

16 March 2025



Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church

rwbmc.co.uk

Minister - Rev. Shirlyn Toppin - Tel. 01793 853197

Lectionary - Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17 – 4:1; Luke 13:31-35.

Prayer Rota - Wood Street in RWB; Purton Methodist Church in our Circuit; Darlington District; Malaysia Methodist Church.

Please pray for the week's activities and those taking part:

Monday 17 March	7.30pm - Bible Study in Church - Revelation Chapter 5
Tuesday 18 March	10.00am - Tuesday Morning Pop-In & Light Lunch 7.30pm - Stewards' Meeting
Wednesday 19 March	2.15pm - Friendship Group - 'Pointless Puddings', with St. Bart's Ladies Guild
Friday 21 March	10.00am - Puddleducks
Sunday 23 March (3rd Sunday in Lent)	10.30am - Worship Service, including Holy Communion, led by Rev Shirlyn Toppin

We would like to thank you for your prayers and concerns over the recent weeks. Barbara has now returned home from hospital to recuperate and recover. She has a long way to go yet so your continued prayers will be greatly appreciated. *Barbara & Don*

Church Work Day - Saturday 29 March from 9.30am

Following the success of the Autumn Work Day, we will be holding another to have a good spring clean and tidy up. We are looking specifically for a small team of people to paint the Wesley Room please. There will be many other jobs, both big and small, that will need doing, suitable for all ages and abilities. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet in Hillside Hall or let Karen Dixon know if you are able to come and help. rwbmcpfteam@gmail.com

Here is the latest in our occasional series about groups in our Church:

Pop-In 2025

About 25yrs ago Open Door started as a coffee morning on a Tuesday as lunches were held in Hillside Hall. This was run by Margot T and Ann C. Margot took over as leader with the help of a few volunteers, and we added in tabletop & cake sales. In late 2021 Bev became leader assisted by Lois, Margaret and a growing number of kind volunteers who give up their precious time to make it the success it has become. By this time the name had changed to Pop-In. When the cost-of-living crisis first became apparent in early 2023 Wiltshire Council were asking for Warm Spaces to be set up in towns and villages across the County. So we started to offer soup & rolls as well as coffee, and made it known to people in the community that RWBMC is open for anyone who needs a warm space for a few hours on a Tuesday. When Spring came folk wanted it to continue so we changed the menu and this is how Tuesday Pop-In is today.

We start at 10am and offer coffee & biscuits and lots of chat followed by lunch at 12pm. Some folk come just for coffee, others lunch and some stay all morning, we have up to 30 for lunch. Whatever you choose, a warm welcome is given.

Over the last couple of years we have had Christmas parties, hot cross buns, pancakes, Jubilee & Coronation Celebrations & cream teas. At our Christmas Party this year we had the pleasure of a visit from Longleaze Pre School who sang Christmas songs for us & stayed for drinks and biscuits. We also had a Christmas jumper/hat competition and a lovely buffet. It was great fun.

There is no charge for lunch, we are grateful for donations to cover the cost of food, and anything left goes back to local groups in our community. For example, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, The Rise Trust, RWB Primary schools for library books, Foodbank, Messy Church, Filling Station, Longleaze Pre School, Allsorts Nursery, GWH, Vale View Community Garden & RWBMC have all received a donation from RWBMC Pop-In.

A huge thankyou goes out to our volunteer helpers without whom we couldn't manage. If you have a few hours free even once a month or if you have or would be interested in getting your Food Hygiene Certificate (which would enable you to help in the kitchen), please contact Bev.

We would love to see more of you, please "pop-in" on a Tuesday, bring a friend, enjoy a coffee or, better still, stay for lunch. 😊 xx

Bev, Lois, Margaret

If you have an item, please contact Mary on notices@rwbmc.co.uk by the preceding Tuesday evening