

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship
Tuesday	9.00am	Prayer Meeting
	10.00am	Little Treasures (pre-school)
	5.15pm	Kingsquad (Yrs 3-6)
Wednesday	9:00am - 12.00pm	Friendly Bean Community Café
Thursday	9:00am - 12.00pm	Friendly Bean Community Café
	3.00pm	Housegroup (Church) – <i>winter months</i>
	7.00pm	Housegroup (Church) – <i>summer months</i>
Friday	10.00am-11.30pm	Bible & Prayer Group – <i>1st & 3rd Fridays in the month</i>
	7.30pm-9.30pm	Powerhouse (yrs 7-11) – <i>1st & 3rd Fridays in the month</i>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March	
29	Members' Meeting & AGM
April	
5	Palm Sunday – All Age Service
9	Maundy Thursday
10	Good Friday
12	Easter Day
12	Return of Smartie Tubes

CONTACT US!

Minister:	(Vacant)
Elder/Treasurer:	Bryan Johnson ☎ 01634 842283
Elder/Secretary:	Suzanne Rogers ☎ 07809 433723
Deacons:	Karen Barnes Lynda Gilbert Fay Graham Jan Rogers
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Borstal Baptist Church

To know Christ and to make Him known



Welcome to our church. We pray that you will meet with God here. There is a loop system in use, just turn your hearing aid to the 'T' position. Children are welcome to stay in the service or go out to Sunday School. You are warmly invited to stay for coffee or tea after the morning service. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to ask. Do please sign the visitors' book before you leave.

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

MARCH 2020

From the Deacons:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Day of Prayer recently – we hope that, in doing so, your relationship with God deepened and changed you. Because we are all in need of change, even if we are perhaps a bit scared of it. Knowing we are yet sinners, we have the chance to come before God and seek His will and His way for our lives. Reaching out to God in prayer, and waiting on his response, gives us space to stop, to listen, and to take to heart what we hear.

As we look to the future as a fellowship, we need to do this more and more, that we may best discern the path He has prepared for us. And so that we can be ready for the challenges ahead, knowing that God is walking with us, equipping us, and taking joy in our obedience.

Bryan, Suz, Lynda, Jan, Fay, & Karen

REACHING THE PLACES OTHER CHRISTIANS CAN'T REACH

Ros Bayes (Training Resources Developer at Through the Roof) reports on Through the Roof's first 'Disability Inclusion In Our Churches' event, which featured a particularly powerful testimony.

At Through the Roof's Disability Inclusion in our Churches event in Ashted recently, we heard Jo Hooper tell her story of how God broke into her life through tragic circumstances to restore joy and hope to her. The power of Jo's testimony was a reminder of how God uses disabled people to reach into areas and situations that those of us without that lived experience can't reach.

She shared with us how her walker has become a tool for evangelism. Wherever she goes, it becomes a vehicle for her to share her testimony and tell others how wonderful Jesus is. Recently on a cruise ship holiday Jo had a captive audience in the other passengers, and it was her joy to tell people on that holiday what Jesus has done for her. For the audience listening to Jo speak, any preconceptions we might have had about people who look, walk or speak differently were soon laid to rest.

Jo had been brought up in a Christian home but had gone away from the faith of her parents, finding church boring and wanting to do her own thing. She got involved with motorbikes and became involved in a relationship with a biker. Together they had a daughter. They decided to go travelling, but after only a few weeks, while staying in a caravan in Greece, he made an error while adjusting the gas for cooking, which resulted in a massive gas explosion.

Tragically their little girl lost her life, and Jo was very badly injured. As a result of 58 per cent burns she developed septicaemia and MRSA, and her partner abandoned her. Jo developed dystonia from the trauma she experienced, and this caused her to lose the ability to eat or speak.

One of Jo's biker friends became a Christian and invited her to a healing meeting. At this meeting, Jo encountered Jesus for herself and handed her life over to Him.

She still retains the effects of her injuries – she is blind, deaf in one ear, and has problems with mobility, needing a walker to move around independently. Jo shared how she had been very angry but has received inner healing from having Jesus living in her. She had been unable to speak, but has received physical healing, which is how she was able to stand up and share her story with us. Because her speech is slurred, and she can't walk unaided, she is sometimes mistaken for being drunk.

The thing that came across most from Jo's talk was the joy she now experiences from having Christ in her life. Her radiance was visible to all, and she explained that though she had lost so much as a result of the accident, she could not put a price on the blessing of having found Jesus through it. Life isn't fair? Yes, Jo agreed that it isn't. But the hope and joy that she holds onto is that she has the whole of eternity to make up for it.

To hear more challenging stories from disabled speakers, why not book onto one of the upcoming 'Disability Inclusion In Our Churches' events? See here for details: <https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/events>