



May 2018

▶ All these events are held at **The Old Library** unless otherwise stated ◀

Freedom in Christ

We're really excited to be running the Freedom in Christ course again (10-week discipleship course). Although it started on 26th April, **it's not too late to join the group**. It will be held on Thursdays at 7.15pm at the Old Library and runs for ten weeks (one week break on Thursday 31st May). The course content is up to 2 hours maximum per evening. It doesn't matter what age or stage of life you are in, all are welcome to join the course. The course continually points us to Christ and the bible. To find out more about the course visit <http://www.ficm.org.uk/> then speak with Jules **asap if you'd like to take part!**

Games night

The next games night will be held at the Old Library on Saturday 19th May, starting at 7:30 pm. There'll be plentiful good company and cake to enjoy—but please do let Graham or Katrina P know if you're coming, for catering purposes.

Lent lunch - thank you

A big 'thank you' to all who helped at and supported this year's Churches Together Lent lunches. The one hosted by GCC back in March raised £150.20 on the day towards the work of Christian Aid.

Partner information

Did you know that ChurchSuite (formerly ChurchApp) isn't just for rotas? When you log into ChurchSuite, you can also access Trustee and Family Forum minutes, plus GCC financial information. Just click on the menu button at the top of the Home page and select which area you'd like to visit. More information is planned to be added over the next few weeks, so remember, if you want to stay informed...just click 'menu'!

Help still needed please

Bubbles is a well-regarded, GCC outreach to parents, babies and toddlers held at the Old Library in term times on Friday mornings. The ladies currently running it all have their own young children so often find meeting and greeting difficult, also putting out and tidying away before and after. Could you spare a couple of hours to help out? Please see Jenny Belling for further information.

New to GCC?

If you are new to GCC please pick up a Welcome sheet which tells you what to expect on a Sunday and about regular weekly/monthly events.

Gift Aid

An important source of income for GCC, at no additional cost, is the Gift Aid we receive on your donations. Last financial year, we reclaimed in excess of £13,300 from HMRC - to put it into perspective, that's more than enough to cover the annual running costs of the Old Library. However, we can only reclaim from donors who've signed a Gift Aid form (on GCC website or at the back of the Sunday meeting) **and** who pay UK income tax. Even if you only give occasionally, so long as you identify who the gift is from we can then reclaim 25p for every £1 given. Please speak with Steve G or Neil should you need further info.

Coming up...

We're planning to put on another '**Know More**' course soon, primarily intended for anyone new to GCC who'd like to find out more about the church, the background, vision, values, what it means to be a partner and to ask any questions. If interested please speak to Steve or email - steve@gillinghamcommunitychurch.co.uk

Summer's coming...

Yes it is, and we need to plan what GCC is doing when we take a break over the school summer holidays. What would you like to do as a church, to build us up and

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have fun? Last summer, we met for worship in some wonderful gardens opened to us by some equally wonderful people. Some small groups met for coffee, or to go walking. If you have a good idea you'd like to open up to GCC, please speak with one of the leaders. And if you're able to offer your garden one Sunday morning, please let us know.

Community picnic

The Great Get Together encourages communities across the UK to hold an event to spend some time together and emphasise that we have more in common than the things which divide us. The momentum has come from the approach of Jo Cox, MP for Birstall, who was murdered in June 2016. Here in Gillingham, a community picnic is planned for Sunday 24th June, starting at 12 noon, on the Town Meadow. This is going to be a fun, free, event with family entertainment, open to all. Just bring food and a mug for coffee/tea! As a church, we want to support this community event so there'll be no morning worship meeting that day. Help will also be needed with things like putting up and taking down the marquee, and if you can bake a cake....yes please! We'll be providing more info nearer the time. Should be great fun—good weather guaranteed...we pray!

Online diary

A complete up-to-date diary of events can be found on the website
[Resources > Diary]