlers (10:00-12:00)             |  |
| 27 Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                          | Foodbank (10:00-12:00)                       |
| 28   | Girls' Brigade (17:15), Table Tennis (19:30) |
|  |  |
|  |  |

HALF TERM

# ABC

Addlestone  
BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWS & INFORMATION February 2018

## Pentecost Sunday

is usually celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter, some 50 days after Jesus' death and resurrection (pentecost literally meaning 'fiftieth'). However, for us at ABC we never quite manage to do things at the right time. Just as we celebrated Christmas in mid-Summer as we studied Luke's Gospel in 2011, so we find ourselves celebrating Pentecost at the beginning of February 2018. However, God's timing is perfect and I can't think of a more appropriate season for us as a church to experience a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit! When the Holy Spirit came to rest on each believer that first Pentecost day everything began to change. Empowered, emboldened and filled with joy, the believers couldn't contain their praise! They just had to



speak out about the wonders of God. I'd love to experience that. To be so overwhelmed with the present of God's Spirit that nothing can silence me. No fears, doubts or inhibitions would be able to get in the way. Sadly, all too often my head rules my heart and my courage seeps away. Not so for those Pentecost believers. Nothing was going to steal their joy. And boy, do I want that for our church. I do believe this year is a year of new beginnings for ABC, but with this new beginning we need a new in-filling, a fresh anointing of God's Holy Spirit - the power of God moving in our midst. We want to see miracles and healings, lives transformed and renewed, people touched by the joy of the Spirit. So let's pray and let's wait on the Lord together, just like those first believers did all those years ago!

# MISSION FOCUS



Over 22 years ago, Chris Hickford set up the 'New Haw Youth Project' (later to be renamed 'Eikon') having met young people coping with extremely difficult personal issues who had very little, if any, help available to them

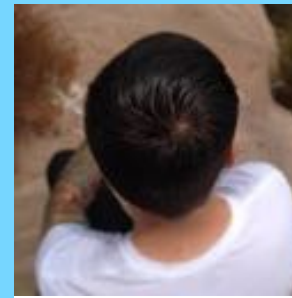
It was apparent that regardless of the severity of their issues, due to the fact many of these young people had not yet reached a certain level of crisis (such as committed a crime, been excluded from school or become homeless) they were below the threshold for government support.

So Chris and his team stepped in, as they understood the importance of

helping these young people before their problems escalated into larger and potentially insurmountable crises.



Chris Hickford will be coming to speak at ABC on Sunday 17th February!



## Charles' Story

Charles (not his real name) faced a number of serious challenges. A bereavement in his family, his father's alcoholism, mental health issues, regular trips to hospital, parental absence (which affected his sister too), all contributed to Charles struggling at home and at school. Charles' concentration levels suffered, and with a growing fear of being judged in the classroom, he'd do his best to avoid his teacher's gaze. He survived by putting on a brave face, while attempting to isolate himself. Making friends proved increasingly difficult and it was not easy to pretend or cover over his problems.

Thankfully, Charles' teachers did pick up on his unhappiness, which prompted an informal chat about his struggles. As a result Eikon was brought in to provide the necessary support and guidance for Charles. He was able to join in activities where he could have fun mixing with children facing similar circumstances, including spending time on excursions and days away.

Support from Eikon extended to advocacy with his teachers - so Charles could be sure his problems were being addressed behind the scenes. This allowed him to gain a clearer focus on school work, and he started to take pride in this for the first time. Gradually, he began socialising outside of the charity environment and was able to make lasting friendships.

He credits his university graduation and meeting his fiancée on the help and support Eikon provided.

How well we cope with the things that life throws at us is a key factor in determining our well-being. Helping young people to build resilience increases their chances of making a successful transition. The challenges include deprivation, bullying, mental health issues and social media.

There are currently 27,000 young people living in poverty throughout Surrey. Eikon help young people to build resilience through our work in schools and youth clubs, as well as special programmes. The charity aims to get involved before problems escalate. This is what differentiates Eikon from many other

service providers, that tend to be reactive and thus support a young person only after a crisis has occurred. Eikon provides intensive, unconditional support for young people - when they need it, for as long as they need it.

### **Residential Courses**

Residential away courses are held each year:

"Issues were wide ranging and so the young people each had their own personal objectives and issues to overcome, with the support of the Eikon Team. This week aimed to give them a helping hand by receiving some additional support and giving them these new opportunities. Indeed, one young person aged 15 had never been in the sea until he came on Eikon's Residential and by the end of the week was learning to surf!

The week was filled with many different activities such as rock-climbing, surfing, orienteering, night-hiking, fire-making to name a few plus a myriad of creative problem solving challenges. One element of the week was involving everyone in cooking. In three groups the young people were in a rota to

prepare and cook at least one meal for everyone. Through this, they learnt about healthy eating and hygiene as well as developing positive self-esteem through functioning as a member of a team.

All young people learnt new soft skills as well as overcoming certain fears and phobias. By the end of the week, young people who hadn't met previously now felt like they had developed new close friendships and extended their support network.

They told us that building these friendships had increased their confidence in making new friends as well as leaving a lasting impact in their lives."

### **Prayer Points:**

Alongside praying for the ongoing work of Eikon and its effectiveness in reaching those most in need, there are a number of volunteer shortages that Eikon would like to see filled.

Please pray for more Community Fundraisers and evening Youth Workers to further strengthen the Eikon team.

## **Jake's Story**

*When Jake (not his real name) was referred to Eikon, he was having educational problems. Jake had already been excluded from two schools and his current school placement was on the verge of breaking down. He was*

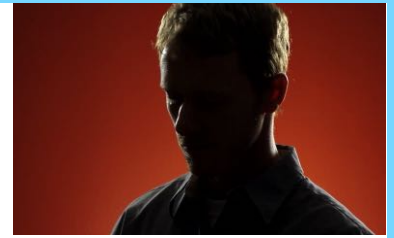
*experiencing difficulties in sustaining positive friendships and was identified by the Early Help assessment, and his own self-assessment, as needing support in addressing antisocial behaviour and substance misuse.*

*Relationships at home were not good, particularly since Jake had a difficult relationship with his step dad. Unfortunately Jake was the victim of an assault on his journey home from school which was the catalyst to him disengaging from school entirely. This decision was supported by his mother who feared for his personal safety.*

*Subsequently, a referral was made for Jake to attend a difference school in Pyrford. Alongside this, a Cafe work placement was organised. Since Jake was unfamiliar with the cafe environment, a representative from Eikon met with Jake in the Cafe on a number of occasions. This enabled Jake to familiarise himself with this new environment, get a feel for customer service, and develop an understanding about what his role might look like. Jake worked with Eikon to prepare him for his formal interview, discussing interview attire and possible questions that he might ask. The interview was a success!*

*Jake now currently works weekends at the cafe and one day during the week. He prides himself on the fact that he has never been late and that for the first time he was able to take his mum out for a meal. Jake is able to identify the impact that his attendance at Pyrford and his new job are having on his life. He is engaging less in antisocial behaviour and is disengaging with peers that had a negative influence on him.*

*Jake has taken massive steps toward maintaining a positive lifestyle as well as developing his employability skills, despite the difficult circumstances that he has faced. Eikon continue to meet him on a one to one basis to ensure that he is continually supported through his journey into these positive behaviours and lifestyle.*







## Mission Update ...

Algerian Christians request prayer following several incidents in which churches and individual Christians have faced increased restrictions, raising concerns that these pressures signal a coordinated campaign of intensified action against churches by the governing authorities.

Three believers were arrested in Chlef, 200 km north-west of Algiers, during the third week of December. They were visiting from Tizi Ouzou and had arranged to meet a contact at a café. Police entered the café, found they were in possession of Christian literature, and took them to the police station where they were investigated at length by the national gendarmerie. A local newspaper, known for its hostility to Christians, described the incident as a 'foiled evangelism attempt', falsely accusing the Christians of working under the cover of humanitarian activities and of alluring young Muslims to convert by means of financial and travel inducements. The three believers were released but may face charges of proselytism.

During the same week, two churches in the province of Bejaia, in the Kabylie region, were visited by a committee of officials from the municipality, the ministry of religious affairs, the fire brigade, the national gendarmerie and the intelligence department. The churches were informed that the visits were to check compliance with safety regulations. The two buildings host meetings of eight church congregations in Bejaia. The result of the inspection is pending.

In Ouargla in the south of Algeria, another church received an order from the provincial Governor to cease all religious activities, following a buildings inspection on 14th December. Leaders were accused of lacking authorization to use the building as a place of worship, and of failing to comply with safety requirements. They were advised to seek permission from the ministry of religious affairs, and that worship activities can only recommence three months after obtaining such permission. The church has been active for ten years.

A church in Ain el-Turk near Oran and a Christian-owned bookshop were forcibly closed in November. In addition, a church training centre in Boudjemaa, in the Kabylie region, was visited by the police - activities have been stopped and the leaders are to be investigated next month.

The affected churches are all affiliated to the legally recognised Protestant Church of Algeria (l'Église Protestante d'Algérie). The EPA questions the motives behind the inspection visits, and believes that the accusations leading to the church closures have been unfounded.

### Prayer Points:

Praise God that His Church in Algeria is united at this time more than ever before and there is a lot of prayer, fasting and seeking His strategy for the trials we are facing and His way forward, amen.

Praise God for ALL the works He has accomplished in tens of thousands of lives over the years of relative freedom. Today they are worshipping Him in homes, Church buildings and woods.

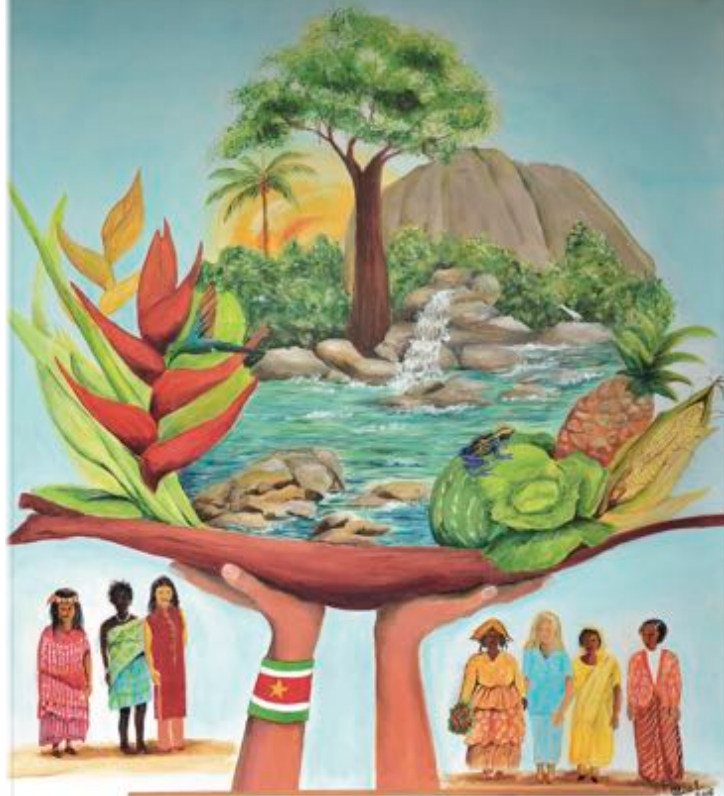
May God grant Algerian Christians, by His powerful Holy Spirit, His new strategy for such a time as this. Not just to survive, but to continue to glorify Him and reach out in Algeria and beyond. Amen.





## Women's World Day of Prayer 2018

### Suriname



**All God's Creation is Very Good!**

Christchurch, Ottershaw, 1:30pm on  
Friday 2nd March  
All Welcome! (Women and Men)

## KIDS CHURCH

living, learning and loving Jesus

A fun-packed group for 2s-10s on Sundays starting at 9:30 approx.  
For more information please see the separate flyer.



## Runnymede Foodbank needs your help!

Foodbank really needs the following:



**Coffee,  
Instant Mash,  
UHT Milk  
Liquid and Hard Soap,  
Razor Blades  
Shaving Foam,  
Washing Powder**



## Suffering from a physical disability? Would you benefit from exercising in water?

Runnymede Disabled Swimmers (RDS) is a transport group founded in 2016 with the purpose of assisting the disabled people of Runnymede to attend Woking Pool in the Park. We join 'Woking Dolphins' - a charity which provides swim sessions for disabled people - for swimming on Tuesdays during the school term time. Members are able to swim or exercise in a less weight bearing environment at Woking Pool in the Park.

Transport is provided by minibus from your door to the pool and back. Assistance is given for you to access the swim session and be looked after in the water. We have the availability of a hoist, plinth, pool chairs and buoyancy aids. Assistance with changing can be arranged, subject to your needs.

Our members have various physical disabilities caused by conditions such as Stroke, MS, blindness, broken backs etc. We are a very friendly bunch of people who operate as a social group of members and associate members (volunteers) who work together to ensure the smooth running of our sessions.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact:

Jonathan Fisher (Chairman) 01784 435622

[jlf@runnymede-court.com](mailto:jlf@runnymede-court.com)

Pauline Carter (Treasurer) 01344 845787,

[paulinecarter@pcswebstore.co.uk](mailto:paulinecarter@pcswebstore.co.uk)



Janice Cullen has kindly taken over the responsibility for co-ordinating our Sunday morning flowers. If you would like to make a contribution or commit to being on the rota, please speak to Janice directly.

### Transport to Sunday Services

If you are finding it difficult to attend our Sunday services especially as the Winter weather sets in, please let us know and we'll arrange lifts for you.

Also, if you are able to offer lifts to anyone please notify the leadership so we can put the needs together with the offers of help.

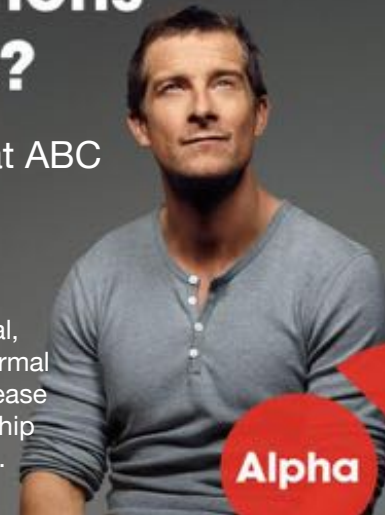


## Got questions about life?

The Alpha Course at ABC

Tuesdays @ 7:00pm  
(starting 16th January)

The evenings include a meal, video presentation and informal chat. If you're interested please speak to one of the leadership team, or call 01932 820709.



### Church contact details:

5 Crouch Oak Lane  
Addlestone, Surrey  
KT15 2AN

Minister: Ben Fortescue  
Secretary: Brian Channell  
Treasurer: Sarah White

Addlestone  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Email: [info@addlestonebaptist.org.uk](mailto:info@addlestonebaptist.org.uk) Website: [www.addlestonebaptist.org.uk](http://www.addlestonebaptist.org.uk)

Office: 01932 820709



Addlestone Baptist Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain