



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

Broadfield Community Centre, Broadfield Barton, Crawley. Reg. Charity no. 1081321

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## NewsFlash!



### Sunday 31st January 2016

**This morning** 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall  
*Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: Ian Johnson*

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*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today  
If you want to know the location of any of the meetings, please ask the host or one of the leaders*

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<b>Monday</b>	6.30pm: Prayer time in the Church
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home 7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall 7.00pm: House Group at Diane's home
<b>Friday</b>	2.30pm: Dave Time in the Quiet Room 5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall
<b>Next Sunday</b>	9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship 9.30am: Prayer meeting 10.00am: Tea and coffee 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Led by students from IBTI</i> 7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

**Psalm 14:2 "The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God."**

I have several non-Christian friends and one in particular who is a very clever lady and a staunch atheist (but I believe she is unknowingly searching by the things she puts on Facebook) who asked me the other day if I had ever had a "road to Damascus" experience. I told her that I never had, also I had never had any floaty euphoric feelings, seen angels or felt the tangible presence of God but I know He speaks to me. "How does He speak to you," she asked, "do you hear an audible voice?" Again I said no, although some people have, I told her He speaks to me through almost anything – books, films, dramas, creation, situations, radio, CDs, music, a voice in my thoughts. I told her my Christian journey has been like a snakes and ladders game, that I have learnt wisdom through foolishness and that when I first became a Christian my life was such a tangled mess (rather like a fishing line that is impossible to untangle) but that God has unravelled me little by little. When I left home at the age of 18 I was completely unprepared for life, I was naive and vulnerable, the opposite of street-wise and didn't have a clue. I suffered the most horrendous emotional abuse, became a drug addict and quite honestly I should be dead. I told her how I became a Christian and have answered my atheist friend's questions as best I can. I now have a book ready to give her, so please pray for her.

Anyway, back to those Christian experiences I mentioned (I didn't tell her about being "slain in the Spirit" because she wouldn't have understood, but that's something else I haven't experienced). I used to think that somehow I had "blown it" with God or that He was angry with me because I hadn't experienced any of these things, and people would tell me I had a "blockage" from God or it was my fault in some way, it was my fear, etc. I still have to fight these thoughts that in some way I am a lesser Christian but I am pretty sure that's a lie and anyway it was such a hang up at one time that I had to have the realisation that because I had looked for "highs" with drugs somehow I was looking for "comfort highs" from God and I must just trust God by the things He says about me and His promises, not on feelings and experiences. If I had continued to have such a "hang-up" about not having supernatural experiences, that would in itself have blocked me from God because that would have become more important than God Himself. I still would like to have some experiences but I have to "go with the flow," so to speak and leave that entirely up to HIM.

### Diary Dates

**Friday 18th–Sunday 20th March:** Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Abi Willetts. Booking forms are on the tables and Irma is collecting them with any payments.

**Saturday 30th July–Saturday 6th August:** Revive! 2016, "New Day Dawning." Brochures are on the tables, there is a 10% discount for bookings made and paid for by 31st March.