



This newsletter gives details of forthcoming events in Wimborne. Please show it to anyone who might be interested and email me with details of any others who would like to receive a copy.

**Christian Aid Week 2018** starts in less than a fortnight (on Sunday 13th May) and we hope you will be able to join in - perhaps by coming to the special service on the Sunday morning, by sampling cup cakes on the Wednesday morning, by helping with one of our collections or simply by donating. Details are as follows:-

**a) Morning Service at Wimborne Methodist Church on Sunday 13th May at 10.30 am.** For those who aren't familiar with Wimborne, the address is

4A King Street, Wimborne, BH21 1DY. There is a convenient car park further along King Street at BH21 1EA

**b) Cup-Cake Stall outside Church House on Wednesday 16th May from**

**10.00am to 12.00 noon.** Church House is at the east end of the Minster in the High Street at BH21 1HT. If you would like to make some cup-cakes please contact Robert Pearce on (01202) 886651.

**c) Street Collection in Wimborne Town Centre on Friday 18th May.** Please look out for our collectors wearing distinctive red tabards. If you would like to help please contact Robert Pearce (see cup-cakes above).

**d) House-to-House collections throughout the week.** We already have collectors for many of the roads in the Wimborne, Merley and Colehill area but some are still not covered. If you would like to help, please contact Robert as above. I have been collecting for many years now and find the following useful:-

1) letting people know when you will be collecting the envelope. I include a slip of paper saying, for example, "*We will be collecting this envelope between 6.00 and 7.30pm on Thursday or Friday evening,. If you are a taxpayer, please consider completing the Gift Aid declaration on the envelope. Thank you.*"

2) using a plastic ruler to push the envelope through the letter box. But do remember to keep hold of the ruler - I let go at one house and was presented with it when I called to collect the envelope!

3) not asking directly for a donation. I just say "*I've come to collect the Christian Aid envelope we put through earlier this week*" and this allows people to simply return the (empty) envelope if they don't wish to donate.

4) if you do have queries, raise these with your Church Rep. There is also comprehensive advice on the Christian Aid website at

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week/house-house/house-house-collectors-faqs>

The theme of Christian Aid Week this year is **Stronger than the Storms**, highlighting the work of Christian Aid and partners in Haiti following the devastating earthquake in 2010. Houses built or rebuilt to withstand future earthquakes also withstood Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and provided vital secure refuge. I mentioned a video in the last newsletter and would urge you again to see it at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMd8oB6PePM>

The publicity and fundraising during Christian Aid Week are vital for current and future projects. The commitment of so many volunteer collectors and generous donors shows the strength of support for Christian Aid around the country and gives access to funding streams such as the matched funding from the Government for the Christmas Appeal and funding from the Disasters Emergency Committee. So please help if you can.

Finally, have you heard of **GDPR**? The initials stand for **General Data Protection Regulations** - new regulations covering the holding and use of personal data. I will need your consent to send you future newsletters, whether by email or post. I will be contacting you specifically about this in the next two weeks, so please look out for my email or letter and respond if you wish to continue receiving these newsletters.

Thank you for all your support for Christian Aid, and please contact me if you would like more details of any of these events.

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