



St John's Methodist Church
Baker Street
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Registered Charity No 1130633

St John's News

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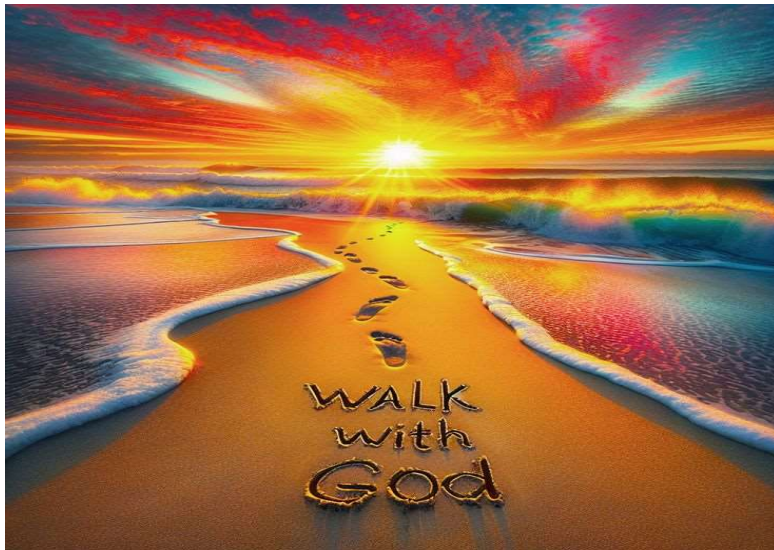
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JUNE 2026

From our Minister – Revd David Jebb

'Walking Together in Faith When the World Feels Unsteady'

As we enter the month of June, many of us are aware of how unsettled and unpredictable our world feels. The news changes by the hour, governments shift direction, and society often seems to stand on shaky ground. It would be easy to let anxiety take hold. Yet as followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to stand on a very different foundation.



The God we worship does not change. His faithfulness does not rise and fall with political seasons. His love does not depend on the stability of the world around us. His guidance is not shaken by uncertainty. In Christ, we find the One who is "the same yesterday and today and forever" (*Hebrews 13:8*) — our Lord, our Saviour, and our steady guide.

In times like these, the world needs people who carry hope. It needs communities who shine light. It needs disciples who live in such a way that others can see Christ's presence in them. Jesus said:

"You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (*Matthew 5:14-16*)

This is our calling. Not to hide. Not to fear. But to shine.

So, this month, I want to invite us as a church family to reflect deeply and journey together in discipleship. When the world feels uncertain, the call of Jesus becomes even clearer:

- **Keep seeking God's guidance.**
- **Keep walking in His ways.**
- **Keep trusting His leading for our church, our community, our town, and our world.**
- **Keep witnessing to Christ's light in both word and action.**

Copy deadline for next issue is Friday 26 June 2026

Articles in 'St John's News' contain personal opinions of contributors and may not reflect the opinions of the Editors, Minister or Members

Let June be a month where we:

- **Pray intentionally** for God's wisdom.
- **Listen attentively** for the Spirit's prompting in our daily lives.
- **Encourage one another** to stay rooted in Christ rather than in fear.
- **Look outward with compassion and mission** to the needs of Potters Bar and beyond.
- **Hold hope** for the world God loves and has not abandoned.
- **Live visibly as people of light**, so that others may see Christ shining through us.

We do not journey alone. We walk together as a community shaped by grace, strengthened by worship, and sent out in mission. And we walk with the One who leads us beside still waters, restores our souls, and lights our path. May this season draw us ever closer to Christ and closer to one another. May His light shine in us and through us, so that our lives bear witness to the unshakeable hope we have in Him — a hope no darkness can overcome.

Please remember that I am always here for you. If you ever need a conversation, a listening ear, or someone to pray with you, I am available. I deeply value making time for each of you. Do not hesitate to contact me — it is a privilege to walk this journey of faith alongside you.

With every blessing,

David Jebb

Revd Dr David Jebb, Minister of St John's Methodist Church

You can also see David's monthly blog on our website at www.stjohnspb.org.uk/ministers-blog

Services

Date	Time	Service	Preacher
Sunday 7 June	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 7 June	7pm	Café Worship	Revd Marcia Tull
Sunday 14 June	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd Alan Combes
Sunday 21 June	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 28 June	10.30am	Morning Worship (and Creative Church for families)	Dr George Woods
Sunday 5 July	11am	Service at Morven Guide HQ (see advert p11)	St John's Worship Team
Sunday 12 July	10.30am	Morning Service	Peter Wallace

All ages are welcome to our 10.30am services. Under 3s are welcome in church and in the adjoining crèche area at the back of the church. Other children are invited to Junior Johns in the Garden Room. More information from a Steward or Jackie Hart 07825 211657.

Our Preachers

Revd David Jebb is our Minister at St John's Methodist Church and Superintendent Minister of the St Albans & Welwyn Circuit, overseeing the work of nine churches and one Mission Project and one Methodist Centre. He has ministered in several circuits across England and brings a strong missional focus, valuing contemporary and formal worship styles and flexible approaches that help people encounter Christ and grow as disciples.

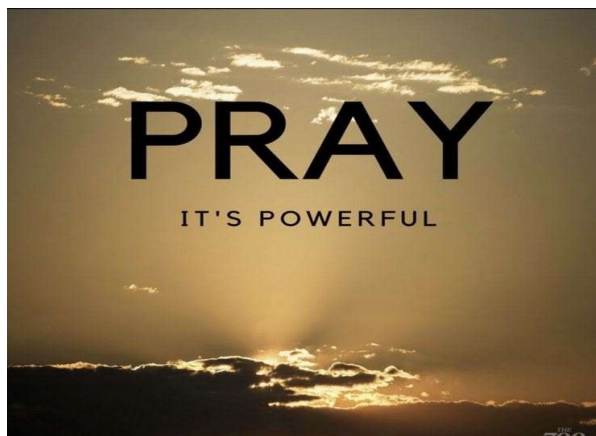
Revd Alan Combes is a former member of St John's who, after training as a minister, was appointed to the Enfield Circuit in 2013 and then to be Superintendent in the Vale of Stour in the West Midlands in 2019. Alan retired last year and, with his wife Michele, moved back to Potters Bar, where he continues to preach as a supernumerary minister in our circuit.

Dr George Woods has been a Local Preacher since 1998 in the Johannesburg East Circuit of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, before transferring to the St Albans and Welwyn Circuit. He has recently taken up the role of Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive Officer for the Diocese of Ely, where he also oversees safeguarding. He also lectures part-time for two universities.

Peter Wallace is a local preacher in the St Albans and Welwyn Circuit and was recently honoured for 40 years of service. He settled in St Albans (Hatfield Road) with his wife Ruth in 1998 and they have two daughters. Peter is a Chartered Electrical Engineer who began his career in industrial research before moving onto railway projects and consulting.

Revd Marcia Tull candidated for the ministry through the London District and, after two years of training, became a probationer minister. She was ordained at the Methodist Conference in Telford in 2024. Marcia has served in the Herts and Essex Border Circuit throughout her probation period and is now in her fourth year in the circuit, with pastoral oversight of Hoddesdon and Hertford Methodist Churches. She brings warmth, dedication, and a thoughtful pastoral presence to her ministry, and her commitment to the life and mission of the Church is greatly valued.

Saturday Morning Prayers



Our Saturday Morning Prayer gathering continues to grow from strength to strength. Each week, a faithful group meets on Zoom from **9:00am to 9:45am** to pray for our church, our country, our world, and for personal needs and concerns that people bring. It has become a precious time of stillness, encouragement, and spiritual strength.

Every Saturday, one of our leaders guides the first 15 minutes with a **song, a Bible reading, and a short reflection**, followed by open prayer. These prayers may be spoken aloud, offered in silence, sung, or expressed in whatever way God inspires. We have found this time to be deeply comforting and spiritually healthy; a reminder that

we are not alone in our stresses, illnesses, brokenness, or sadness. Prayer brings healing, wholeness, and hope. If you are able, **please do join us** on Saturday mornings at 9am via Zoom. The Zoom link will be circulated each Thursday by our Circuit Administrator, **Autumn Leung**, ahead of the coming Saturday. If you need a ZOOM link please do email: admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk

To the right is the list of our prayer leaders for June:

We are grateful to each person who leads, attends, and supports this ministry of prayer. Together, we continue to seek God's presence and guidance for our church, our community, and our world.

Date	Leader
6 June	Rosemary Mutopo
13 June	Revd David Jebb
20 June	Nigel Perrott
27 June	Calinah Reus

Care Homes Services

Cuffley Manor Care Home Service –Tuesday 2 June at 3pm

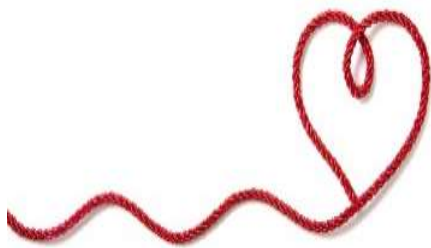
Our next Cuffley Manor Care Home Afternoon Service will be on Tuesday 2 June at 3pm. The service will be led by the Minister and a group of friends from St John's. We are currently having around 14–15 residents each month, along with one or two staff members and six of us from St John's. Please come and join us to support this outreach if you are able.

Thank you



St John's Family News

Let's Celebrate!



We were pleased to hear two pieces of good news from Helen and Peter Barlow, who are now living in St Ives, Cornwall. The first is the announcement of a new baby grandchild, expected at the beginning of July for their daughter Hannah and her husband Ryan – this will be a sibling to their twins Ruby and Henry. The second is the engagement of their younger daughter Rachel to her partner Adam. We wish both couples all the best for these exciting events.

Please Pray:



- ♥ It is with sadness we announce that Marion Weaver passed away on 12th May, shortly after her 97th birthday. Pray for daughter Jilly and son David and their families as they come to terms with the loss of their beloved mother/grandmother. Church members who knew Marion are welcome to attend a service to celebrate Marion's life, which will be held on Monday 8 June, 2pm at Oak Hill Crematorium, South Way, Hatfield, AL10 8HS.
- ♥ Michael Jones is now home from hospital. Pray that the operation will be successful and give Michael the life he should be living as a young person. Pray too for Marianne who is concerned and wants to see her son make a good recovery.
- ♥ Our thoughts are also with Barbara T as she worries about her sister Marian.
- ♥ You may also like to remember the following friends recorded in the Book of Remembrance who died in June in years gone by- Theo Parry; Ron Vessey; Ann Walters and Tony Havercroft

If you have items to include in future editions of Family News eg significant birthdays, anniversaries, achievements, or people you would like us to pray for, please contact.

Helen Strand - Pastoral Co-ordinator at hstrand@aol.com, or ring/text on 07821 786 170.

Isaiah 41:10 (GNB)

*Do not be afraid - I am with you! I am your God - let nothing terrify you!
I will make you strong and help you; I will protect and save you.*

Churches Together in Potters Bar (CTPB)

Prayer Breakfasts

Churches Together in Potters Bar invite you to join them at 8.30am on the first Saturday of each month as they pray for the Churches and Community of Potters Bar. Meetings last for approximately 45 minutes followed by breakfast.

The next two Prayer Breakfast will take place on:

- Saturday 6 June at St Giles Church, Blanche Lane, South Mimms, EN6 3PE
- Saturday 4 July at Christ Church Little Heath, Great North Road, EN6 1JN



Summer Holiday Club



Just a reminder that the CTPB Holiday Club for children in school years 1-6, entitled 'Shipwrecked' will take place on Monday 27 July to Friday 31 July at King Charles the Martyr Mutton Lane. There are still places available for children and the teen team volunteers (year 7-12).

For information about joining the Teen Team Volunteers (years 7-12) please see the [Holiday Club](https://www.ctpb.org.uk) page on the CTPB website - www.ctpb.org.uk

Book your child's place on:

<https://cclh.churchsuite.com/events/po7pz0mp>

Or scan the QR code on this page.



St John's Wayside Ofsted



The St John's Methodist Church Playgroups Board are delighted to finally be able to confirm that Wayside Playgroup, received a positive Ofsted report following their inspection at the beginning of March. They were inspected under the new Ofsted Inspection Criteria and attained an Expected rating in all categories apart from the area for Inclusion, where they achieved a well-deserved Strong rating!

Nikki, Keely, and all the leaders and staff at Wayside have worked so hard, especially in the last few years following the move to new premises at the Wayside Community Centre, and I am sure the members of St John's would like to join with the Board in thanking the staff for this achievement.

An Exciting New Opportunity: Mission Outreach Enabler for St John's & Shenley



St John's Methodist Church, Potters Bar, together with Shenley, is stepping boldly into a new chapter of mission and community engagement. We are delighted to announce a brand-new part-time role: **Mission Outreach Enabler**—a post created to help us deepen relationships, grow new connections, and share the good news of Jesus in ways that are practical, relational, and transformative.

Guided by our values of **compassion, inclusion, and hope**, the Mission Outreach Enabler will play a key role in strengthening our presence across Potters Bar and Shenley. The postholder will help us build meaningful connections with people of all ages, especially the many community groups who use our buildings each week.

Working closely with church members and leaders, they will help shape opportunities for spiritual exploration, discipleship, and community flourishing.

We are looking for someone with a **living Christian faith**, a heart for mission, and experience in community engagement or church-based outreach. Creativity, warmth, and a collaborative spirit will be essential as together we seek to see our communities with fresh eyes and respond with fresh hope. From coordinating social and educational events to supporting faith-sharing initiatives, this role will help nurture a vibrant, outward-looking church life.

The post is supported by strong commitments to safeguarding, partnership working, and effective communication including thoughtful use of digital platforms. With a supportive team, training opportunities, and a genuine desire to grow, St John's and Shenley offer a welcoming environment where the right person can make a real and lasting difference to bring people to Christ and to the church.

This is more than a job—it is an invitation to help shape the unfolding mission story of two communities, enabling lives to be transformed through faith, friendship, and service.

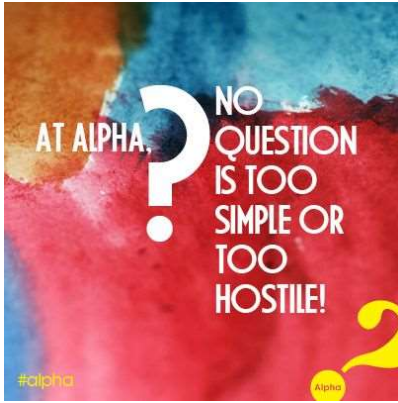
Applications are invited by Friday 3rd July. For application forms and the full information pack, please contact: **Autumn Leung, Circuit Administrator** [✉ admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk) [☎ 01727 854211](tel:01727854211)

Revd David Jebb

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

Alpha Course Update



We are delighted to share that the new Alpha Course launched beautifully on **25th April at 4pm**, beginning with a warm welcome and a lovely afternoon meal prepared by **Dick, Nico, and the team**, supported by a wonderful group of helpers and volunteers. Their hard work, hospitality, and commitment created a truly welcoming atmosphere for everyone who attended.

This time, we have also arranged a **crèche** so that parents can fully participate in the Alpha sessions while their children are safely cared for. This has been a great blessing, allowing families to engage more deeply in the course. Thank you Jackie H for coordinating this Creche duty rota, we are so grateful to you.

So far, **five sessions have been completed**, and we will continue through June and into part of July. As before, the course will conclude with a **Holy Spirit Day**, which last time proved to be a deeply meaningful and personal experience for many.

We are encouraged that **around 20 people** are taking part in this Alpha Course, including several new faces, two people exploring faith for the first time, and a number of our own church members who have chosen to attend again. Their presence has been a real encouragement, and their contributions have enriched our discussions.

It is a great honour to lead these sessions. Each time I teach, I find myself learning something new, being refreshed in my own faith, and renewing my commitment to Christ. Alpha continues to be a place where God works gently but powerfully in people's lives.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the whole church for your support, prayers, and encouragement. This Alpha Course is not just a programme — it is a pathway that helps people grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and, for some, a step toward becoming part of our church family. We are already beginning to plan the next stage for those who have joined us recently.

If you would like to help, offer ideas, or be part of the ongoing programme, **please do speak to me**. I am always happy to listen to your suggestions, your thoughts, and your prayers.

Thank you once again for being a church that welcomes, supports, and journeys with others in faith.

Every blessing, David

Discipleship and Membership Course

Are you thinking about becoming a member of **St John's Methodist Church**? Have you been worshipping with us for a while but never had the chance to explore what membership really means? Did you join us through **Alpha** and now feel ready to go deeper in faith? Or are you already a member who would enjoy a short, refreshing journey of Christian discipleship?

This autumn, **Revd David Jebb** will be leading a **four-week Discipleship & Membership Course**—a friendly, welcoming space to explore faith, Methodist identity, and what it means to belong fully to the life of St John's. Each session will last around an hour and will offer time for learning, conversation, and reflection.



If you are interested—or even just wondering whether this might be your next step—please let David know (email: djebb2003@gmail.com or Tel: 01707440863). Your expression of interest will help us shape the group and choose the best dates. We would love to walk with you as you take this meaningful step in faith and discipleship, and as you explore membership within the St John's family.

Shenley Methodist Church

Shenley Let's Play Baby & Toddler Group



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Shenley Parish Councillor Natalie Susman and Hertsmere Borough Council for generously awarding us a grant through the Ward Improvement Initiative Scheme.

This funding, which supports established community ventures, will greatly benefit both the Let's Play baby & toddler group and Messy Church.

Thanks to this support, we have been able to purchase a much-needed eco printer, balance beam, a messy play tray, pre-school educational resources, and even an insulated cafetière!

We are delighted that this grant recognises the value and importance of these activities within our local community, and enables us to continue serving local families. Heather Moire

Shenley Messy Church – Pentecost Praise



What a wonderful celebration we enjoyed together at our Pentecost Messy Church! There was plenty to keep everyone busy, with candles, streamers, dove and flame-shaped cookies, Pentecost play dough, wind rasher toys and dove keychains all helping us explore the story of Pentecost in creative ways.

A big thank you to Dick and Nico for organising our delicious "flame-grilled" food, perfectly fitting our Pentecost theme. It was a great time of fun, fellowship and worship as we celebrated receiving the Holy Spirit together.



ACTS 2: 1:4a When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. ²Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. ⁴They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

Shenley Plant Sale

Our annual Plant Sale attracted a full church of happy shoppers from across the village. Yvonne excelled this year with a wonderful array of lovingly home-grown plants, which were quickly snapped up as soon as the doors opened. Local craft stalls also added to the occasion.

The sunshine encouraged people to stay awhile and enjoy a chat over coffee, cream teas and delicious home-baked cakes. A huge thank you goes to the fantastic team whose hard work made the event possible and helped raise over **£940** for our church!



4th Potters Bar Scout Group



Jumbo Jumble Sale.

The 4th PB Scouts are delighted to announce that their Jumbo Jumble Sale held on Saturday 23 May raised the magnificent sum of **£1,500.65!**

This is the highest figure they have ever raised from a jumble sale and they would like to thank all those who helped, by donating, collecting, setting up, manning stalls, making refreshments, clearing away and, last but not least, purchasing items etc! It really was an amazing amount!

A Day of Fire, Language, and Legacy

St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit – Pentecost Praise Celebration Sunday 24 May 2026 · 4:00pm · Oxlease

Pentecost Sunday and Wesley Day rarely meet on the same date. When they do, something extraordinary happens. This year, on a radiant May afternoon, the St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit gathered at Oxlease for a Pentecost Praise Celebration that overflowed with joy, unity, and the unmistakable presence of the Holy Spirit.

The story of Pentecost was not only proclaimed it was embodied. Seven voices, seven languages, one Gospel. As Scripture was read aloud in a chorus of tongues, the congregation caught a glimpse of that first Spirit-filled morning in Jerusalem.



Then came a moment that will linger long in memory: the Lord's Prayer spoken together, each person in their own language. A tapestry of sound rose and fell diverse, beautiful, and deeply moving. It was the global Church in miniature, gathered in one room. From the opening bars, the combined band from Hatfield Road Methodist Church and St John's set the tone with vibrant, heartfelt worship. Their music carried the congregation into praise with energy and excellence. And then the rhythm shifted. Drums—played by

members of our own African fellowship—brought a pulse that stirred the room. Feet tapped, hands clapped, and smiles spread as the beat of Africa joined the song of Pentecost. It was worship that reached both heart and body.

Now in its third year, the Circuit's Pentecost celebration has become a cherished fixture in our shared life. This year's strong turnout showed just how deeply it is taking root. Our thanks go to Rosemary M., Daniel, and Joanna R., whose thoughtful planning and warm leadership shaped a service full of welcome and joy.

Midway through the celebration, the atmosphere shifted to one of reverent gratitude. A hush fell as Peter Wallace, one of our much-loved local preachers, was honoured for 40 years of preaching ministry. He received a certificate signed by the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference—an affirmation of decades spent proclaiming Christ with faithfulness and grace. The presentation, made by Superintendent Minister Revd David Jebb, was met with heartfelt applause and more than a few tears.



No Oxlease gathering is complete without its legendary hospitality. After worship, the congregation shared a delicious, cooked tea—prepared with the warmth and generosity for which the Oxlease catering team is rightly known. Laughter, conversation, and the joy of simply being together filled the hall.

This Pentecost Praise Celebration was more than an event. It was a Spirit-soaked reminder of who we are: a people shaped by fire, by language, by heritage, and by hope. A Methodist family rooted in the Gospel and alive to the Spirit's leading.



And the story continues. In September, we will gather again to celebrate another remarkable milestone—60 years of preaching ministry from one of our own.

Come, Holy Spirit. And come again in September.

Dates for you Diary

Potters Bar Carnival at Elm Court Sunday 14 June 1-5pm

St John's organises a stall with cakes, games and crafts at the Carnival.

We can still use some help in setting up in the morning and then running the stall in the afternoon.

Please speak to Sally Gunning or Margaret Rhodes if you can help.

It really is a great opportunity for outreach into our local community!

Church Service and Picnic at Morven Guide – Sunday 5 July 11-3pm

Please bring a chair or blanket and a picnic for a fellowship lunch after an informal worship service.

Hot and cold drinks will be provided.

Morven has a large, enclosed grounds and an indoor shelter, so the weather will not deter us!



Biblical Plant Quiz

Over 100 plants and herbs are mentioned in the bible. **Can you name the ones pictured below?** Top marks if you also know where in the bible they are featured! (see bottom of the page for bible references)



REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	10am – 11.45am	Jumping Johns Toddlers	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
	10am – 12pm	Can We Fix It Group	Roger Croughton 01707 650438
	10.30am – 11.30am	Vestry Hour	Revd Dr David Jebb 01707 440863
	8pm – 10pm	Badminton	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Tuesdays	11am – 3pm	Welcome Space	Barbara Thompson 01707 665621
Wednesdays	2.30pm – 4.30pm	Strafford Gate House Group <i>(Usually 3rd Wednesday in the month)</i>	David Carter 07709 284852
	6.30pm - 8pm	Cubs	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
	7.45pm – 9pm	Bible Study in Clifton Room <i>(Fortnightly)</i>	Lesley Humphreys 07961 347152
Thursdays	7pm – 8.30pm	Scouts	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
Fridays	10.30am – 12pm	Morning Coffee in Clifton Room <i>(1st and 3rd Fridays in the month)</i>	
	10.30am	Byng Drive House Group <i>(Fortnightly)</i>	Dawn Fenner 07969 924346
	6.15pm – 7.15pm	Beavers	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
Saturdays	9am– 9.45am	Let's Pray Together (by Zoom)	Revd Dr David Jebb 01707 440863

Plant Quiz Bible References -Clockwise from top left: Lily-Song of Solomon 2:1; Mint - Matthew 23:23; Olive-Judges 9:9; Almond-Genesis 43:11; Willow-Psalms 137:2; Lotus-Job 40:21-22

Copies of next month's SJ News will be a joint edition for July and August and will be available in Church on the slightly later date of Sunday 5 July 2026!