



# *IN THE LOOP*

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## **Exciting things in the New Year**

After a really busy and exciting Christmas season, we have a lot to look forward to in 2026.

This edition of *In the Loop* gives you a few dates for your diaries. Things to come to, things to support and certainly things to pray about.

Do consider if there is any item you would like included in these newsletters and we'll do our best.

Our series on the Church through the lens of the 7 churches in Revelation has come to an end but has given us many helpful challenges. Remember you can see the sermons again on our Youtube channel or through the media section on the church website. In addition, this Sunday, Callum will be reflecting again as part of the Crossbeats show -at 9 am on Avondaleradio.com

### **'SAGE' Men's Group**

*Occasional outings  
with coffee and chocolate biscuits*



### **RAF Cadets, Chaplaincy, and Fast Jets**

*A talk by Ian Douglas on the history of the  
Air Training Corps, the role of Chaplains,  
and a few 'Fast Jet' stories.....*

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026**

**10.30am**

**Avendale Church - Loudoun Room**

For further information, please contact  
Alastair Strang 07711 281039  
or Andy Lacey 07913 759163



## Lunch and Games afternoon! Sunday 25th

Sunday 25th January after the service at Avendale there will be a bring and share lunch in the hall. Please bring some food to share; plates and cutlery will be provided. The room at the back door will be set up so you can drop your food off in there before the service.

After this 2-4pm there will be a games afternoon in the hall. Please bring a game you'd like to play (board game, card game or any game), or just come along for company and a chat 😊

Please invite people who you think would enjoy this. All ages welcome, and if you can't make everything, then just turn up for the lunch and/or games.

Hope to see lots of you!  
Anna





## Philippa Hanna and Band

Saturday 7th February

On Saturday 7th February, Philippa Hanna and her Band will be headlining “An evening with Philippa Hanna” in Avendale Church building. This is a Strathaven joint-churches event and the first date of her 2026 tour entitled “Til the Whole World knows”.

Immediately prior to that, on 30th January, Philippa plans to release her first single for six years, on Spotify, also entitled “Til the Whole World Knows”. It is amazing that Strathaven churches will be jointly hosting her first event of 2026. As expected, tickets for the event are already sold out.

Sunday 8th February

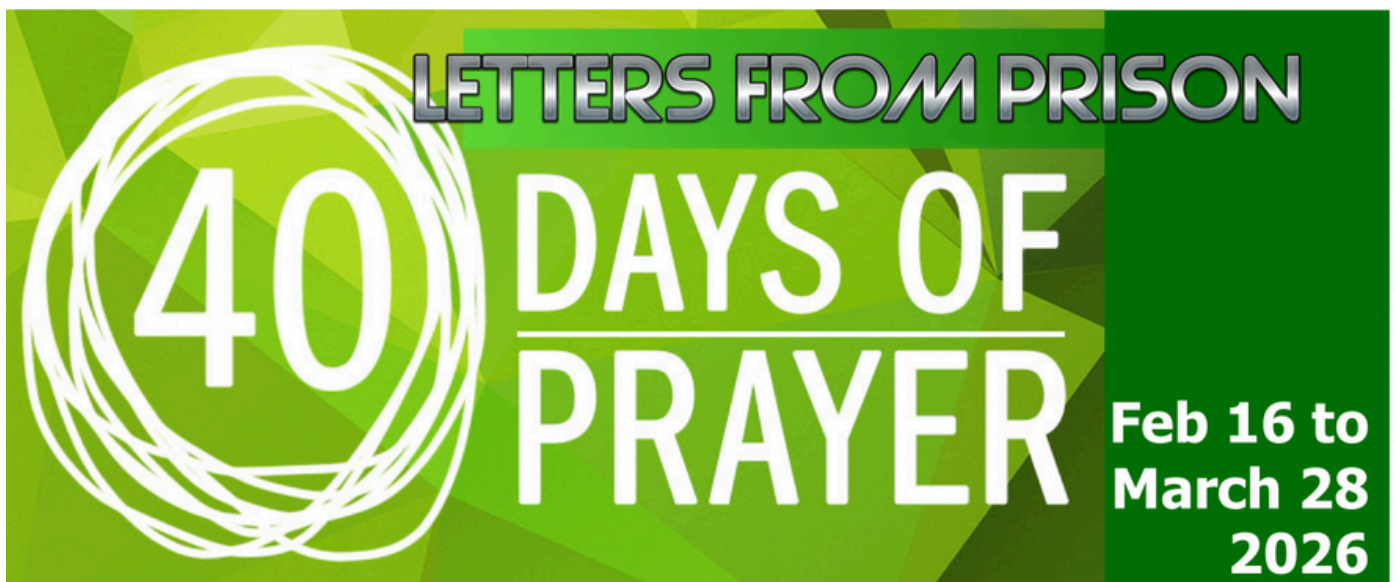
Separately, on Sunday 8th February Philippa and Joel will be joining us at our church service. They will both be taking an active part in leading the worship that morning (Ozma, their daughter, may help lead as well!). All are welcome to this service and it is an opportunity to invite friends and family who may enjoy her music and testimony. Philippa is one of only a handful of full-time, female, Christian, singer-songwriters in the UK. She is a gifted poet, author and songwriter. She has a powerful testimony and is passionate about sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. She is practical about putting her faith into practice. As well as sponsoring children through Compassion UK she is also one of their ambassadors.

Recording and touring cost a significant sum of money. Philippa’s income depends largely on ticket and merchandise sales, and faith that fellow Christians will support her ministry. She has not charged a specific fee for the Sunday morning involvement in our worship service.

There are various ways we may support her ministry. We can remember her and the band in prayer as they plan and prepare for events and services. We can share her songs and social media posts to broaden the impact of her message. We can also support them financially. We would like to give Philippa and Joel a financial gift from our church family to thank them for their involvement in the church service on Sunday 8th February and to encourage and support them in their role as they share the gospel throughout the UK. If you would like make such a gift, please place it in an envelope, sealed and clearly marked “Philippa 8th February” and either give it to Neil Spence, our treasurer or simply put it into the offering plate on Sunday 18th, 25th January or Sunday 1st February. Please do not wait until 8th February, as we would like to give her the gift that day to take away with her.

It’s a tremendous privilege to have such a well-known musician and band join us for these events in February! Exciting times!





## This year's 40 Day Bible Readings

Coming in February, is this years 40 Day Bible Readings.

Once again we will be reading through a section of the Bible as a whole church. There will be the blog on the website and we'll all receive our journal and reading plan to keep us on track to start on **February 16th**. More details in the next few weeks.....



The reading group will meet on **Friday, 6th February at 2pm**, at Alison Muntz's home.

The book we will be talking about is The Children Act by Ian McEwan - it is not a long book, so there is still time to read it. If you need any further details, see Alison.



### Change of dates

Messy Churches in February and March have been rescheduled to **8<sup>th</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> March**

We are always looking to build the team.

Contact Murray and Anne for details

*Community  
Development  
Worker*

Keep Jennifer and all those helping at Sandford and Gilmourton Schools in your prayers.

We are so grateful to have the opportunity to engage in the work of the schools and build bridges.