

NEWSLETTER No. 25 WINTER 2019



Christmas is coming! The Meeting Place will be having a stand at Bookham's Late Night Shopping evening, so please drop by and see us there and collect your "free coffee" gift voucher. The only date that the **Coffee Shop will be closed over the Christmas period is Friday 27 December** – come and see us for some company and Christmas treats.



On **Saturday 7 December** Denise will be offering another of her workshops to make a **Christmas centrepiece**. This will take place in the Baptist Church Hall (as part of Coffee Shop), 10-11.45am. All material required will be provided and the cost is £5 to include your first coffee! There are one or two spaces left and it's a good opportunity to invite a friend to see what The Coffee Shop is all about.

The Meeting Place Team is excited to announce that we will be setting up a **Community Fridge** at Bookham Baptist Church in the very near future. The aim of a Community Fridge is to avoid food being put into landfill, food donated to the fridge will be distributed free of charge to anyone that can use it, regardless of circumstances. The fridge will be open Monday and Friday mornings from 9.15 – 11.15am and on Saturdays 10 – 12noon. We are currently setting up a rota of volunteers, so if you share our enthusiasm for this concept and would like to help us either by collecting food from shops or overseeing the use of the fridge, please contact us on the mobile number below.

The **Meeting Place Coffee Shop** is open at Bookham Baptist Church on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10-12 noon, offering coffee and hot drinks with cakes from The Grange, soft play for the children and always a warm and friendly welcome. We always have folders of **Community Information** available.

Wellers Hedleys regularly offer **free, no obligation meetings with a solicitor** at the Meeting Place Coffee Shop. No appointment is necessary, anyone is welcome to **drop in between 10-11am**. The next date is **Friday 13 December**.

Ali, our **Hearing Champions advisor** will next be available at Coffee Shop on **29 February 2020 from 10:00am – 12 noon**. No appointment is necessary as we operate on a first come, first served basis – coffee is available if you have to wait a few minutes! Please bring your brown NHS Battery Book (which includes your settings and requirements) and your hearing aid. She will also be at St Nicolas Pastoral Centre on Tuesday mornings 21 January and 24 March.

Lipreading classes will be starting up again on January 13 from 1.30-3.30 pm at Eastwick Road Church. These classes are interesting and fun as well as helping to learn to lipread. The class is not very big and it means our professional teacher can be aware of individuals and help everyone. If you would like to know more or apply to join do contact Anita Thornton (the teacher) anita4lipreading@gmail.com or speak to Val Lambert who is co-ordinating the course. The Meeting Place subsidises the cost of the course for all participants.

The **Language Hub** offers classes for people whose first language isn't English on **Tuesday mornings**. **Classes are held at Bookham Baptist Church and take the form of group lessons** taught in two groups. An encouraging number of students from Europe, South America and the Far East attend. The Language Hub tutors would welcome some additional help, so if **you know anyone who is TEFL trained, or who would like to do the qualification**, please get in touch. Financial support is available for anyone who wants to study for the qualification. For more information please contact us (see below).

We want the work and vision of The Meeting Place to be rooted in prayer, so we meet to **pray together** in the Baptist Church Hall at 9am on the first Saturday of the month for about 30 minutes for the work and the future of TMP. The next meetings will be **Saturdays 7 December and 4 January** - all are welcome to join us.

For more information, any questions or just to get in touch with us, please go to our website <http://themeetingplace.org.uk> . You can email us at info@themeetingplace.org.uk or call 07425 133431 to leave a message. You can follow us on Facebook too!

Thank you for your support - we look forward to seeing you and your friends soon!

The Meeting Place (Bookham) is a Company Limited by Guarantee (Reg. No. 7817471)