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News sheet for July 2020

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Whatever your background or faith, you're very welcome to come to any of the events listed in this news-sheet, whether on Sunday mornings or other occasions during the week.

What's On?



Until we can meet again in person we continue to meet online using Zoom. Links for joining Zoom meetings are circulated by email in advance. To request a link to join with any of the meetings below please email minister.hechurch@gmail.com or call 01954 211566.

If you need help setting up Zoom on your device please let us know.

Sunday morning services are also on our YouTube channel, which you can access from our church website or church Facebook page.

Regular Zoom meetings

Sundays, 10.30 am

Service with songs, prayers and a talk. There is time to chat as people log in from about 10am, and after the service in smaller break-out groups.

If you would like to invite somebody to join you please feel free to pass on the link, and please let Robbie or Enid know that they might come.

Services are also streamed to [YouTube](#). Past services can be found on our [Sundays Online](#) page.

Mondays

7.30 – 9.00 pm Housegroup (usually at Pauline Blower's home)

[Marriage Course Online – click to follow the link.](#)

Wednesdays

9.00 – 9.30 am Hardwick Village Prayers with St Mary's Church, Hardwick

3.30 – 4.30 pm Drop-In

8.00 – 9.00 pm Weekly Prayer Meeting

Thursdays

8.00 – 9.30 pm Housegroup (usually at Susie & Robbie Thomson's home)

Fridays

3.30 – 4.30 pm Drop-In

Other Zoom meetings

First Thursday of each month

8.00 – 9.00 pm Monthly Prayer Meeting

Tuesday, 14 July

8.00 – 10.00 pm Church Business Meeting (AGM)

Marriage Course

The Marriage Course is a series of 7 videos and a workbook that are all accessible via our church website. Holy Trinity Brompton (who also pioneered and produce the Alpha Course) have made this course available for churches to host for free since lockdown started.



Many of you have already put a date in the diary with your husband or wife (if you're married) and started to follow the course together. It will help strengthen and develop your marriage whether you're recently married or have been married for years. And it's not too late to start the Marriage Course, as the videos and links are all still available and will be for some time.

Bible Contexts



The Bible is an ancient book with timeless wisdom, historical integrity and many puzzles. When we read it in the context of their lifestyle, literature, and language, the Bible speaks to us like it did to its original audience.

When we grasp these contexts, we become gripped by the excitement of historical stories, the controversial views of prophetic messengers, and the unexpected simplicity of its teaching.

Dr David Instone-Brewer (from our congregation) has drawn together the background information discovered by scholars that he's met (and some that he hasn't), and presents straightforward conclusions that unfold the meaning of the literal text.

There is a series of books development: some are already available to buy, and David regularly shares chapters on his website for free download, from published books and those in development. Check out www.BibleContexts.com for more information, or go via our [Resources page](#).

Food and Essential Items Fund

Back in March, in the early stages of lockdown a network of volunteers sprung up in Hardwick, as in many communities, to offer help and support to those who were isolated or needed help with shopping or anything else. Our church helped design and print the postcards that volunteers then dropped through every door in Hardwick. The volunteers became known as Hardwick Network.

More recently, Hardwick Network in collaboration with Hardwick Evangelical Church has been successful in securing support from Cambridgeshire Coronavirus Community Fund for a 'Food and Essential Items Fund'. This fund is for residents of Hardwick who, due to changes in their situation caused by Covid-19, are unable to buy food or other essential household items. If you know of someone who needs help in this way, or maybe that is you, please do contact your local network volunteer (check your postcard), or contact Steve Gaze (stevegaze@gmail.com)

Meeting in person as lockdown eases

As of 4 July, churches are able to re-open for services (without singing) for up to 30 people to meet together (provided that social distancing and other safety measures are in place). This guidance

applies for churches that have their own buildings. Since we either meet in the school, or in small groups in people's homes, we are subject to the guidance relevant to those venues.

Hardwick Primary School have advised us that they will not be able to resume lettings until September at the earliest, and even then it might not be possible. And there will be a load of risk assessments and paperwork to complete first. Similarly, we are unlikely to be able to meet in each other's homes for quite some time. We will also continue to look into other options, though our preliminary enquiries suggest that these are likely to be limited, if any.



What we will, hopefully, be able to do is to meet outside in small groups with relevant social distancing between households. It might be possible to facilitate this over the summer both informally between households in someone's garden; and more formally as house-groups in a public space or park. We should put risk assessments and guidance in place ahead of such gatherings and will need to plan accordingly.

We anticipate that our Sunday morning worship will continue to via Zoom (with live-stream) for at least the next few months. Thank you all very much for your part in helping make these work as well as they have and for the ongoing encouragement and support for each other during these difficult times.

Church business meeting and AGM

Our next church business meeting is also our AGM and will be held on Tuesday, 14 July, starting at 8pm, via Zoom. Paperwork will be circulated in advance by email. This is an opportunity to look back over the past year and see how God has led and helped us, as well as to look forward in the direction we think he is leading.

Prayer Diary

Please print off a copy of [Hardwick and Caldecote Prayer Works](#), our prayer diary for local people, events and streets that is valid from July-October. As far as possible, we try to pray for the same streets that St Mary's Church are praying for, so we can join together in this way.

Giving

If you would like to give towards the work of the church, you can give by direct bank transfer:
Account Name – Hardwick Christian Fellowship; Bank – CAF Bank Ltd;
Sort Code – 40 52 40; Account Number – 00013764.

If you would like to find out about regular giving to the church, and the option of Gift Aid, please talk to our treasurer Dave Sage or see our [Support page](#).

Membership

We are a membership-led church, i.e. major issues are voted on at our business meetings. If you are interested in becoming a member of the church please speak to one of the leaders. More information on our website under ["Who we are"](#).

Useful Contacts

Co-Ministers Steve and Kate Gaze	minister.hechurch@gmail.com 01954 211900/212556
Leadership Team Steve Gaze and Kate Gaze	hc-leadersteam@googlegroups.com Pauline Blower, Robbie Thomson
Trustees Steve Gaze, Dave Sage (Treasurer),	hc-trustees@googlegroups.com Enid Instone-Brewer, Susie Thomson
Secretary Enid Instone-Brewer	hardwickevangelical@gmail.com 01954 210009
Pastoral Support Pauline Blower Steve and Kate Gaze	pastoral.hechurch@gmail.com 01223 262525 01954 211900/212556

If you have items for the Newsheet please email hardwickevangelical@gmail.com by Wednesday morning before the last Sunday of the month and put 'Newssheet' in the subject line.

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