



Wesley Somborne Link



One Church on two sites

Wesley Methodist Church Weekender

6th February 2026

King's Somborne Methodist Church



The Shores of Galilee and the Hope of Spring

Back in 1961 at the tender age of 16, I had the opportunity to stay with my Uncle (an RAF Officer) and his family in Cyprus. Apart from touring the Island itself, he had also arranged for us all to travel to Israel and stay on a kibbutz (communal farm). It was situated in the extreme north of the country, near to Mount Hermon, not far from the source of the River Jordan and under the Golan Heights (Syria). Even then, security for the farm workers in the fields was essential, but we were made to feel very welcome and safe. As someone already interested in geography, I was fascinated by the countryside and rural surroundings, as well as the warm weather (it was Easter time). It was an opportunity to more accurately set biblical stories in their physical context.

When it came time to leave, we set out very early in the morning and journeyed south, following the Jordan to the point where it flows into the Sea of Galilee (it then continues on its southwards course to finish in the Dead Sea). We, however, had brought breakfast, and we sat by the shore for our meal, listening to the gently lapping waves and watching a lone boat heading out on its daily fishing trip in the fresh morning air. It was an evocative scene and made a deep impression on us all., for obvious reasons.

Before continuing our journey, we made a brief visit to the Church of the Beatitudes, perched on a nearby hillside not far from Capernaum. It is an elaborate building and carefully tended. If I visited it today, I might wonder how they had identified the location with such accuracy, not least because the 'Sermon on the Mount' is most probably a compilation of various teachings of Jesus. Even then I personally found the building less moving and it was the countryside and an adjacent field of wild flowers (lilies of the field?) which would have been familiar to Jesus and his disciples., that took my attention.



Church of the Beatitudes

So the images that will always stay with me are the breakfast scene on the lake shore and the hillsides ablaze with wild flowers. These for me are the 'liminal' spaces which I find most moving, of disciples beginning an adventure with Jesus, or for the post-resurrection Jesus preparing breakfast for his friends on the shore. Spring time, too, in our own beautiful country is the time when I sense a feeling of hope in God's world, as new life comes into bloom and the cold of Winter is a passing memory. My favourite time of the year without question!

Nick Langham

On Sunday 8th February at 10.30am, the Service will be led by Mr Mike Bowstead

On Sunday 15th February at 10.30am the Service of Holy Communion will be led by Revd Peter Rayson

These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:

www.wesleychurch.org.uk

Dates for Your Diary:

3rd February: Circuit Children, Youth and Family Leaders Zoom 7.00—8.00pm

5th February: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)

6th February: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

6th February: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

8th February: Service led by Mr Mike Bowstead at Wesley 10.30am

8th February: Service led by Revd Rachael Hawkins at King's Somborne 10.30am

12th February: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)

12th February: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm

15th February: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

15th February: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm)

Wednesday 18th February: Wesley Wild World Holiday Club at Wesley 9.00am—4.00pm

20th February: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

22nd February: ReFresh Service led by Mrs Elizabeth Britton at Wesley 10.30am

22nd February: Service of Holy Communion led by Mr Peter Castle at King's Somborne 10.30am

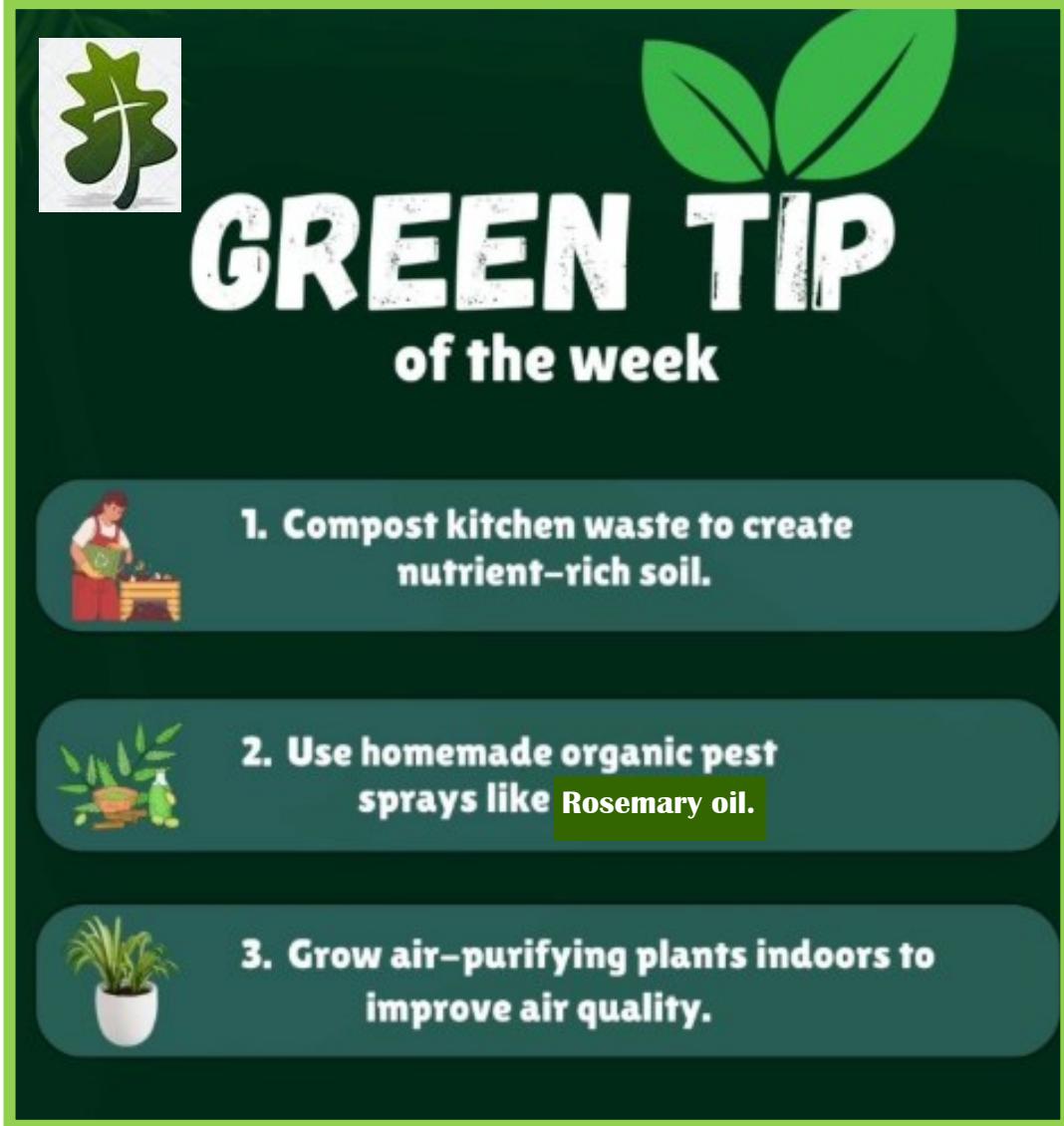
26th February: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)

26th February: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm

28th February: Café Wesley (10.00—12 noon) in aid of Church Flowers and Lego Church (10.00-11.30am)

1st March: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd John Archer at Wesley 10.30am

1st March: Service led by Mr Graham Hepburn at King's Somborne 10.30am



The graphic features a dark green background with a white border. At the top left is a white illustration of a four-leaf clover. To the right is a white illustration of two leaves. Below these, the words "GREEN TIP" are written in large, white, block letters, with "of the week" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font underneath. The main content is organized into three numbered sections, each with an accompanying icon: 1. Compost kitchen waste to create nutrient-rich soil. (Icon: a person at a compost bin). 2. Use homemade organic pest sprays like Rosemary oil. (Icon: a plant and a bottle). 3. Grow air-purifying plants indoors to improve air quality. (Icon: a potted plant).

The next edition of the WSL will be on Friday 20th February, we will need any items for inclusion to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 18th February, 2026.

Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or by phone on 01794389153.



City of

Councillor Dr Sudhakar Achwal

The Mayor of Winchester

Abbey House

The Broadway

Winchester SO23 9BE

Winchester

14th December 25

To Richard Rogers

Dear Richard,

Vivian and I would like to thank you most sincerely for your kind invitation to attend the Community Carols service at Wesley and Kings Somborne Methodist Church this evening.

It was a real pleasure to be part of such a welcoming and thoughtfully arranged service, conducted by Reverend Peter Rayson. We were particularly struck by the innovative use of smart phones to share the order of service — a simple and effective idea that reflects both consideration and environmental awareness.

We are very grateful to you and to Neil for taking such good care of us throughout the evening. Your kindness and hospitality were greatly appreciated.

The selection of carols was excellent, combining much-loved traditional favourites with some that were new to us, which added freshness and enjoyment to the service. The inclusion of prayers in Shona, offered by Clever Safarawu, was especially moving and a wonderful example of how diversity can be meaningfully and respectfully embraced within worship.

I was honoured to be invited to read from the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 2), and we both enjoyed the opportunity after the service to meet and speak with members of the congregation. It was a pleasure to meet Mark Hingston, Leader of Winchester Street Past Pastors, Clever Safarawu, Danny Chambers, and many others.

Please also pass on our thanks to the ladies who provided such generous and delicious refreshments, and our appreciation to Reverend Rayson for leading such a warm, inclusive, and uplifting service.

We wish you, the congregation, and everyone involved a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With warmest thanks and best wishes,

Yours sincerely

S. R. Achwal

Cllr Sudhakar Achwal
Mayor of Winchester

Editorial note: We received this from the Mayor following the Community Carols Service. We thought we would share this with you.



WESLEY WILD WORLD HOLIDAY CLUB



9am to 4pm

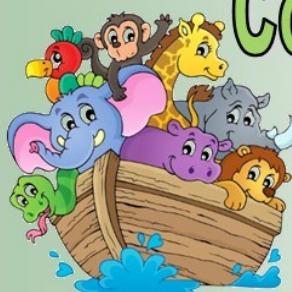


Wednesday 18th February
School year 1 to 6

Cost: £5 (bring a packed lunch)

For more details and to book email Sam:

Sambarnesyouthworker@gmail.com





Cards



Drop in
for a
chat



Secondhand Books



Secondhand Jigsaws

Next one Saturday, 28th February 2026

**4th Saturday
every month
10:00 - 12:00**

create a
scene
challenge



LEGO CHURCH

Bacon roll



UKRAINIAN

Valentine's Concert

6PM • 15 FEBRUARY 2026

UNITED CHURCH • JEWRY STREET • WINCHESTER



You are warmly invited to a Ukrainian Valentine's Concert, featuring a beautiful blend of music and dance performed by Ukrainian artists:

Kateryna Bolkunevych Soprano • **Liliya Solomonova** Piano

Volodymyr Vasylenko Accordion • **Ava Solomonova** Vocal

and the **Chervona Ruta Dance Group**

ADULT £10 • CONCESSIONS £5

Tickets available on [TicketSource](#) and on-the-door

Soprano
& piano & friends



[TicketSource Link:](#)



Caring for our Planet



Morning: Seminars
on Caring for our planet

Why? Ruth Valerio

Programmes, Partnerships and Advocacy Director, (Embrace the Middle East)

How? Steve Collins

Net Zero Carbon (NZC) team, The Church of England

**Afternoon:
Panel discussion**

A free community event

with much to explore

All zones are accessible

View movies in the

Science Dome

Creative fun

Craft Zone for children

Poems, photos, posters **Exhibition Space**

Expand your thought? **Seminar Room**

Reflect in the

Quiet Room

Drinks and snacks

Refreshment zone

Local action groups

Market zone

Something for everyone

When: 18 April 2026

Where: Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, SO53 2GJ

Time: 10 am to 4 pm

Updates will be published on:

<http://www.wermethodistcircuit.org.uk>



Ukrainian



Artists

This exhibition brings together works by Ukrainian artists created across a range of artistic genres and practices. Despite the diversity of visual languages, all are united by a shared reflection on Ukraine as a cultural, historical, and personal space. The exhibition features artists living and working in the United Kingdom, Canada, and Ukraine. On view from 19 January to 13 February. Free admission.

EXHIBITION OPENING

19 JANUARY 2026 | 16:00–17:00

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINCHESTER

WEST DOWNS CAMPUS,
ROMSEY ROAD, WINCHESTER



UNIVERSITY OF
WINCHESTER

Supported by
 Winchester
City Council

 WUCA
Winchester Ukrainian
Cultural Association

 Ukrainian
Artists & Art
Non-profit
cultural platform

19.01.2026
13.02.2026

Prayer for Springtime Hope

Creator God, thank you for the promise of spring, for the returning light, the soft rains, and the miracle of new life emerging from winter's sleep. As the world awakens, stir new hope in our hearts, chasing away the coldness and doubts of the past season.

Help us to be like the fertile earth, ready to receive your blessings, to grow stronger in faith, and to bear good fruit. Show us what needs to die in our lives so that new growth can flourish. May we plant seeds of kindness, patience, and love, trusting in your cycle of renewal and provision.

Guide us through the mists of challenges, Lord, and fill us with your joy and strength. May we experience your presence in the budding trees, the birdsong, and the fresh green shoots, and know that you are completing the good work you have started in us.

Amen.

(AI: 4/02/2026)



King'S Somborne 2025

HOPE

O V Y E C N E L I S T A Q N E U U F T M E F R G
G D O Y P E F I L W E N N S O D S R N Z C U E H
D E I F I T S U J H Z F I S K I O P E N N L V T
E S C H A T O L O G Y M Y Q W F T L V U E F E S
F T N E M E G A R U O C N E M E T A A R F I L A
U L J R H B F I L R K H U O E Y R N E V E L A F
T S U T I R L S P O P B C S O N D S H R D L T D
U I S M E D F R E L A T I O N S H I P E C E I A
R W T E T A X A C C B G J E S U S V S J U D O E
E F D T N I O P P A S I D T O N T S U F P E N T
W O V P A L W A Y S N O I T A R E B I L E L F S
M R W U L C O F I X E D E H J L M K C R R I X M
L E B R Q P R E S E N C E T B V L A O W S C K F
A V B P E X P E C T A T I O N P E T N R E N G L
N E U O G L O R Y C H R I S T D H N R T V O R A
R R I S W F E L L O W S H I P W S A E D E C A O
E Q L E N S E L I T N E G A B O U N D R R E C M
T M T R E J O I C I N G H V B W K E E E A R E Y
E X Z A J U N C H A N G E A B L E V M S N T A S
S E I F I R U P Z G L V N O I T R O P T C H P T
Y E T P J N O I T C E R R U S E R C T O E Q R E
P S T R O N G B E L I E V E D G W P I R Q T Z R
N O I S S E F N O C D E V A S Y O D O E H R B Y
D E N O D N A B A T O N H N S S S E N D L O B R

encouragement	notdisappoint	notabandoned	perseverance	relationship	resurrection
unchangeable	eschatology	expectation	confession	fellowship	liberation
reconciled	redemption	revelation	fulfilled	justified	rejoicing
steadfast	believed	boldness	covenant	creation	gentiles
presence	purifies	restored	blessed	comfort	defence
eternal	forever	freedom	mystery	newlife	portion
promise	purpose	silence	abound	always	answer
christ	future	heaven	helmet	strong	built
fixed	glory	grace	jesus	plans	saved
just					