Internal Groups & Activities 2022

Tuesday Prayers

There is a small but growing group who meet each Tuesday morning from 10 - 10.30 to pray for the needs of Burpham Church as a whole and for individuals who particularly need our prayers. We pray regularly for the Preschool and for world situations as needed. We have grown to eight and occasionally more but there is plenty of room and a warm welcome to others to join us.

Jean Davy

Drop In 2022

Drop In continues to be a popular meeting place for the elderly – and the not so old – on Thursday mornings when coffee, chat and a visit from Hattie a P.A.T. dog is enjoyed by 30+ members.

In August, our planned 'Summer Garden Party' was held in the Church Hall due to torrential rain which was disappointing after so many lovely, sunny days.

In December, after a two year break due to Covid, we were once again able to welcome Burpham School choir to help us celebrate Christmas. A lovely morning was enjoyed by all.

Janet Robins

Caterpillar Café 2022

At the start of 2022 Nicky Geraghty was heading up Caterpillar Café ably assisted by Janine Clemoes in the kitchen. In September we transitioned to a parent-set up format, and in October welcomed Jo Lamberth to be the regular church contact present. We have continued with our format of free play and ending with songs. It has been wonderful to see the group take up the challenge of self-set up and thrive under the new format. We are continually building relationships and are pleased that those who come are spreading the positive impact the group has had for them and bringing their friends. We are especially grateful to Janine for her time, energy and care that she puts in to helping this group flourish.

Jo Lamberth & Jo Levasier

Town Centre Chaplains

Two of our church members – Bob Hughes and Jean Davy - have become Town Centre Chaplains and they visit The Clockhouse flats at the Boxgrove roundabout twice a month for about an hour and threequarters. They chat with the ladies and men who come for coffee and if anyone wishes to speak personally to either of them, they can book a three quarter of an hour slot. The purpose is to be a listener, not to advise but to help the speaker to see their problem more clearly and so reach their own conclusion. There is a Communion Service once a month to which the Chaplains are welcome and there are other things arranged during the year.

The Chaplains have a Supervisor whom they see about every couple of months and they work within the Town Centre Chaplaincy organisation which provides Chaplains for surgeries. There are also Street Angels and Community Angels.

Jean Davy

Growth Groups & Other Bible Study Groups

During 2022 we had six small groups meeting during the week: a Monday morning one, a Monday evening (Zoom) group, a Wednesday morning and two Thursday evening adult groups and one Thursday evening youth bible study group.

External Groups & Activities 2022

Chantry Singers

Chantry Singers is a small chamber choir of, currently, 22 singers directed by Roy Rashbrook, one of the choristers at St Paul's Cathedral. Apart from Covid we are very pleased to have been able to rehearse regularly in CHS since 2019 and before then on the odd occasion when our previous regular rehearsal venue in RGS was unavailable.

We have a very eclectic repertoire with a mix of styles and genres whilst maintaining a foundation of sacred choral works, often singing less well known music. We have also performed a number of new compositions including by our conductor, Roy. Generally our concerts at the end of each term are organised around a theme, but our summer concerts usually have a lighter touch. Previous summers have seen us singing eg close harmony or a programme of film music.

We are increasingly enjoying additional bits of music-making, for example, for the last few years we have sung carols at a range of civic events for Guildford Borough Council and we have joined the folk duo Ninebarrow for various additional concerts. We support a local charity each year, currently the Cheryl King Trust, which promotes and advances the musical education of children and young people, and before then it was the mental health charity Oakleaf. New members with experience of choral singing are always welcome.

James Tickle

Kumon

Kumon Math and English Study Programmes offer a more comprehensive approach to learning than traditional tuition. Kumon goes one step further by helping each child develop self-learning skills, enabling them to tackle challenging work without reliance on a teacher. Our aim is to help any child of any ability to progress and develop a curiosity and love for learning.

Kumon Guildford East has been running for many years, and in that time we have seen children come to us lacking confidence and anxious at the prospect of tackling maths and/or English, and have now gone on to be fully confident at their abilities. Our vision for the maths programme is enabling every child to be able to complete secondary school maths with ease, so a lot of effort is spent on cementing the basics. The English programme is getting students to have a greater reading ability by reading varied texts. Most of the children at the centre start learning as young as 4 and continue till they are 16. The bulk of the students at the centre are primary aged children with our longest standing student hitting 10 years this year.

Our staff usually come from the local community with a mixture of adults and secondary school students from the nearby Guildford secondary schools. Most often a job at the Guildford East Centre happens to be their first foray into the workforce, which teaches them the many aspects of discipline, responsibility, time management and teamwork. Existing students also get the opportunity to pick up a job at the centre, starting off with the simple tasks of recording and marking sheets before being promoted to working with students when they are confident with their skills.

Duhita Kapoor