

Hello all, if you have any news or events that you would like mentioned in the next issue of the newsletter, please let me know by **midday on 28<sup>th</sup> February**. Thank you!

As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has ended, let's not forget to continue to encourage each other in our ecumenical walk. If anyone has any testimonies or reflections from this week that they would like to share, please let me know.

### **Churches/Christians Together Groups and Events**

#### **Churches Together in Weobley**

##### Weobley Churches Together needs a *Holiday Club Coordinator*

Churches Together in Weobley is an ecumenical body made up of representatives from the Anglican, Methodist and Catholic churches in Weobley village. Over the past two years we have been running a holiday club for primary school age children in Weobley Parish Church three times per year (Easter, summer and Harvest) for 2 or 3 days. We currently have a vacancy for someone to lead our holiday club, which operates in the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Weobley.

The person we are looking for must be a Christian and in agreement with the vision and ethos of Churches Together in Weobley, have a loving heart for children and their families, and exercise skills for dealing with differences in

learning approaches and personality. They need to have a tolerance of world views different to their own. Previous relevant experience of working with children and families is essential.

The position involves:

- engagement with the hosting church, lay volunteers and families involved in the holiday clubs
- meeting with the Rector of Weobley parish church to prepare ideas, activities and materials for the holiday club
- assisting with necessary registrations and paperwork prior to each club and handling parent enquiries
- providing a supportive, caring, stimulating and safe environment for the duration of each club

If you are interested in the role, please contact the Rector of the Weobley and Staunton Benefice, Rev'd Philip Harvey for further information [rector@weobleyandstaunton.org](mailto:rector@weobleyandstaunton.org)

The deadline for the submission of applications is 31<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **Churches Together in Leominster**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025– Churches Together in Leominster

Report by Clare Cathcart (Secretary)

“We held a short event each day of the octave, with each church hosting and running an event. This covered six of the days. On one of the other two days we held a Town Centre Prayer Walk, sporting our new hi-vis vests with the Churches Together logo, that we had decided to buy to use at the Walk of Witness. On the other we had our usual January meeting.

It was so good to share worship and prayer with our fellow churches with many additional attendees coming from the churches holding that meeting. Each church ran their session in their own style which is refreshing to our habits.

Some people attended all the events and some just one but we estimated upward of 70 people attended at some point. Maybe more, we didn't count up as we went along.

The subject matter from the resources wasn't always used and at these events we could enjoy the unity of sharing that time together. Where it was used we found the closer look at the words of the Nicæan Creed, so familiar to us, to be enlightening. I felt it brought home to me the complexity of beliefs and meaning held in the compacted words. Also the poetry of the composition stood out for me.

We have followed this pattern of holding daily events during the eight days for three years now and feel it has a lot to offer people.”



### **Christians Together in Ewyas Harold**

There will be a Christians Together in Ewyas Harold & District meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 7.30pm at St Michael's Church Hall on Monday.

Continuing their policy of themed meetings based on one of our regular activities, the team which takes “Come Gather Round” into Dulas Court Care Home is going to come and share what they do. They have promised us a taster session - which should be fun! We shall also learn about the work of the Anna Chaplaincy who support older people. Do come along to learn about these important contributions. You don't have to be part of the Christians Together network. There will only be a very short business meeting.

### **Churches Together in Ross-on-Wye and District**

“Our instance of the Week of Prayer went well, with increased attendance at the weekly meetings. The shared meal was well attended, and the service afterward went well, with an inspiring talk from Ian Olliver. Fortunately, we

were spared the power cuts (4!) which had caused problems with morning services.”

Report by Dawn (Secretary)

### Vennture



### Churches Together in Herefordshire – Herefordshire Vennture Jan 25

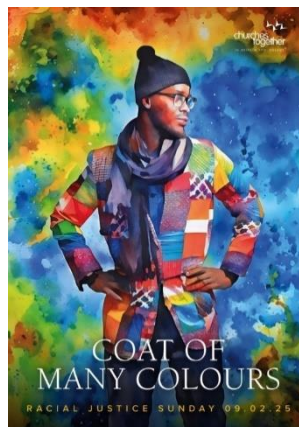
Vennture will be hosting a meeting for church leaders to provide an update on the criminal landscape in Herefordshire, with valuable insights from local law enforcement. The goal is to empower church leaders in their efforts within the community.

If you are a church leader in Herefordshire and have not received an invitation, please reach out to Vennture at 0330 2020 730 or via email at [info@vennture.org.uk](mailto:info@vennture.org.uk)

We are excited to announce the launch of our street presence teams in both Ross-on-Wye and Leominster! We are currently seeking additional volunteers to join our teams in these vibrant market towns to provide capable guardianship for those in need.

If you are interested in being part of our expanding street presence in Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, or Leominster, please get in touch with Vennture at [volunteering@vennture.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@vennture.org.uk)

### Racial Justice Sunday 2025



Racial Justice Sunday will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025. Our theme this year has the title ‘Coat of Many Colours’, reflecting the increasing diversity that exists in the churches in Britain and Ireland. Both the Old Testament, or the Hebrew Bible, and the New Testament are replete with references to diversity, in this world and the Kingdom to come. We need to remember that *every* Sunday is racial justice Sunday! We hope that resources found will move you and help you to reflect on the diversity found within our Churches. To find out more, please visit:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/resources/racial-justice-sunday-9-february-2025/>

### Churches Together in England





We are excited to launch Coat of Many Colours—a special edition Spotify playlist for Racial Justice Sunday, featuring incredible music from Caribbean and African UK artists.

Brought to you by Churches Together in England (CTE), Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) and [SongShare](#), this playlist is a celebration of unity, faith, and the power of music to inspire racial justice.

The SongShare platform empowers Black Christian songwriters by providing a centralised space to register and share their work. Worship leaders and other users can access songs via lyrics, chord sheets, multitracks, and instructional videos. The system's search functionality—by author, theme, or keyword—removes reasons for not discovering or using these resources. Additionally, SongShare will partner with churches to incorporate these songs into worship events and other programmes.

This year's Racial Justice Sunday Special Edition Playlist on Spotify serves as both an introduction to SongShare and a call to action. By embracing these songs, churches across Britain and Ireland can reflect the vibrant diversity of their congregations while fostering greater unity through worship.

This is more than a playlist—it's a movement. Join us in celebrating the voices shaping a future of justice and hope. [Watch the introductory video](#).

Sunday, 9th February – Official release of the Coat of Many Colours playlist which you can find here: <https://bit.ly/4htCWVC>

Check out the official press release and poster (jpg and pdf) attached above for circulation across your denomination and networks. [The full story is on the CTE website](#).

Get ready to listen, share, and be inspired!

### **Saltmine Passion Play 2025**



### **Passion Play on the streets of Hereford** **Saturday, 12th April, 2025, 1pm**

#### **Starting at the Bull on High Town**

Saltmine Theatre Company would like to present a walkabout Passion Play the Saturday before Holy Week, a contemporary re-telling of Jesus's last days, death and resurrection, live on the streets of Hereford. To make it happen they need participation. If you are interested, [email Anthony Beckett](#) or call him on 07906 344743.

We have just about a full team of stewards have volunteered but have room for a couple more. We have 19 Community cast volunteers so far and we need between 40 and 50 ideally. Training will be on Tuesday evenings in March at St Peters. We need volunteers for the engage team who will talk to the crowds explaining what is going on and to also give out leaflets about churches in Hereford if

appropriate to the conversations. We need information from church leaders on how they plan to follow up / use this event. This would be on the leaflets the engage team distribute. This is a vital part of what we are doing and needs all the church's support.

A few drummers would be appreciated to carry small drums and make some noise!! It would help if we could source a few drums too.

In addition, I still need a church finance officer that is willing to accept the grants / donations we are seeking. All would be required is the ok for funds to be directed to an account at their church and a record kept. Funds are then to simply be sent on in one amount to Saltmine at some stage. There should be a nominal amount of work hopefully.

### Lee's Place

The Hereford Homelessness Forum Food Hub is looking for volunteers to help with providing hot food provision for rough sleepers. If you would like to contact Sarah Stevenson to help (as mentioned in the January newsletter) please contact her at [sarahlepps@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sarahlepps@yahoo.co.uk). If you are not subscribed to the newsletter and would like to find out more, please let me know and I can send you more information. Please pass this on to anyone who may find this of interest.

### City Praise

The next City Praise will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 7pm at Hereford Cathedral.



"Dear friends,

I am delighted to attach the **Life and Learning Programme** at Hereford Cathedral for 2025. We have a loose theme of 'Exploring the Old Testament' - but have a wider variety of talks and educational events for all ages.

I would particularly draw your attention to our **Teaching Week on the Letter to the Hebrews**, which is taking place from **Monday 3 - Friday 7 February | 10 am - 3 pm**:

*"How should Christians read the Old Testament?"*

*How does Jesus fulfil it?*

*Prophetic messages, priesthood and sacrifice, promised land... How should we understand all this?*

*The New Testament letter to the Hebrews answers these questions and more: essential reading for Christians wanting the bigger picture.*

*This will be led by Bishop Donald Allister who was Bishop of Peterborough until his retirement in 2023.*

We ask for a **suggested donation** of £6 to cover the cost of lunch and refreshments. To book, visit: [Teaching Week: The Letters to the Hebrews | Hereford Cathedral](#)

*To book your place, please visit our website: Teaching Week: The Letters to the Hebrews | Hereford Cathedral*

With prayers and best wishes,

James

**The Reverend Canon James Pacey**  
**Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral**

## **Mother's Day Training**



Join us for an informal discussion on how to make Mother's Day services sensitive and inclusive. An opportunity to share ideas and learn from other churches. Tuesday 4th February at 11am. Click here to [sign up](#).

## **The Redditch Carmelite Spirituality Group**



The next Redditch Carmelite Spirituality Group meeting is on Saturday 15th February at The Bridge Church, St Luke's Memorial Hall, Evesham Rd, Redditch, B97 4JX, 11am to 2pm. We will have a presentation about the poetry of St John of the Cross, followed by Lectio Divina and a shared lunch. No need to book, just turn up, we'll be delighted to welcome new attendees. For queries/information contact Susan Porter ([ingeva@btinternet.com](mailto:ingeva@btinternet.com)) or Jane Yeomans ([jandmyeomans@gmail.com](mailto:jandmyeomans@gmail.com)).

## **Koble**



## **New engagement trainings in Leominster and Bishops Castle**

**Saturday, 1st February, 9am-12.30pm**

**Forbury Chapel, Leominster**

**Free**

**There will be a second training session in March in Bishops Castle, details TBC**

For Church leaders, PCC members, congregation members and anyone in between, our Youth Hubs team will introduce you to the new resource from [the Ugly Duckling Charity](#) - 'Koble'.

In Norwegian, Koble means 'connect' and so we hope that this morning will help us to think more practically about how we might connect with those around us, with each other, and with God in more practical and contextual ways in today's society.

While this event has been planned through the Youth Hubs project, this resource is one for all churches wanting to engage with their communities of all ages.

Heather Martin, Youth Hubs Coordinator says, "We think this is a really accessible resource that you could go through as a church, as small groups or individuals, to be encouraged and inspired."

You can [sign up for the free training](#) or [email your questions to Heather](#).

### **Hereford Hebrew Reading Group**

If you would like a friendly, informal environment in which to read the Old Testament in Hebrew, then the Hereford Hebrew Reading Group may be what you're looking for. All levels of Hebrew are welcome - we have members ranging from those using an interlinear to those with a reasonable degree of fluency. We meet in Hereford or nearby, approximately monthly at a date and time to suit the members. For more information, please contact Rev'd Dr Owen Pembroly on 07901356615 or [opembroly@gmail.com](mailto:opembroly@gmail.com).

### **Herefordshire Homelessness Forum**

As of Saturday 4th January, the Herefordshire Homelessness Forum will be opening the old Hawkins Bazaar unit in Maylords Orchards (green shop next to Poundland) for hot food provision for rough sleepers.

The unit will be open every day for rough sleepers from 6-8pm.

Monday - warm space & hot food

Tuesday - warm space, snacks & drinks

Wednesday - warm space, snacks & drinks

Thursday - warm space & hot food

Friday - warm space & hot food

Saturday - warm space & hot food

Sunday - warm space, snacks & drink

We have a core group of volunteers who have provided hot food with The Living Hope last winter, but it would be helpful to have some more volunteers who could assist, in whatever capacity you can give. Two people minimum are required each day, but people willing to come and spend time with the guests and provide company would also be beneficial. If you could give some time, on any day of the week to suit you, please can you email Sarah and let her have your details. Thankyou. It could be regular or from time to time.

If anyone has biscuits, snacks, pot noodles, tea, coffee or toiletries that they can donate, can you please drop them off at the Kindle Centre or at the Salvation Army. The Forum will collect and distribute to the shelter, the Maylords unit and The Living Room.



**GAMES - FOOD - CHAT - MUSIC**

# CITY YOUTH

**Ages 11-16**

## 2024 - 2025

**Sunday 1st December**  
Challenge Community Church

**Sunday 2nd February**  
Hereford Baptist Church

**Sunday 6th April**  
St James' Church

**Sunday 1st June**  
Kindle Centre

**Sunday 13th July**  
Bishops Meadows  
Picnic from 12.30pm followed by  
Rounders

**All events will run from 6-7.30pm unless stated.**

For more information or any questions contact:  
[herefordcityyouth@outlook.com](mailto:herefordcityyouth@outlook.com)









