

Children & Family News & Chat

Children and family's news and chat: 18th April 2021

Hi, I hope you all returned to school after the Easter break, okay? I expect many of you are glad to be back with your friends again. As I write this, many people are out shopping again, having haircuts, and generally enjoying a little more freedom. I understand there were queues at some of the Southend-on-Sea shops today, waiting for them to open! Wow, isn't it strange what things we miss when we are told we can't have or do them? Last year I did the ration challenge, which meant that I couldn't eat the food I normally would, as the majority of the rations were rice. When we can't have all the things we normally would, it



Photo by [Ravin Rau](#) on [Unsplash](#)

helps us to focus on what we do have, and it made me grateful for the things I could eat. In our church we are trying to be more environmentally friendly. So, if we can make do with the things we have, rather than buying more things we don't really need, this can help the environment. Because everything we buy new has packaging, often that can't be recycled, and the new thing has to be manufactured, which takes power and resources.

Lots of things have changed over the past year, but we don't need to go back to the way things were, we can move forward and leave the bad things behind us. Let's all be a little more thoughtful about what we want and have, so that we can look after the world God provided for us better.

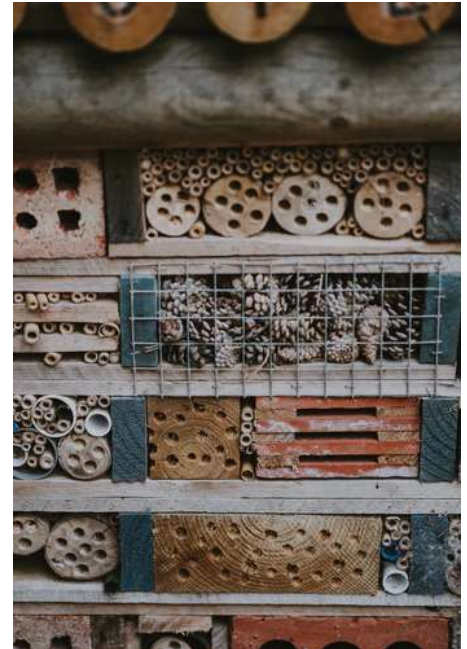
“All the believers were of one mind, and no one felt that what he owned was his own; everyone was sharing” Acts 4 verse 32.

The early Christians looked after each other, sharing everything they had. How good are you at sharing? I don't think I'm very good at it 😞. But these Christians didn't have much, so they shared what they had to help each other out. Perhaps we need to do more sharing and remember that everything we have is not ours but belongs to God. 😊

All age Activity: bug hotel Photo by [Annie Spratt](#) on [Unsplash](#)

We can help the wildlife in our gardens by making a bug hotel. A simple way to do this is to cut a plastic bottle so that you just have the middle part, no bottom or top. Place some string through the tube before filling the ring of plastic with sticks, pinecones, twigs, moss, grass and stones. You can then either hang this up somewhere, or place it where you can watch it and the insects come and visit. (Picture shows a massive bug hotel!)

If you do any of our activities, I'd love to see your pictures and include them in this newsletter!



Watch and Listen: Story told from the Jesus Storybook bible

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqbrN9IN-x0> Naaman and the girl with no name by Pursue God Kids

Dance and Sing: *Gonna be a powerpack*

<https://youtu.be/qveKmJiDC8A>

Families on Faith adventures: [Families on Faith Adventures \(urc.org.uk\)](http://urc.org.uk)

If you need to get in touch with me my number is:

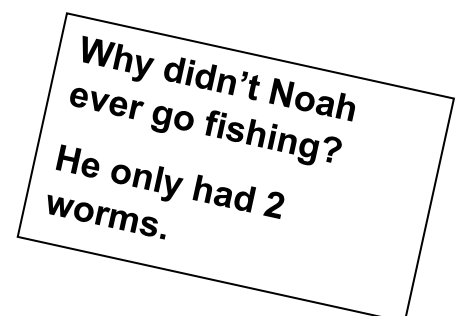
Tel: 07511950633

YouTube channel: [Sandy](#)

[Brown - YouTube](#)

Instagram:

@childrenandfamilies



Diary:

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| <p>Sunday 9am</p> | Children & family slot uploaded to Facebook, the website and YouTube channel. |
| <p>10am</p> | Rev. Naomi's service is live on Facebook or via the Website. |
| <p>11.00am</p> | Sundayclub zoom, our chance to keep in touch and continue our Sundayclub virtually! Contact Sandy for the link. |
| <p>Mondays 11am</p> | Story and song session for young children. |
| <p>Wednesday -1.45pm</p> | Singing on zoom, for all ages! Contact me for the link. |
| <p>Coming up: Thursdays</p> | <p><u>Triologue – online YouTube broadcasts for 16 to 25 year olds</u> URC Youth invite you to join their regular online live YouTube broadcast called 'Triologue' which will also be broadcast simultaneously on the URC Youth Triologue Facebook page and the URC Children's and Youth Work Facebook page.</p> <p>Aimed at 16 to 25 year olds, each session explores a theme alongside a Bible passage, providing a springboard for further discussion and reflection. A member of the CYDO+ team hosts a conversation with three guest panellists, representing some of the breadth of the URC and beyond.</p> <p>TRialogue takes place every other Thursday at 7pm - see the URC Youth Triologue Facebook page for what is coming next.</p> <p>Find our more about Triologue on our YouTube channel as Reuben Watt interviews Phil Ray</p> <p>PANEL DISCUSSION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE! 🍷 bit.ly/trialogueURC</p> |
| <p>Saturday 22nd May</p> | <p><u>Wilderness 2021</u> is a virtual retreat day for young people aged 12+. Saturday 22nd May will feature a day of digital content to help explore faith by looking at the account of Jesus in the wilderness. Content will be delivered online including guided prayer, meditation, craft and worship.</p> <p>Book online before the 12th May to receive your box of resources (£3.95 P&P).</p> |
| <p>Summer 2021</p> | Watch this space for exciting news about the summer holiday club and a new children's club coming your way soon. |

with Love, Sandy, Children and Family worker. Xxx

PS. Here's a picture to colour, what do you think is happening here?

