



St. Paul's, Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

Transforming lives and communities
Knowing Jesus and making Him known



SERVICES - Sunday 1st October 2023
17th Sunday after Trinity

St. Paul's

10.30am	United Holy Communion / All Age	Rev Trudie Wigley & Neil Marshall
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St Tim's

	No Service	
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Please pray for our clergy as they minister to our wider Church family today 1st October. Stephen is at Stratton supporting the wider Circuit.

Welcome to the Dorcan Church.
If you are new, we would love to get to know you better.
Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.

SERVICES - Sunday 8th October 2023 18th Sunday after Trinity		
St Paul's		
08.45am	Holy Communion	Rev Trudie Wigley
10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev Trudie Wigley
St Tim's		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev Stuart Fisher

Please pray for our clergy as they minister to our wider Church family today 8th October. Alex is at St. Andrews supporting the wider Circuit.

What's On This Week

Monday 2nd October	Time	Event
St Tim's	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Knit and Chat
Tuesday 3rd October	Time	Event
St Tim's	09.00am - 11.30am	CID's Café Too
St Paul's	10.00am - 12.00pm	CID's Coffee Morning
St Tim's	2.00pm - 3.15pm	Prayer Group
St Paul's	7.45pm - 9.45pm	Bible Study & Prayer Group
Wednesday 4th October	Time	Event
St Paul's	10.00am - 11.00am	Morning Prayers
St Paul's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Tiny Tots
St Tim's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Tiny Tots
St Paul's	6.00pm - 7.30pm	Blaze for School Year 2 – 6
St Paul's	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Youth Club for School year 7+

What's On This Week (Continued)

Thursday 5th October	Time	Event
	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Funeral of Late Lillian Keany
Friday 6th October	Time	Event
St Tim's	10.00am - 12.00pm	Food Collective - Paul

Dates for your Diary

As at 1st October 2023

Sunday 1st October—Shared lunch @ St Pauls after United Service .— **POSTPONED**

Monday 16th October - Quiet Day @ St Mary's, Old Town

Time: 10.00am - 3.30pm

Tuesday 17th October - Congregational Gathering @ St Tim's starting at 7.00pm

Sunday 22nd October Prayer breakfast and reflection @ St Paul's

Time: 8.00am - 9.45am

Quiz Nite

Friday 3rd November @ St Paul's Church

7.00pm - 9.30pm

Dates for your Diary—Continued

Shoe box Appeal

Saturday 4th November Shoe boxes to be handed in, in the car park at St Paul's

Time: 10.00am until 1.00pm and again from 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Season of Creation – from 1st September to 4th October

Over the past few years, an increasing number of churches have included a “Season of Creation” in their yearly calendar. This is a time to focus on the importance of creation and the need to explore what Scripture is saying, leading all Christians to pray for and act to protect creation.

We are facing a global challenge of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and our common home is under threat. This year, here at Dorcan, we will be joining this ecumenical global movement and it is an important part of our journey to become an ECO church. On the 5 Sundays between 1st September and 4th October, we will therefore be looking at the theme of creation - in some services there will be a significant focus on the theme, and in others we will be remembering our commitment to creation care in the intercessions.

We start on Sunday 3rd September at our united service and finish on Sunday 1st October, again at a united service, where we are all invited to a shared lunch and to support our Toilet Twinning project. Our prayer is that we will not only learn more in this creation season, but will also look how we personally, and as a church, might respond to the global challenges that we are facing.

Ongoing engagement exploring our future Ecumenical legal structure.

You will be aware that Methodist Circuit Superintendent Revd. David Gray and Archdeacon Venerable Christopher Bryan came to a meeting in August to help us think about whether the current structure of Dorcan as a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership is still 'fit for purpose' and an aid to us in our witness and mission to the communities around us. They also shared with us the current thinking and position of the wider denominations, Methodist and Anglican. Slides from that meeting were circulated and it should be stressed that we are considering the formal legal structure of Dorcan as a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership and not the ecumenical essence, ethos and culture of Dorcan as a diverse congregation which includes and is welcoming to those of many traditions.

Thank you for the comments and correspondence we have received to date, and these will be shared at ECC next week. We are currently putting together a summary paper that will outline understanding so far, incorporating some "Frequently Asked Questions". We hope to circulate this as soon as we are able after the upcoming ECC meeting. In the meantime, we would like to invite you to the following opportunities to come together as a church:

**Quiet Day - Monday 16th October at St Mary's, Old Town,
10.00am - 3.30pm**

We are all invited to a quiet day of reflection and prayer led by Revd. Moira Slack. This will be a chance to be together in worship and God's presence as we reflect on our calling as the body of Christ.

**Please bring your own packed lunch, and tea and coffee will be provided. It would be helpful to get a rough idea of numbers, so please do pop your name on the signup sheet in both centres.
Thank you**

Ongoing engagement (continued)

Congregational Gathering - Tuesday 17th October 7pm at St Timothy's.

This is an opportunity for the whole church family to gather and continue sharing thoughts and ideas on how we might structure ourselves while preserving our valued and special ecumenical essence. The Methodist Superintendent and Archdeacon will not be attending – this is a gathering just for us to be able to freely share.

Prayer breakfast – Sunday 22nd October at St Paul's, 8am-09.45am.

This is another opportunity to come together for reflection and prayer, using the resources offered at the quiet day earlier in the week. If you can help with catering and set up please let Nathalie or another member of the staff and wardens team know.

We do hope that you will be able to engage with some of these opportunities and in the meantime please continue to pray and think about this, individually and with others, and let Trudie and Stephen know of any further thoughts and reflections you have. Again, we thank you for all that you do to help make Dorcan the church that it is as we seek to share God's love with the communities where we live.

Harvest Offering – Thank you!

What an amazing harvest offering last week – thank you everyone! The gifts – both the food and financial giving – have been well received, and the fruit included within the fresh produce at Women's Aid was met with excitement by the children. Thank you Dorcan church for your generosity at such a difficult time for so many people.
Trudie

**Shared Lunch
Season of Creation
Toilet Twinning???**
Sunday 1st October 2023

Join us for a shared lunch after our United Sunday Service to celebrate the end of the Season of Creation and to raise some money to start twinning our toilets.

Everyone is very welcome to come and celebrate with us and if able to bring food to share. There will be sign up lists at St Tim's and St Paul's to help ensure we don't all bring quiche.

The other day I had a guided tour of the railway village. What I had not realised was that those houses were built without bathrooms, and it was not until the 1960s that the council-built bathrooms for them. That is still in living memory for some of us or of our parents and grandparents. Sadly, in many parts of the world people still do not have access to a hygienic public toilet let alone one in their own homes. You can imagine all the issues this causes.

Part of our commitment in the Season of Creation is to our global community. One way Eco Church encourages us to take this seriously is to help people have access to good quality sanitation.

Toilet twinning is a scheme run by Tear fund to encourage us to donate and help the building of a toilet for every toilet we have in St Tim's and St Paul's.

A donation of £60 twins one of our toilets. At our shared lunch it would be great to raise enough to twin a toilet in each centre.

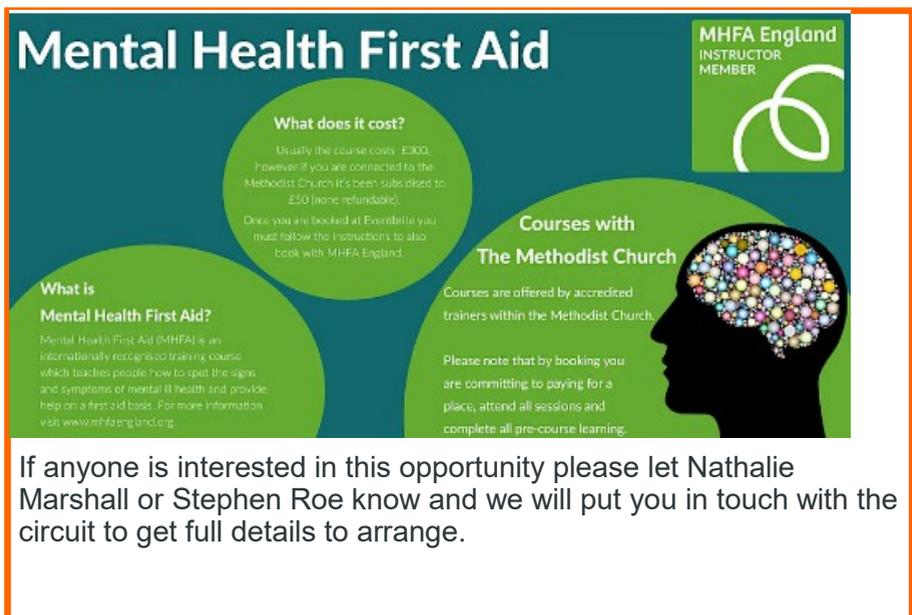
If we succeed, we get a certificate with a picture of the loo it is twinned with and their GPS coordinates.

You can visit <https://toilettwinning.org/> to find out more

This event has been postponed

2024 Budget

The Finance team will be meeting on Thursday 5th and Thursday 12th October to draw up the first draft of the 2024 Budget. If there are items that you are wanting the Church to spend money on during 2024, then please email details either to Tony (treasurer@dorcanchurch.org.uk) or to me (pmulcock1@gmail.com) by Tuesday 10th October, and we will consider if we are able to include them. Thanks.
Pete Mulcock



Mental Health First Aid

MHFA England
INSTRUCTOR
MEMBER

What does it cost?
Usually the course costs £300. However if you are connected to the Methodist Church it's been subsidised to £20 (none refundable).
Once you are booked at Eventbrite you must follow the instructions to also book with MHFA England.

What is Mental Health First Aid?
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is an internationally recognised training course which teaches people how to spot the signs and symptoms of mental ill health and provide help on a first aid basis. For more information visit www.mhfaengland.org.

Courses with The Methodist Church
Courses are offered by accredited trainers within the Methodist Church.
Please note that by booking you are committing to paying for a place, attend all sessions and complete all pre-course learning.

If anyone is interested in this opportunity please let Nathalie Marshall or Stephen Roe know and we will put you in touch with the circuit to get full details to arrange.

Mission Possible

Just a quick message to say that (as you know) Scripture Union are organising a nationwide tour this autumn called *Mission Possible* and one venue will be Sheldon Road Church. Here is a description of the tour and the link, should you wish to book yourself in. Please feel free to forward this on to anyone who may be interested.

Whether you're a volunteer, an employed children's and youth worker, a church leader, or anyone else passionate about reaching the 95% of young people who are not in church, come and talk with your local Scripture Union team and take the time to discover how together, we can make mission possible in your context.

This is a nationwide tour but for people in Wiltshire, the place to go is **Sheldon Road Church, Chippenham at 7.15pm on Thursday 9th November**. For more information and to book your place click on the following link. <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/mission-possible-tour>

Church Garden Green waste

We have over the summer been carrying out extensive pruning, on the trees and bushes in garden at St Pauls, which has generated a lot of branches, etc. to dispose of.

We are gradually whittling it down, if you have a Household Green Waste Bin, with space in it, or have a slot booked at the Tip, and have room in your vehicle, could you help us to reduce the HEAP, further. Offers of Help packing bins and bags with above would also be welcome. Please speak to me if you would like to help.
Many thanks

John Davidson

For 'Link to Hope' Shoebox appeal

We ask people to join in with our Shoebox Appeal 2023 and fill a Shoebox for a family – not just a child. The leaflet contains items for all family members and includes different items. These range from shower gel/shampoo, family games, stationary items, gift for mum and dad as well as sweets, soft toys, hats, scarves etc. Your shoeboxes will go to the poorest people in Ukraine, Moldova, Bulgaria and Romania.

There are shoebox leaflets at both churches. Your completed shoeboxes will need to be given in, approx.in 9 weeks' time on Saturday 4th November in the car park at St Paul's on from 10.00am until 13.00pm, and again from 14.00pm until 16.00pm for a blessing on Sunday 5th November.

The £3.00 for each shoebox, if it is in coins, please do not tape them to the form. Give me the money separate. If you can, it will save me a lot of time and effort. £ notes can be handed to me. Cheques can be made payable to The Dorcan church.

Thank you. For all you support, especially at this present time.

Many thanks.
Paul.

Swindon Food collective

Please note that they currently have plentiful supplies of cereal, pasta, tinned soup and baked beans. This year they are asking for a mixture of food items and household goods/toiletries and list the following in particular: Cleaning cloths/anti bac wipes, household cleaners, laundry pods/power/liquid/conditioner, Wash & Go 2in1 Shampoo/Conditioner, Deodorant (male & female), toothpaste & toothbrushes, toilet rolls, toiletries (male & female), biscuits, tinned fruit, small jars of coffee, tinned potatoes; tinned meat; tinned puddings; small bags of sugar; biscuits.



Answers to last week's quiz

Quiz Questions—Letter G

1. Gadget- what is the name for the two-wheel self-balancing electrical vehicle. = **Segway**
2. Galaxy – which city's football team is nicknamed galaxy. = **Los Angeles**
3. Games – how much is the J worth in scrabble. = **8**
4. Garden – the Luxembourg garden is in which city. = **Paris**
5. Gary Oldman – which character did Gary Oldman play in Batman film **Commissioner Gordon**

This week's quiz

Food and Drink

1. In which country did the bagel originate
2. Which meat is the most consumed in the world
3. The brandy named Metaxa comes from which country
4. What is the name of the dark, slightly sweet German rye bread traditionally made with sourdough starter and coarsely ground rye.
5. A macaroon is typically made with coconut and which other nut
Good luck

ECO Tip

Do you really need a new computer, laptop or phone? Manufacturing new goods has a high environmental cost. A new laptop has a carbon footprint of 200kg and a high end desk top 800kg CO₂e.

NOTICES

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent by **Tuesday 3rd October 2023**

to notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk

Thank you.

These notices are also available on-line at

www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/latest_notices

Previous editions are also available at:

[Dorcan Church Weekly Notices](#)



You will have noticed we no longer pass the offering basket round.

Scan this QR code with your mobile phone to make your offering.

Tony Prichard and the Finance Sub Committee