

# February & March 2026

## Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

### *MAGAZINE*



## Our Mission

Living With Christ

Living For Christ

Living to Make Christ Known

**Address:** The Methodist Church,  
Ramillies Avenue  
Cheadle Hulme SK8 7AL  
**Tel:** 0161 485 1605 **E-mail:** [chmc145@hotmail.com](mailto:chmc145@hotmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.chmc.org.uk](http://www.chmc.org.uk)  
**Circuit website:** [bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk](http://bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk)

**Church Office:** Closed Monday  
Tuesday 12:30- 3:30pm  
Wednesday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

**Minister:**

**Reverend Alistair Jones (Day off Friday)**  
07782 376945 [alistairjones@live.co.uk](mailto:alistairjones@live.co.uk)

**Children & Families**  
Susie Metcalfe

**Community & Pastoral Worker**  
Jackie Sims

**Fresh Expressions Missioner**  
Linda Rayner

**Church Treasurer**  
Maurice Turnpenney

**Leadership Team:**

Barbara Clark, Dave James, Charles Nevin, Gill Smith

Articles for the **April/May** issue of the magazine need to be submitted to the magazine editor Gill Smith, by **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

If you include your personal contact details in your article it will be assumed that you are giving consent for these to be included in the paper copy of the magazine which will be in the public domain.

*Photo front cover by kind permission of Linda Rayner*

## Resolutions

I have just finished watching the Masters Snooker and it still amazes me how they can (in most cases) make the white ball finish up where they want it to! I am also in awe of



the competitors who although it may look like they are about to lose the match, keep fighting and don't give up and have a belief that they can still win (and sometimes do come back from behind to eventually win the match).

At the beginning of a year, a lot of us make resolutions and I wonder if you have made any for 2026? I have made a resolution to try and increase my activity and have started swimming again – ask me in 6 months if I am still swimming!! Hopefully I will be. Most people who start the New Year with a resolution give up within the first few weeks. It is hard to stick to it. When we make resolutions we often think about improving ourselves physically by dieting or exercising or by giving something up, but do we think about improving our spiritual lives? Do we, as Christians, think how we can improve our faith? Maybe by praying more or by giving more financially, by reading our Bible more or by giving our time more?

As Christians, I believe we need to keep on growing and learning. Paul speaks in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 about running the race. In Hebrews 12:1-3 it speaks of running the race marked out for us with perseverance whilst keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.

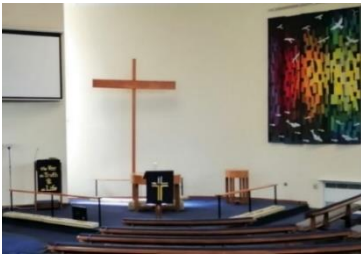
These verses help us to be resolute in our plans and ambitions to keep us focused, but we must also remember to keep allowing God in and to listen to His calling and direction on our lives. To do this we need to spend time with God.

May you run your race with resilience and strength, trusting and leaning on God to sustain you.

May 2026 be a blessed year for you.

Jackie

# Join us for Worship



Services will be held in the Sanctuary and will be simultaneously livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

## *Services in February*

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
led by Rev. Alistair Jones



### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February World Church Sunday**

10.30am Morning Worship led by Linda Rayner

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Student Sunday**

10.30am Morning worship led by Mr David Allaby

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 7:00 pm**

Ash Wednesday service with Holy Communion  
led by Rev Alistair Jones

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

10.00am - United Service at Bramhall Methodist Church

*Please note earlier start time*

## *Services in March*

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
led Rev Charles Nevin



**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
10.30am Morning worship led by Rev Alistair Jones

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday**  
10.30am Morning Worship led by Mrs Mary Langton

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
10.30am Morning Worship led by Connect group  
6.30pm Evening Worship led by Rev Ian Smart

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday**  
10.30am Morning Worship led by Mrs Pat James  
6.30pm Cheadle Hulme Churches Together service  
at St Ann's, Vicarage Avenue, SK8 7JW

## *Easter Services*

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April- Maundy Thursday**  
7.30pm Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion  
led by Rev Alistair Jones

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday**  
3.30pm Good Friday service led by Rev Alistair Jones

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday**  
10.30am Morning worship led by Rev Alistair Jones

### **Flower Visitors**

February Flower Visitor – Cheryl Palmer  
March Flower Visitor – Jenni Hardman



# *Regular Events at Church*

## MONDAY

**Memory Lane 2:00 – 4:00pm**

Meets the second and fourth Monday of the month for those with dementia and their carers Contact: Jackie Sims

**Knit, Craft and Natter 7-9pm**

Meets first Monday of the month Contact: Jackie Sims

**Take Time Together 8:00pm**

Meets the **second** and **fourth** Monday of the month via Zoom- contact church office for the link

## TUESDAY

**CAMEO 10:30am – 1:30pm** Contact: Val Pickwell

**Chelwood Foodbank Collection 11:00 am – 12 noon**

In the Church car park. Contact: Linda Rayner

**Reflective Worship 7:00 - 7:30pm in Room 2**

Contact: Pat James

**MATCH (Men AT Cheadle Hulme) 7:30 – 9:00pm**

A meeting for men every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evening on Zoom.

Contact: Ian Porter

## WEDNESDAY

**Toddlers 10:30 – 11:45am in term time**

Contact: Susie Metcalfe

## THURSDAY

**Baby Chat 10:30 -11:45am in term time**

Contact: Susie Metcalfe

**Network 2pm**

5<sup>th</sup> February- Cuppa and a Chat

12<sup>th</sup> February- Ruth Mason- 'Aren't words wonderful'

19<sup>th</sup> February- Jackie Sims

26<sup>th</sup> February- Elaine Busby- 'Our Treasures'

5<sup>th</sup> March- Cuppa and a Chat

12<sup>th</sup> March- Lesley Peacock- Armchair Fitness

19<sup>th</sup> March- Jenny Jones- Mondays Undies

26<sup>th</sup> March- Peter Crummett- Holy Land slides

Contact: Margaret Pattie

## FRIDAY

**Wobblers 10:30 – 11:45am term time**

Contact: Susie Metcalfe

# Church Family

## *Bereavements*

We were sorry to hear of the death of Doug Taylor on 18<sup>th</sup> December. A service of thanksgiving took place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January led by Rev Alistair Jones. We send our love to Doug's family.

### **In our prayers**

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are going through challenging times and those coping with tests, treatments, illnesses or bereavement.

## *Thank you*

### ACTION FOR CHILDREN

I would like to thank all those for their collection boxes over the last twelve months. If you haven't got your box back they are in the church office. I banked £91.18.

There isn't as much loose change around these days but every penny counts.

If there is anyone who would like a collection box, let me know as I do have a few spare ones.

Many thanks

**Marion Haigh**

### **Home Groups**

Home Groups normally meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month, however please check dates groups are meeting.

**Monday 10:30am in Room 2**

Contact: Margaret Parker

**Monday 8pm**

Contact: Gez Butterworth

**Please note the Friday homegroup is currently not meeting**

## **Tribute to Doug Taylor**

Doug grew up in Didsbury, however during World War 2 he was evacuated near Bakewell and had happy memories of being well looked after by the family he lived with. He served two years National Service in the Army.

Doug attended Didsbury Congregational Church belonging to the Christian Youth Fellowship group where he met Jean, his future wife. They had a long happy marriage, and he was devastated when she died. Urged by his younger sister, he came to church and recalled he was warmly welcomed by Trevor Todd. Doug said he felt at home and quickly became integrated into church life, loved being in a Homegroup and a member of Cameo where he became a great friend with other members including Jim Jones.

Doug had great love of poetry loving any opportunity to recite poems he loved, he had an excellent memory and remembered quite lengthy poems. One of his hobbies was to learn new poems. He joined Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme U3A groups and had an enquiring mind with a desire to keep learning.

Doug was greatly loved by everyone, quietly outgoing, always chatty and very positive. He was kind and caring. Although fiercely independent, he was appreciative of offers of help or anything anyone did for him.

Doug had a strong faith and was comfortable discussing spiritual matters. He enjoyed coming to the Church Praise Tea and loved singing 'good' rousing, traditional hymns. His attendance at church and elsewhere always brought out his lovely smile. This was also present on his attendance at CAMEO and even when suffering from his ailments in later life! He will be sadly missed.

# Future Events



We are excited to be working towards launching a Boys' Brigade and Girls Association group that will serve children and young people in the community, helping them grow in confidence, character and faith whilst having plenty of fun along the way!

The group is going to be held on a Friday from 6pm-8pm starting in September 2026.



We are currently looking for volunteers to help with this group and if you or anyone you know think they might be interested in helping out, please contact Jackie Sims or Rachael East

Information packs are available at Church or can be emailed on request.

Thank you.

## Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

2 Ramillies Ave, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle SK8 7AL 0161 485 1605

### RODE HALL SNOWDROP WALK

Scholar Green, Cheshire ST7 3QP [www.rodehall.co.uk/snowdrops](http://www.rodehall.co.uk/snowdrops)

Saturday 14th February meet at 9.15am in the church carpark



Have you ever looked inside a snowdrop?

Rode Hall offers a gentle walk of about a mile with many varieties. We'll walk slowly, mindful of minutiae, aware of God's amazing creation.

*ENTRY £8.00 CASH Please note: ground is uneven. Wear weather-suitable clothes and sturdy shoes. This is friends walking, not a church event.*

*Refreshments available. Contact Linda Rayner - 07944 806077*

## Lent Lunches



**Do come and enjoy delicious home-made soup, bread and cheese!**

**Our annual Lent Lunches, raising money for Christian Aid, will be at 12 noon.**

Saturday 21st February- CHMC

Saturday 28th February- Grove Lane

Saturday 7th March- All Saints

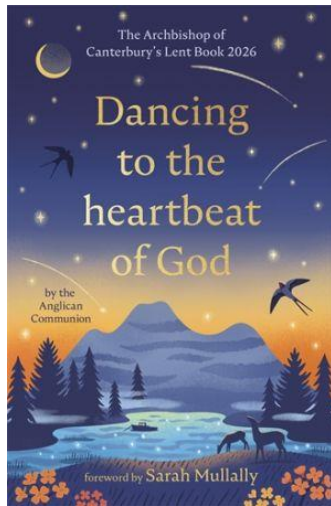
Saturday 14th March- Friends

Saturday 21st March- URC

Saturday 28th March- St Ann's

You will be made most welcome at every church!

## LENT AS A TIME FOR GROWTH



This Lent I invite you to join me on a journey, a journey of personal growth and development. A time of learning, questioning and developing our Christian faith in the daily challenges and opportunities of life. To allow your soul to catch up and your life to be more deeply immersed in the Kingdom of God.

As our guide for the journey we will be drawing on the book **“Dancing to the Heartbeat of God”**. The book is described as follows:

*This book brings together personal stories, testimonies, and reflections from various contributors, emphasizing the importance of listening for God’s rhythm and responding with courage. It seeks to provide a hopeful vision of faith lived out in everyday life, encouraging readers to rediscover the joy and movement of Christian discipleship*

I have no idea how this journey will proceed or how much we will need to deviate from the path as discussions develop and ideas unfold. So, if you would like to join me on this uncertain path, to as it were enter into Jesus’ wilderness experience then please come along. Even if you have two left feet, I pray that it may be a fruitful experience and a worthwhile discipline for lent.

The sessions will take place every Wednesday from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm in Room 2. The sessions start on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February and finish in Holy Week on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. If you can’t make every session, then please join us as you can. I will produce a summary of the material for each session, but, if you wish, you can purchase the book from any good Christian bookseller. Prices vary from about £8 to £10.

**Charles Nevin**



## NETWORK 19<sup>th</sup> March

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm Network will be hosting Deacon Jenny Jones who has agreed to come and speak about **Mondays Undies.**

If you would like to learn more about this charity do come along and join us.

I am sure she would welcome any new undies you can bring with you. We look forward to seeing you then.

**Margaret Pattie**  
Secretary



# Easter

at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 2 APRIL 2026**

*drop in anytime between 10am-12noon / 2pm-4pm*

### **Easter activities for everyone:**

*Easter Trail and Quiz*

*Crafts for all ages*

*Hear the Easter Story*

*Refreshments*

*Quiet reflective prayer stations*

## *All Welcome*

*You are also welcome to join us:*

*Good Friday service 3.30pm - Friday 3 April 2026*

*Easter Day service 10.30am - Sunday 5 April 2026*



## **EASTER ACTIVITIES**

**Maundy Thursday 2nd April:**

**Drop in anytime from 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm**

**Thinking about Easter with activities for all ages**

**Bring your friends and neighbours**

### **Easter Trail and Quiz**

*Scan the QR codes on the posters for an interactive trail  
(In the Narthex and corridor)*

### **Refreshments**

*A cuppa, a chat and a hot cross bun + gingerbread biscuits  
and the Lego Easter Story on screen  
(In the Coffee Lounge)*

### **Quiet reflective prayer stations**

*Take some time for your own contemplation  
(In the Quiet Room - 2)*

### **Craft and Chat**

*Including: create an Easter Card, search for natural  
decorations (weather permitting), plant a sunflower, make  
a felt egg, colouring and activity sheets,  
(In Room 6)*

### **COULD YOU HELP ON THE DAY?**

We need a few people to help with refreshments and to be  
around for the other activities,

If you could offer a couple of hours (10.00am-12.noon  
and/or 2.00pm-4.00pm) please contact Linda or Jackie

Thank you!

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 11am**

**Easter Celebration with hot cross buns in Oak Meadow**



# Monthly Saturday morning prayer meetings

## The future? Your comments invited.

In 2017, these monthly prayer mornings were started because it was felt that this church needed focussed prayers so that we could determine God's vision for us and the work here in Cheadle Hulme. So, for over 8 years, people have been gathering at church (apart from during lockdown), on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday morning of each month to pray for the church and a vision for it. We have been led each month by a number of willing volunteers, but that number is slowly decreasing and that increases the preparation work required from each one of us. However, from a position of being very uncertain, 8 years ago, about where we, as the church should be going, some clarity has started to appear. Through the generosity of Ros Brown, we have been able to employ Jackie as our Community and Pastoral worker. She has brought new energy and enthusiasm into the church.

Our prayers, both from these prayer mornings and other prayers, are being answered. We should not, and indeed cannot, stop praying for the work that the church is doing and planning, led by our staff members: Jackie, Linda and Susie.

However, I have already mentioned that the number of people leading these prayer mornings has declined, as indeed has the number of people attending in person. (I know that the prayer sheets are circulated more widely before and after the prayer morning, but we don't really know how many people do join with us in their own homes.)

I have been feeling, for some time, that we need to review the concept of the prayer morning and prayerfully discuss what we do going forward. So that is why I have written this article. We need prayerful discussion about what we do in the future.

**WE WILL NOT STOP PRAYING. WE CANNOT STOP PRAYING.** Are there different ways of organising our prayers so that more people will be inspired to join us?

**So, I would ask you to consider the following questions, that were discussed and prayed over at the last prayer morning:**

Is the current format of a monthly prayer meeting, lasting 60 to 90 minutes, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month still workable?

\*If so, can we find additional people to lead it on a regular basis?

\*Might we feel that prayer in this specific meeting is no longer needed and that what we cover, is covered by prayers elsewhere?

If we feel that change is needed, rather than ceasing to meet, how might we change it?

\*Move from monthly to a different interval (say 3 monthly)?

\*Shorten or lengthen the time?

\*Change the time/day of the week?

\*One suggestion is that we meet after Sunday morning worship, once a month, for 30 minutes

\*Ask for and include prayer requests from groups within the church? (The staff already give us requests)

\*Any suggestions that you might have?

If you would like to talk about this or offer a suggestion, please speak to myself, Pat James, Jean Goodacre or Margaret Parker.

Thank you

**Dave James**

## Carols in the Park

13<sup>th</sup> December dawned bright and dry, such a blessing for our Carols in the Park, at Oak Meadow. There was a good turn-out, with our singing ably led by the Salvation Army Band. We were challenged to think about the needs of Asylum seekers as we celebrated Jesus birth, which, we know, was shortly followed by his family having to flee to Egypt for safety, to escape from Herod. Mince pies were enjoyed. A big thank you to our Foodbank Team, who manned a collection for Chelwood in the precinct. The shelves at Asda were nearly bare of sugar, so much was donated to fill the empty shelves at the foodbank.

There will be an Easter celebration in Oak Meadow on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. Do come along and bear witness to God's love for the whole world, as we sing the great Easter hymns. Hot cross buns will be served! **Pat James**



## Christian Aid

The total amount raised by the sponsored swim last November was £2525.50, up from £1659.40 in 2024. We

also received £333.80 in gift aid. Many thanks to everyone who supported this event.

Last year the Cheadle Hulme Christian Aid group raised £7281.68, an increase on the total in 2024 of £6210.0.

The total amount raised in gift aid in 2025 was £853.12

Donations at the Lent Lunches will be for Christian Aid.

### **Save the date! Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Following the successful, 'A Night at the Movies' concert by Poynton Brass Band last June, the band are doing another concert to support Christian Aid at CHMC on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, the day before Christian Aid week begins.

**Hazel Crummett and Gill Smith**

# Thank you



Chelwood foodbank would like to thank everyone who supports them. In 2025 this enabled the foodbank to provide 2,011 food parcels, supporting 3,102 adults and 2,400 children. 274 families were helped with School Holiday Support. Through the bed project, 62 beds were given to those without one.

In December the foodbank was able to deliver some Christmas magic to a huge number of people by distributing 113 Christmas food hampers, and giving gifts to 105 adults and 175 children.

These are some examples of comments from those who the foodbank has been able to help.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Chelwood Foodbank.



## Memories

It was coming up to Easter 2020, and we had enthusiastically promised to send Easter eggs to Chelwood Foodbank. What happened next was way beyond our wildest imaginings – A new virus was spreading rapidly, suddenly we were in lockdown and ordered to ‘stay at home’. Dark days indeed.

But we’d promised those eggs, so we tested the rules and parked a car - boot open - in the middle of the church carpark inviting people to place Easter eggs in the boot keeping 2m apart.

Week after week it became a bit of a community social event - for some people this was the only time they actually saw others. We kept within the rules and wore masks as decreed. It was all very surreal. We offered a Prayer Box for people who were worrying, and some people who wouldn’t ever come to church, came specifically to write prayers for loved ones. Those were such peculiar times, and in the future, our grandchildren will not believe what we did and how it felt!

That started SIX years ago and the Cheadle Hulme collection has taken place every single Tuesday since then (apart from Christmas Day). We’re there in all weathers. Churches Together joined in and started collections on other days.

Now we take a careful of products every week. I reckon at least 330 car loads over the years. It’s become far more than ‘just’ a food collection! It’s about relationships that have been forged over the years. We have a volunteer base of 14 people, some church members, and others who saw what we’re doing and joined in. We’ve built a strong relationship with the foodbank and our online presence is good – these days we post a list of what’s most urgently needed on 12 community sites each week.

As one of our local councillors said a couple of years ago...*“this is church doing what church should do!”*

**Linda Rayner**

## **Stockport Refugee Support Group**

As you read the news do you feel helpless in the face of the problems of the world? What can we do to help refugees, escaping from war and oppression?

Stockport Refugee Support Group has been running for 24 years offering a welcoming, safe space for refugees. They meet at Tiviot Dale Methodist Church, at the far end of the precinct, in Stockport. In a time of increasing hostility their work becomes even more important. Most of the people who come are women and children.

There's a hot vegetarian meal, an English conversation class and free food bags, with space for adults to sit and chat and play facilities for the children. Occasional trips to local attractions are organised. The group is run entirely by volunteers, with no paid staff. It costs about £8,500 pounds a year to run the group, with about two thirds of the funds paying for the hire of the rooms. Other expenses include food, toys and English teaching materials.

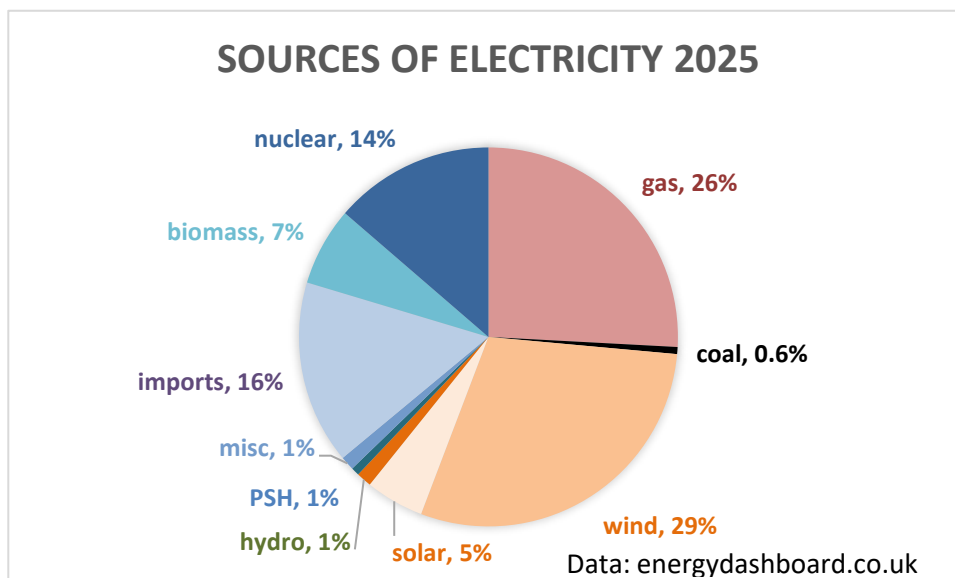
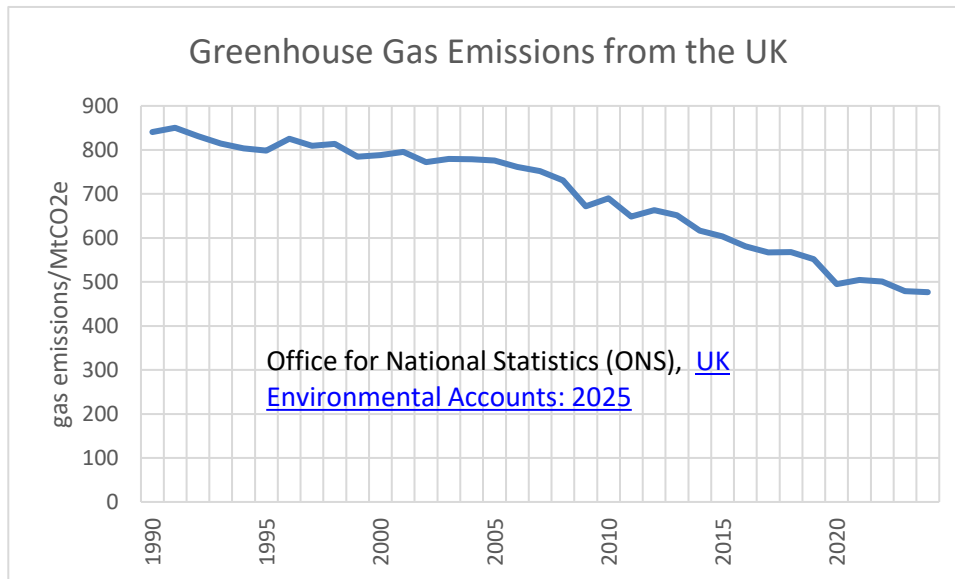
We will have the opportunity to support the very worthwhile work of Stockport Refugee Support Group at the World Church service here at church on Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>, when there will be a collection for them.

**World and Neighbourhood Action Team**

## Good News about Carbon Emissions in the UK

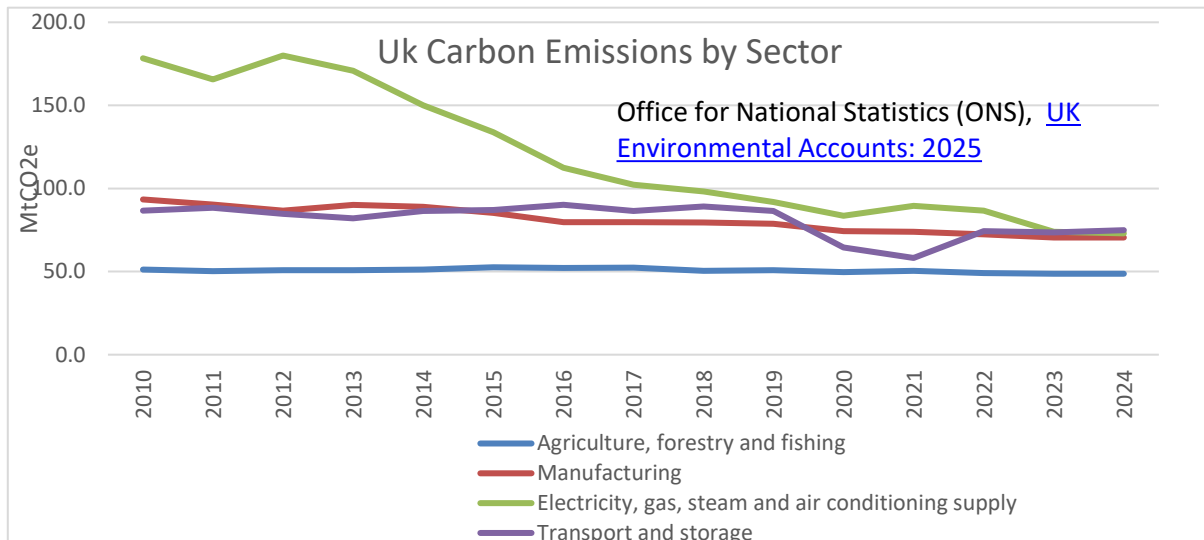
Apologies to those of you horrified by graphs but sometimes a graph illustrates a picture which paints a thousand words.....

**Good News:** The UK has cut its emissions by more than 50% since 1990, largely by reducing the carbon dioxide released when we make electricity, as renewables increasingly replace coal and gas.



Last year, approximately 30% of the electricity produced in the UK was provided by wind generation and overall carbon-free renewables supplied 37%. Solar power is the fastest growing sector – it only provides about 5% of our electricity but that is up by 30% since 2024.

**Not so positive:** Overall emissions from transport now exceed those of the electricity generation sector. Emissions due to flying have grown by 6% since 2024 which more than off-sets the reduction provided by the increased number of electric cars.



(You might note the drop in transport emissions created by Covid – no-one wants to go back to those days! The Aviation industry is working on Sustainable Aviation Fuel and individuals can offset their air travel emissions by planting trees or funding charities working on renewable energy in sub-Saharan Africa).

## Prayer

Lord, we rejoice that many in our country seek to limit the damage we are doing to the wonderful world you created for us. Encourage us to continue our efforts for the sake of all across the planet who suffer the consequences of man-made climate change. Amen

**Pam Howie**

THE FRIENDS OF HESKETH PARK & MELLOR GREEN



**FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**7PM - AGM , 7:30PM QUIZ & SUPPER**

At The Conservative Club, Mellor Rd, Cheadle Hulme

**TICKETS £13** PRICE INCLUDES QUIZ, SUPPER & DESSERT  
(VEGETARIAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE)

**All Tickets must be purchased in advance**

Call : Jenni 0161 485 8682  
Jill 07824 367 570

Email : [Heskethparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:Heskethparkfriends@gmail.com)

**DRINKS & RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE ON THE NIGHT**



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ANY PROFIT MADE WILL GO TOWARDS THE UPKEEP OF THE PARK & MELLOR GREEN