



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

☎ 01444 400521 – Email: fellowship@broadfield.org.uk – Web: www.broadfield.org.uk



NewsFlash!

Sunday 24th September 2017

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

*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today
If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders*

Monday 7.00pm: Prayer time in the Church

Tuesday 7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home
7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home

Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall

Friday 2.30pm: Dave Time in the Church Quiet Room
5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

Next Sunday 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
Worship: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: David Evans
7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Proverbs 17:17: "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

If you want to see who your real friends are, just make a mistake and see whether or not they leave you.

In House Group we have been going through a Lent course called "Finding a Voice" based on the film *The King's Speech*; you wouldn't believe how much we have got out of this film, but then I love TV dramas filled with stories of people's lives, full of tragedy, irony, brokenness, joys and sufferings – It brings out in me empathy, compassion, understanding, tears and laughter, and helps me see situations and circumstances in new ways.

Well, this week I went with a friend to see the film *Victoria and Abdul* and enjoyed it immensely. It's based on the controversial friendship that Queen Victoria developed with her young handsome Indian attendant, Abdul Karim. I won't go into too much detail as I don't want to spoil the film but there is so much in it that it would be an excellent subject for a House Group; there is poignancy, racism, politics, jealousy, hypocrisy, deviousness, arrogance and pomp, pathos and more, but the friendship of Victoria and Abdul goes beyond all this and reaches into the deep human need for love, acceptance and understanding.

Someone called Basu (who I think wrote a book about it) said this: "He spoke to her as a human being and not as the Queen. Everyone else kept their distance from her, even her own children, and this young Indian came with an innocence about him. He told her about India, his family and was there to listen when she complained about her own family."

The ancient Greek word for friendship love is *philia*, (*eros* love is sexual) and it was this *philia* love that grew and bonded Victoria and Abdul as well as it being a mother and son closeness, much to the horror of the establishment. However, much as I can understand Victoria emotionally I also understand the controversy and burdensome problem for the Royals, Aristocracy and Government. So why the scripture I have quoted? Well, when Victoria discovered that Abdul had lied to her and was in fact a Muslim and not a Hindu as he said and that the Muslims of her time had actually put a fatwa out on her (all information gathered by her government to turn her against Abdul) and that the Muslims had killed thousands of British soldiers, Victoria is mortified and says Abdul will have to go. However, even in this adversity and the deep hurt she suffers she forgives him and wants him to stay and he does genuinely and sincerely love her, and is devastated when she dies.

Standing for Christ in the Public Square

A Christian Institute meeting at Cuckfield Baptist Church, Polestub Lane, Cuckfield, RH17 5GP, Wednesday 11th October at 7.30pm

Diary Dates

Friday 20th April–Sunday 22nd April 2018: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Phil Tate