



Hinckley
**UNITED
REFORMED
CHURCH**

Contact *April 2024*

WELCOME to the April edition of CONTACT, the newsletter for those involved the life of the Hinckley United Reformed (“The Borough”) Church. In this edition we celebrate Easter, the highlight of the Christian calendar, and the tradition of new beginnings. This is particularly evident in the freshening of new community projects in the life of the church. Even our flowerbeds are joining in the act (pictured), as they bloom with new life after the winter’s gloom.



I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

What a performance!

After Easter sees an exciting new partnership and more people involved in the life of the church. We will be partnering with a local project helping young people in our community. Grays Drama Academy is a Community Interest Company offering free performing arts classes to children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Children who qualify for benefits related school meals are given the opportunity to take acting and singing lessons at no cost to parents, in turn improving the mental health of young people in our community.

GDA director, Joanne Copeman (highly qualified & experienced drama teacher) said, *“Working in partnership with URC, (Hinckley United Reformed Church)”...*

“Grays Drama Academy welcomes the opportunity to give children, a safe, happy space and environment, to interact and perform, along with promoting live shows whilst encouraging families to engage with the church as a community”.

We welcome GDA into the life of the church & can’t wait to see them in action.



We have been through Lent a time of reflecting on our lives and relationships with others and God. I hope we have given ourselves the space and time to do so and hopefully change course on some area or increase pace in some areas too. During this lent period, I have felt the prompt to reflect on relationships and found that to be helpful to my home life and work.

Good Friday reminds of the suffering Messiah on the cross, the agony His followers, family and Himself went through. The disciples were scattered as a result of the Good Friday experience. There were a few that were with Jesus in His final moments but many were too scared to be nearby. It must have been difficult for the disciples to see and hear of their Master's death. Jesus had however, talked to the disciples about His death but they struggled to grasp what He was on about. Peter even rebuked Jesus for talking about His suffering. The words that Jesus uttered on the cross "it is finished" (John 19:30) are significant to His work of standing on our place to give His life to death for our lives. We live because He died, we are because He was no more.

Saturday must have been a dark day for the disciples but on the other side of the coin the Roman empire felt their power had silenced the troublemaker and quashed the threat with disciples scattered and scared and probably hopeless. Jesus had challenged the Jews to "destroy this temple and would build it in three days" (John 2:19).

Christianity is anchored on the saviour and founder who rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven in a body that could be touched (John 20:27-31), seen(v24) but could go into the house through locked door(v19).

We know that Jesus suffered and died for our sins and understands what it means to go through suffering and walks with us in all our joys and sufferings. It is vital for us to know that Jesus rose from the dead and we shall rise from the dead because we believe in Him. Jesus ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of His Father praying for us (Romans 8:23). We are never on our own although it may feel like that, we serve a Redeemer who is Risen Halleluiah.

Happy Easter to you all in the name of Christ who died, was buried, raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit and ascended into the presence of His Father.

Uniformed Groups



Sunday 3rd March saw us recognise WORLD THINKING DAY and celebrate the uniform groups (Rainbows, Brownies & Guides) involved in the life of our church. World Thinking Day is celebrated annually on by all Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world. It's a day when they think about their "sisters" (and "brothers") in all countries, reflect on the meaning of Guiding, and consider its global impact.

We showed our appreciation of the wonderful work of the leaders and the positive impact of the movement.

**THE
VINE**

**Christian Book &
Coffee Shop
(Jessica Harrison)**

Thank you to everyone who has been bringing in their donations of second hand books (of all varieties!). They are greatly appreciated and are helping us get some much needed extra revenue. Please keep them coming in and do let your friends know as well!

Another way you can help us is to become a Friend of The Vine.

Friends are people who are passionate about The Vine and are keen to help its ministry continue in Hinckley. They donate a monthly amount of at least £5.00 by standing order. In return they receive (along with our sincere gratitude) a news-letter each month plus two vouchers for free drinks and a 10% off voucher to spend on gifts and books in The Vine (excluding fair-trade goods). We have leaflets on the counter that tell you more or please speak to the manager if you are interested.

SUNDAY WORSHIP (10:45am unless stated)

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|------------------------|--|
| 31 st March | Rev Andrew Mudharara (<i>Easter Day</i>) |
| 7 th April | Rev Lesley Moseley |
| 14 th April | Tim Lea |
| 21 st April | April Rev Daniel Cheyne (including Holy Communion) |
| 28 th April | Rae Morrall |
| 5 th May | Rev George Lea |

PRAYER VISIT TO HINCKLEY

Richard Knott, Childrens & Youth Development Officer for the United Reformed Church East Midlands Synod, will be visiting our church on Thursday 18th April 5:40pm (until 6:20pm) for a time of prayer for children & young people in the life of our church and the surrounding community. All welcome.



THE PERFECT CHURCH

If you should find the perfect church
Without one fault or smear,
For goodness sake don't join that
church
You'd spoil the atmosphere.

If you should find the perfect church
Where all anxieties cease,
Then pass it by, lest joining it
You spoil the masterpiece.

If you should find the perfect church.
Then don't you ever dare
To tread upon such holy ground,
You'd be a misfit there.

But since no perfect church exists,
Made up of perfect men,
Let's cease on looking for that church,
And love the one we're in.

Of course it's not the perfect church,
That's simple to discern,
But you and I and all of us
Could cause the tide to turn.

What fools we are to flee the past,
In that unfruitful search
To find, at last, where problems loom
God proudly builds His church.

CHURCH RAMBLE (Tony Thomas)

Nine of us ventured out on a ramble round Sence Valley in March. It was a beautiful day - the sun was shining, it was quite mild and the cormorants were sunning themselves on their perches. We had not had time to reconnoitre the route beforehand so, having got half way round, came across a pool blocking the path. We all managed to navigate this but after another 100 yards came across a much deeper pool.



Brave Carole took the plunge (not quite) and crossed safely but others were not so keen and returned via a different route. Karen (in wellingtons), Turi and I kept Carole company until we met with the main group again. After the walk we all retired to the Sunnyside Garden Centre for lunch.

Next month's walk is on Tuesday 16th April. Please see the weekly notices for the venue.

Loaded (Youth Ministry)



SIX exciting steps in the churches' commitment to young people in our community.

1) We hosted a Sunday service for the Rainbows, Brownies & Guides for their World Thinking Day (featured earlier).

2) Our outreach worker, Paul Wake, took part in a pilot weekend residential Youth course (Youthscape Essentials) with others from the URC East Midlands Synod & members of the Church of England (Leicester diocese).

3) "Coach" Wake has also been speaking in the ethics classes in one of our local high schools. Nothing like Yr9s to ask the best challenging questions!

4) Our exciting partnership starts with Grays Drama Academy after the Easter break (featured earlier).

5) The local youth team (Nuneaton Jaguars), where "Coach" Wake serves as Team Chaplain, start their season this month and will be visiting Hinckley town centre during the St George's Day celebrations (20th April).

6) "Coach" Wake will be away the first part of April as he visits and speaks with coaches, faculty staff and student-athletes at Carson Newman Christian University in Tennessee to discuss visiting student-coaches flying to the UK to work with young people in our community.



LOADED (Youth Ministry) email community@hinckleyurc.org.uk or call 07591 527942.

Family



STAY & PLAY / SPARKLERS / SPROUTS

Experienced children's worker, Rachel, heads up our children's team. We run a very welcoming and friendly group for children under 5yrs with their parent/guardian on Mondays.

This group is ideal for all parents, grandparents and guardians. Our Wednesday group is more focused on supporting children with childminders. Activities at both groups include play time with a selection of toys, books & games. Also refreshments and some interactive singing.

Our Sprouts group happens during our church service on Sunday with opportunities for children to learn and grow in a fun & safe environment.



We see the organ every time we enter church, but what do we know about this majestic instrument? Church organist, David Crick, tells us of the history of it & an event to look forward to in May

The Hinckley URC organ was built by the London organ builder, G M Holdich, to the design of the influential Dr Henry J Gauntlett, in 1867. It was originally built for Union Chapel, Islington. The Borough Congregational Church, Hinckley (as the church was then known) purchased the instrument in 1878 and it was installed by Holdich himself, in the gallery. In 1903 Nicholson & Lord of Walsall moved the organ to the front of the church. Some minor tonal modifications were made at this time. In 1998 the organ was awarded an Historic Organ Certificate by the British Institute of Organ Studies.

The organ has been described as a "remarkable survivor". Most of the original Holdich pipework survives, as does much of the original mechanism. It is thought to be the largest surviving example of Holdich's work in the country. It is one of only two large Gauntlett-inspired organs to survive. The organ was fully restored in 2006-07 and the inaugural recital on the restored instrument was given by Dame Gillian Weir on 9th June 2007.



On Saturday May 18th at 3.00pm there will be a recital on our organ given by David Saint who is Director of Music at St Chad's RC Cathedral, Birmingham. David grew up in Jarrow, in the north east of England. He held his first organist post when he was 13, and his second at the age of 15. By this time he was also taking organ lessons, and when he went to university David had the Associated Board Grade 8 Gold Medal and was an Associate of the Royal College of Organists. David's tertiary musical training was at Hull University where he read Music and was Organ Scholar, and Liverpool University where he gained a postgraduate degree. He won the Turpin Prize for FRCO and was the first ever Organ Scholar at Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral. Whilst at university, he studied the organ with Alan Spedding and Dame Gillian Weir.

David was appointed Organist and Director of Music at St Chad's in 1978. He was behind the decision to commission a new organ there from JW Walker and directs the Cathedral's professional choir. David was also a member of the fulltime staff at Birmingham Conservatoire for over 30 years, towards the end of which he was awarded a professorship, appointed Vice Principal (2008), Acting Principal (2010) and Principal (2012). He retired from the last role in 2015.

David remains busy as an organ recitalist and has played in venues in the UK, Europe and the USA, including Symphony Hall and Town Hall Birmingham, Ålands Organ Festival (Finland), Sorø Monastery (Denmark), Notre-Dame Paris, Vilnius, the Edinburgh Festival, Blois Cathedral, Münster Lambertikirche, Frankfurt Cathedral, and at both the Sankt Wendel Festival and the Orgelfestival Völklingen-Forbach in the Saarland. He has also performed with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, appearing at the BBC Proms and the Aldeburgh Festival

Organ Recital

Saturday 18th May 3pm

ADMISSION: Adults - £5;
Under 18s / students - Free

Contacts & Social Media

HINCKLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
The Borough | Hinckley | Leicestershire | LE10 1NL



01455 637518



www.hinckleyurc.org.uk



Hinckley United Reformed Church "The Borough Church"



[hinckley_urc](https://www.instagram.com/hinckley_urc)

| ROLE | CONTACT | TELEPHONE | EMAIL |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| MINISTER | Rev Andrew Mudharara | 01455 634398 / 07725 747936 | revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk |
| FAMILY | Rachel Cobb | 07930 628011 | repoclehar@hotmail.com |
| OUTREACH & COMMUNITY | Paul Wake | 07591 527942 | community@hinckleyurc.org.uk |
| SAFEGUARDING | Chris Sharrock | - | chris.sharrock@ntl.world |



Music | Prayer Trail | Activities | Craft
Everard Meadows, Leicester

Bring a picnic & meet people from other churches across
the East Midlands Synod.

What's On

- MONDAYS** **STAY & PLAY** | Children's Playgroup
Welcome to all with children 5yrs & under
10am-noon (side entrance). Term-time only.
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRE | Help &
support with practising English for speakers of other
languages. noon—2pm (side entrance)
- WEDNESDAYS** **SPARKLERS** | Children's Playgroup (5yrs & below)
Group primarily for childminders with 5yrs & under
9:30-11:30am (side entrance). Term-time only.
WEDNESDAY @ONE | ecumenical service for all
1pm-1:30pm (front entrance)
- THURSDAYS** **DROP-IN** Chat & Coffee/Tea. All welcome
2-4pm (front entrance)
- FRIDAYS** **PRAYER GROUP** | All welcome
10-11am (front entrance)
- SUNDAYS** **SERVICE** | All welcome. Children's group.
10:45am-noon (front entrance)

MONTHLY PRAYER WALK | All welcome

Friday 26th April 9am at the top of Castle Street,
Hinckley. Ending at the church @9:45am.

- HOUSEGROUP** (CRICK) next meeting Weds 10th April 7.30pm at the Crick's
continuing our study of 1 Thessalonians.
(COBB) Term time only. Please contact Rob C.
Anyone not in a Housegroup and would like to, please
contact David C or Rob C.

Easter Services

31st Mar 9am | Easter Sunday Breakfast Communion | Rev Lesley Moseley

31st Mar 10:45am | Easter Sunday | Rev Andrew Mudharara

Wednesday @One Services

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| April 3 | No Service | |
| April 10 | Rev Malcolm Clarke | Hinckley Baptist |
| April 17 | Fr. Frank Daly | St. Peter's, Hinckley |
| April 24 | Rev. Tom Brown | St. John's, Hinckley |
| May 1 | Mr. Paul Wake | Hinckley United Reformed Church |