



# Crowthorne Baptist Church

## What's on – July & August 2026

### The Shema

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

About 18 months ago I started using the Bible Society's "*Rooted*" devotionals. The latest one that arrived in June is the Shema edition. The Shema is a prayer that Jewish communities have memorised and recited daily for thousands of years. Jesus and his disciples would have participated in this tradition, praying it every day. The prayer takes its name from its first word in Hebrew, **Shema**, which means "hear" or "listen" (literally, "*hear and do*").

These days the practice of memorising and repeating bible passages has in some ways been lost. My journal points out that the prayerful habit of reciting the Shema (or other biblical prayers and passages) has the power to shape our desires and the way that we see God and his world. As a child in Sunday School, I had to learn the names of all the books of the Old Testament in order! A bit like learning times tables, I have never forgotten it. It has helped me over the years to find passages in the Bible. We were never told to learn the New Testament books, but many of us will know the little rhyme:

*"Matthew, Mark, Luke and John: Acts and Romans follow on"* for the first six.

How about a little challenge for over the Summer months? Maybe you could learn the names of Bible books in order? Or choose a favourite Psalm and learn it? Maybe you could start using some Bible study notes, if you don't already use them? There are plenty of good resources, both books and apps. Pop into Quench Christian bookshop, or look online. Ask around and find out what others at CBC use.

Towards the end of August we will start a new sermon series going through Paul's letter to the Ephesians. The letter is packed with stunning passages. The first half focuses on God's cosmic plan to unite everything under Christ. The second half focuses on church practice, calling us to respond by preserving our unity under Christ. It is a powerful message, and I pray that we will all be willing to "hear and listen" carefully and act on what God says to us.

Elaine

## July at CBC

In July we continue with the series on the Fruit of the Spirit, found in Galatians 5:22-23

<b>Sat 4/7</b>	11:30	Crowthorne Carnival Parade (Hub open for refreshments)
<b>Sun 5/7</b>	10:30	All-age Sunday Worship – “Fruit of the Spirit #3 - Patience” (James 5:7-11) Led by Sarah Webb
<b>Mon 6/7</b>	19:30	Church Family Prayer meeting in the Heart
<b>Thu 9/7</b>	12:00	Thursday Fellowship lunch at The Prince (Next meeting September)
<b>Fri 10/7</b>	19:30	Worship workshop in the Heart
<b>Sun 12/7</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship – “Fruit of the Spirit #4 – Generosity/Goodness” (Mark 10:17-22) Preacher: Ricky Mallett
<b>Mon 13/7</b>	19:30	Church Leaders’ meeting
<b>Weds 15/7</b>	10:30	Service at St. Brendan’s care home
<b>Sat 18/7</b>	08:30	Men’s breakfast in the Hub
<b>Sun 19/7</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship with Family Communion – Theme tba (Communion offering for Compassion) Preacher: Sally Roper
<b>Sun 19/7</b>	12:30	Church family picnic on the Morgan Rec
<b>Sun 26/7</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship – “Fruit of the Spirit #5 – Gentleness part 1” (Colossians 3:1-17) Preacher: Alan Gravett
<b>Fri 31/7</b>	pm	Summer Activities #1 on the Morgan Rec (CBC Prayer tent)
<b>Fri 31/7</b>		CBC Golf competition for the Bill Adams Trophy at Billingbear golf course.

## August at CBC

In August we conclude the series on the Fruit of the Spirit, found in Galatians 5:22-23 and start a new series on Ephesians.

<b>Sun 2/8</b>	10:30	All-age Sunday Worship led by Sue Burrow – “Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness part 2” (1 Samuel 24 : David spares Saul’s life)
<b>Mon 3/8</b>	19:30	Church Family Prayer in the Heart
<b>Fri 7/8</b>	pm	Summer Activities #2 on the Morgan Rec
<b>Sun 9/8</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship – “Fruit of the Spirit #6 – Faithfulness” (1 Corinthians 1:1-9 & Hebrews 10:19-24) Preacher: Raymond Shotter (FBC)
<b>Fri 14/8</b>	pm	Summer Activities #3 on the Morgan Rec
<b>Sun 16/8</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship with Communion – “Fruit of the Spirit #7 – Self control” (2 Peter 1:1-11) (Communion offering for Novō) Preacher: tba
<b>Weds 19/7</b>	10:30	Service at St. Brendan’s care home
<b>Thurs 20/7</b>	13:30	Craft workshop in the Heart
<b>Fri 21/8</b>	pm	Summer Activities #4 on the Morgan Rec (CBC craft activity)
<b>Sun 23/8</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship – “Ephesians” #1 (reading and theme tbc) Preacher: tba
<b>Sun 30/8</b>	10:30	Sunday Worship – “Ephesians” #2 (reading and theme tbc) Preacher: tba

### **A big thank you from June Rawding**

June is one of CBC’s oldest members and she celebrated her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday in June. She wants to say thank you to everyone who signed her birthday card, which was given to her on the day by Bill & Maggie.

## July & August Communion Services



In July we have our quarterly Family Communion service where the children and young people join with us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Grown-ups are encouraged to talk to their children about the meaning of this special symbolic meal.

It is CBC's tradition to take up an extra offering for a charity at our monthly Communion services. In July our offering goes to Compassion UK ([www.compassionuk.org](http://www.compassionuk.org))

In August our offering goes to Novō ([www.novocommunities.org](http://www.novocommunities.org))

## Crowthorne Carnival 4<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July "Planet Earth"

- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July Carnival Day: Church open for refreshments during the parade (11:30am-1:30pm)
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Treasure Hunt (organised by the Carnival Committee). Church open for refreshments. **For more info, see Emma Frost**
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July: Flower Festival at St. John's Church. Sally is preparing CBC's arrangement on the theme of Mount Everest.



## Yeldall Manor Open Day

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July from 1pm**



Everyone is welcome to join staff and residents at Yeldall for a summer afternoon celebrating God's work with men recovering from drug or alcohol addiction. Fun, fellowship, stall and games.

## Men's Breakfast Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 8:30am

Speaker: tba

Cost £5. To book see Martin or email:

[bookings.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com)





## Church Family Picnic – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July

After the morning service (12.30 onwards) at the Morgan Rec. Bring your own picnic food and blankets / chairs. Rounders too.

## Christmas Shoeboxes 2026

In July we collect collect small outdoor toys e.g., balls, skipping ropes, chalks for hopscotch games etc as well as any items like hairbrushes and combs (which we have none of so far).



In August we collect stickers and A5 plain and lined notebooks, A5 colouring books and pencil cases.

There are lots of other ideas on the website. Check what can be included: [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk)

**Please note** that we can no longer put toothpaste or bars of soap in the shoeboxes.

## Crowthorne Summer Activities July / August

Free events for the community on Friday afternoons during the summer holidays on the Morgan Rec.

**Dates for 2026 are July 31<sup>st</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**



Churches Together in Crowthorne (CTC) are helping to organise these events again this year. Lots of volunteers will be needed for setting up / packing away and general stewarding. CBC will be responsible for the prayer tent on Friday **31<sup>st</sup> July** and the craft activity on Friday **21<sup>st</sup> August**.

**If you can help in any way, please speak to Avril.**

## Coming up in September and beyond

### SHINE! “Sparkle & Shine” Saturday Specials

A fun time of craft, games and music for all the family to enjoy together on Saturday mornings 10am to 12:15pm



**Next one is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

Suggested donation £2 per child. To book, please speak to Sarah or email [shine.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:shine.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com)

### Church Meeting Dates 2026

- **Monday Sept 28<sup>th</sup>** – 7:45pm
- **Sunday Nov 29<sup>th</sup>** – Forum meeting after the service



Our church meetings are usually open to anyone who is connected to CBC, but only church members can take part in any voting processes. All church members are encouraged to make these meetings a priority, especially in this time of pastoral vacancy.

**Please put the following dates down in your diaries now!**

- **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 10:30am**  
Visit from staff and residents from Yeldall Manor
- **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am**  
Harvest Celebration, including the Ark Preschool. Gifts for Crowthorne Foodbank and COATS day centre.
- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 3 – 4:30pm**  
Cream Tea in the Heart

## Prayer Matters

### Prayer Space

Would you like someone to pray with you after the Sunday service?



Two members of our Prayer Team will be ready and happy to pray with you at the front of the Heart on most Sundays. Please go over and speak with them.

### Church Family Prayer – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in each month

Please join us in The Heart from 7:30pm until around 8.15pm. We encourage everyone to join us as we pray. Don't worry if you don't want to pray out loud yourself. Let Emma know of any items for prayer and we can bring these things to our amazing God.

### Pastoral Vacancy – please keep praying!

Pray for all aspects of the process of finding our new minister: for prospective candidates to see our profile and get in touch with us; for the search team as they consider applications; for wisdom and discernment; for all of us to wait patiently and expectantly and keep on trusting God for his timing and his plan for CBC.

### Help urgently needed for Crèche and CBC Kidz

It is great that we have a lot of children and young people who come to us on Sunday mornings.



As is often the case in church life, the current team is overstretched and in need of more volunteers. Please consider if you could help:

- on the crèche rota (about once a month)
- Occasionally with crèche or CBC Kidz.

DBS checks can be arranged if you don't have one. Please speak to Sue Burrow if you can help in any way.

## Focus on the Persecuted Church

In many countries in the world, following Jesus could cost you your life. There are violent extremists and dictatorial authorities that have one aim; to make being a Christian impossible.

The logo for Open Doors, featuring a stylized globe icon to the left of the text "OpenDoors" in a white sans-serif font, all set against a dark purple rectangular background.

Open Doors has compiled a **World Watch List**, which names the 10 worst countries to live in as a Christian. The 5<sup>th</sup> country on the list is **Eritrea**.

This is Hiwot's account of life as a Christian in that country.

When she met some evangelical Christians, she was struck by the love they had for each other. She learnt that God is love and wanted to find out more, so she often sneaked out to join their meetings, despite punishment from her parents when she was caught! One day neighbours informed the police that the church was worshipping nearby. When the police arrived, they took everyone at the meeting to prison, where they spent 10 years in jail!!

There are currently around one thousand Eritrean Christians in prison, most of whom haven't been formally charged with any crime. Prison officers told Hiwot and her friends that they would be freed if they denied their faith but they refused and so they were beaten!

Apart from Hiwot's account, Open Doors has written that 20 years have passed since 3 pastors were arrested and imprisoned without trial. Another pastor has died in the same maximum security prison.

### A Prayer request from Hiwot

Hiwot has asked us to pray for Eritrea's religious freedom and an end to persecution. She longs to be able to freely worship God just like many in other countries can. She also asks us to pray that prisoners will be freed from their hardships.

Let us remember to be obedient with these heartfelt pleas for prayer.

## Crowthorne Foodbank

Donations to the Foodbank are always welcome at any time. We have a box in the Hub foyer where you can leave items.

The list of things needed is subject to change from week to week, so check the website for up to date information (<https://crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/>)



The Foodbank is located at the Vineyard Centre in Wellington Business Park and is open Mondays and Thursdays from 12 to 2pm. There is an additional session on Mondays from 5:30 to 7pm.

If you know of anyone who needs to be referred to the Foodbank for help, vouchers are available. Please speak to Sue Burrow or Elaine.

## Maintenance Team

Members of the CBC Maintenance team are:

**Alan Gravett : Philip Hood : Mike Stephenson : Richard Elsbury and Richard Wells**

If you spot anything that needs needs attention, please let Philip or Mike know or you can email the group on [maintenance@crowthornebaptist.org.uk](mailto:maintenance@crowthornebaptist.org.uk)



## Eco Church

### Charity Collections at CBC

We collect standard plastic milk bottle tops and used postage stamps for charity. Collection point in the Hub foyer or give them to Elaine.



### Used Postage Stamps for Bible Society

The used stamps we collect are sent to the Bible Society. Please CUT stamps off envelopes (rather than tear them) and ideally leave around 1cm (½”) border around the stamp then give them to Maggie.



## The Leadership Team

We are in a period of pastoral vacancy, which means that there is more work to do for all of us, especially the Leadership Team. Please pray for the Team and the process of appointing a new Minister.

Treasurer	Justine Wells
Secretary	<i>vacancy</i>
Deacons	Emma Frost, Sarah Webb, Sue Burrow, Richard Elsbury & Eric Panayiotou

Photos of all members of the Leadership Team are in the Heart Foyer. **Please contact any member of the Team** if there is anything you want to share, an issue you want to raise or if you have any pastoral concerns. Individual contact details are in the Church Directory. There is also a single email address that will reach every member of the team individually: [leadershipteam@crowthornebaptist.org.uk](mailto:leadershipteam@crowthornebaptist.org.uk)

### Leadership Team Meetings

The team usually meets for a business meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the month (not August) and prayer on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. Your prayers for these meetings and for issues discussed are very much appreciated.

A summary of the minutes from each meeting is available on the noticeboard near the Heart. They are emailed out to everyone on the CBC list. If you would like a printed copy, please speak to Emma.

### Safeguarding at CBC



We want everyone to feel that CBC is a safe place to be, so we take safeguarding seriously. There are **two designated persons for safeguarding (DPS): Sue Allwright and Marion l'Anson**. Sarah is the Trustee responsible for safeguarding. Please speak to either Sue or Marion if you have any concerns.

# Regular Activities

## House Groups at CBC

Groups meet at different times during the week for Bible study and fellowship:

- Monday and Friday mornings
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings

Please speak to one of the Leadership Team if you would like to join one - or even start a new one!



## Midweek Events at CBC

Good Neighbours	Weekdays 10am to 12 noon in the Hub Foyer (Telephone 01344 761001)
The Ark Preschool	Weekday mornings in term time in the Hub
Zone6 (for year 6)	Mondays in term time 3:15-5:00pm
Zone78/9 (for years 7/8/9)	Fridays in term time 6:30-8:30pm
AA	Every Monday 7:00-8:30pm in the Hub
Breakaway Brass	Every Tuesday 8:00-10:00pm in the Hub
CTC Coffee Shop	Every Thursday 10:30-11:30am in the Heart
Repair Café	Last Saturday each month 10:30-12:30

**Would you like to book a room at CBC?**

Ask Julianty or email

[booking@crowthornebaptist.org.uk](mailto:booking@crowthornebaptist.org.uk)

**Find out more on our website:**

[www.crowthornebaptist.org.uk](http://www.crowthornebaptist.org.uk)

Church office phone 07767 186336  
(for outside contacts)

