

Christ Church, Rayleigh (CC) and the Bridgwater Drive Church (BDC)

## NEWS & CHAT 21 JULY 2022

The online service is live-streamed every week from Christ Church, on the Christ Church Facebook page.

**PLEASE NOTE:** During the month of August there will be NO News & Chat.

At The BDC there will still be a Welcome Sheet every Sunday with news, dates and prayers. Please send anything you want included on the Welcome Sheet to Margaret. At the Church Meeting on Sunday, we will decide if we want to continue with News & Chat in September

**SUNDAY 24 July**                      **10.30am, The Minister at BDC, followed by Church Meeting/AGM**  
10.00am, Robert Dart at Christ Church

### NEWS - THE BRIDGWATER DRIVE CHURCH (from Margaret)

**Our Church Meeting will be after worship this Sunday, 24 July, and will be the AGM. Please attend if you possibly can.** Naomi's service will be a little shorter than usual and she promises that the meeting will be as short as possible, although, of course, there will time for people to voice their thoughts and opinions. This is a chance for everyone to be involved in the life of the church, looking back over the past year (our last meeting was in August last year!), hearing what the elders have been discussing and seeing what we, and they, might plan for the future. Everyone is welcome to take part in the meeting but, remember, on issues requiring a vote, such as the election of elders, only members are eligible to vote. (see agenda at the end of News and Chat)

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 10.30 – 11.30 'Let's Talk about Books'** over a cup of coffee and biscuits or cake! – postponed from last week because of the extremely hot weather. Everyone welcome, whether or not you read many books. As well as bringing a book to recommend why not bring along a **favourite cookery book** or just a recipe – perhaps we could create a **BDC recipe book!**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 'Coffee with Cops' 10.00 – 11.00** Coffee Morning is open from 9.30 – 11.30 but our PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) will only be there for an hour – not Jackie this time. PCSO Howlett has taken over from her.

**HARP** – We have had a thank you letter from Lauren Collen at HARP for our donations. Lauren summarises some of the help HARP provides - *not just housing up to 236 people at any one time (with more rooms available soon) but also giving advice, support and guidance to people on their housing situation (whether they are already homeless or not), helping people with complex needs such as mental illness, addiction and financial problems, helping rough sleepers ... etc*

**RNLI** – I have also had thanks from Doris Banning who manages the shop on the end of the pier. She thanks us for our many donations via Betty's Pots (our donations of 5p and other coins have totalled over £200), also for Anne and Sarah's donation of their quiz prize money and for the sale of Carol's beautiful notecards (I still have some available at £4 a pack). Doris included some interesting news from the RNLI in her email,

*The number of 'shouts' so far this year was 54 last week, but I know there have been another 6 or 7 since then. As usual, the busy seafront is keeping the crews busy.*

*The second pier train was named last week, and it is the William Bradley. He was the pier head lightkeeper from 1871 to 1891 and lived with his wife and daughters in a house at the head of the pier. He also received a silver medal from the RNLI for rescuing a man from the capsized steam tug, Jubilee, in 1887.*

Note from me – Gerry and I knew of a girl who attended Westcliff High School for Girls who lived on the end of the pier but I never knew her name. The history of the pier is fascinating.

### NEWS FROM CHRIST CHURCH (from Naomi)

**MEMORY WORSHIP** starts on **Tuesday 6 September**, at 2pm at Rayleigh Methodist.

**ORGAN RECITAL AT CHRIST CHURCH – SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER at 3.00pm.**

Please put this date in your diary. Our 3 organist friends are kindly giving their services to entertain us again, as they did in 2017. There will be cake!

### COMMITMENT FOR LIFE

Commitment for Life no longer support work in Central America, which was the region we were supporting. Our new region is Israel/Palestine. If you would like to learn more – the URC is hosting an online session:

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**'Holy Land? Learning about Israel and Palestine'** If you want a good introduction to why there is an ongoing conflict in the Holy Land, come and hear both sides with a focus on solutions including a Q&A with members of the Parent Circle organisation supported by Commitment for Life. **25 July from 5.30pm to 9.00pm including discussion time and dinner break.**

Email [urcinterfaith@urc.org.uk](mailto:urcinterfaith@urc.org.uk) to receive the Zoom link.

**News from Christ Church's Partner Church in Budiriro:** While we are sweltering in record breaking heat, it is winter in Zimbabwe: *"Winter is now at the peak. We are also having some showers which is unusual. Our winters are not this cold except for Eastern highlands (Nyanga), and Gweru city which is central of Zimbabwe. We had a Fellowship of Women Rededication Day 2 weeks ago, under the General Assembly Fellowship of women executive, Isaiah 41:10."*



## PRAYER CORNER

I invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. This week we pray especially for those recovering from surgery, those about to have surgery, and all those finding the extreme heat unbearable.

This week's prayer theme – **'Love your neighbour'**. We ask, Lord, that You will help us to be 'good neighbours' - not just to people we know and like but to everyone we meet.

### Particular prayer requests this week:

#### BDC:

Barbara  
Cherry  
Gerry  
Barry  
Colin  
Jan and Clive  
Celia  
Tony, Kate and Nicola

#### Christ Church

Jeff and Gwyneth  
Doreen  
Audrey  
Doug and Margaret  
Phil and Grace  
Lionel and Elizabeth



We pray too for everyone who knew and loved someone who has died recently:-  
Jan's sister, Beryl: Francesca's Dad, John: Janet's brother-in-law, Ron.

Minister: Revd. Naomi Young-Rodas 07555 705530      [minister@christchurchrayleigh.org.uk](mailto:minister@christchurchrayleigh.org.uk)

Church Secretary Cherry Winder 07377 067908      [thebdcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:thebdcsecretary@gmail.com)

Web site [bridgwaterdriveurc.org.uk](http://bridgwaterdriveurc.org.uk)

I see there's a bit of space at the bottom of this page – room to include a few of the funny things Kate sent this week:-

*Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.*

*What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.*

*Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm.*

*I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.*

*I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.*

*Prison is just one word to you, but for some people, it's a whole sentence.*

*I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tournament, but good players are really hard to find.*