



# Rushden Mission Church

# NEWS

21st April 2024

[www.rushdenmission.co.uk](http://www.rushdenmission.co.uk)

## This week at the Mission

Sunday 21st April	10:45am Morning Service with the Rev David Bracken (also on live stream)
Monday	2pm Pillow Talk 7pm Prayer Time in the Gold Room 8pm Leaders Meeting
Tuesday	10:30am Prayer Time in the Gold Room
Wednesday	7:30pm Home Group at Cynthia's Home
Thursday	10:30am to 12:30pm Faithful Blend Community Café 4:30pm Young People's Worship Group
Saturday	Sisters in Christ Breakfast at Thandi's Home
Sunday 28th April	10:45am Morning Service with the Rev David Bracken (Including Communion) (also on live stream) Followed by a picnic at Irchester Country Park, see details below.



### Sisters in Christ Breakfast

**Saturday 27th April 9:30am at Thandi's Home.**

All women are welcome

### Faithful Blend, Our Community Café

Thursdays 10:30am to 12:30pm

Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Cuppa Soup, Sausage Roll, Toasted Tea Cakes, Cheese Scones and of course, Cake.



**On Sunday 28th April, following our morning service, there will be a Church Picnic at Irchester Country Park.**



Every-  
one is  
wel-  
come,  
you can



bring Family & Friends along too. Bring food for yourselves and those you bring with you and enjoy walks, games and conversation, or relax and watch others using up energy.

**With effect from Saturday 20th April East Northants Child Contact Services will be using our building.**

**ENCCS** provide a service to enable children in families subject to family breakdowns to have contact with both parents in a supervised environment until matters are legally resolved.

The service is led by a team which includes Jeanette Maddams from High Street Church and Kim & Sam's Daughter Pam, other names on the Management Committee are also well known to us.

As a Church we fully support the work carried out by ENCCS and at our recent Church Business unanimously agreed to this arrangement with them. It is a brilliant work that they do.

The impact upon us is that we have agreed not to visit the church between 8am and 6pm on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month, beginning on the 20th April. A result of this is that Communion will now be celebrated on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month to give those preparing it the option of preparing on Saturday afternoon.

ENCCS will also book rooms during the week and may, therefore, be here when Church Groups are, but not in the same room. ENCCS are fully aware of which church groups are booked into the building at any time and will work around any consequences.

### **Here is a full "What we do" from ENCCS.**

When a Parent has left the family home due to a couple separating, many issues may be required to be sorted out in the Family Court. This can take a considerable period of time causing a great deal of distress to all the family, but in particular to any children involved. We aim to support the child or children by providing them with the opportunity to continue contact with the estranged Parent, maintaining their relationship with them throughout this traumatic process, until conflicts are resolved. This is going through the Private Law Process. Contact sessions can be for various session each month lasting from 1 – 2 hours each time. We provide a one to one session with a trained Contact Supervisor who writes an observational, written report. We also provide a lower level of supervised contact called Supported Contact on 2 Saturdays a month (usually first and third Saturday) which is for up to 4 families sharing a larger room at a time, with Volunteers on duty, but no written reports are taken, we are just providing a safe, neutral venue for them to meet with support in place.

We also support some families through Social Services from around the country where children have been removed from a family, can be for a variety of reasons, and have been placed with a Foster family in our area. This is so they can still see their children regularly until decisions have been made for the children's future in the Family Court, this can take up to about a year sometimes. This is going through the Public Law Process. Sessions can be for once a week up to three times a week, usually after school time slots.

**SUPPORTED CONTACT** – we offer this on two Saturdays a month for a two hour session in a safe, neutral, child-friendly venue with other families, with toys/games/activities and refreshments. Volunteer Staff observe from afar, with no written reports needed. This is a lower level of Supervision.

**SUPERVISED CONTACT** – we offer this on the same two Saturdays as above, these are our busiest Saturdays. This is with a trained Contact Supervisor supervising one family making an observational written report as asked for by the Family Court. We also sometimes supervise families on the quiet Saturdays and during the week, in between by appointment if needed.

**SUPERVISED CONTACT IN THE COMMUNITY** – Some of our families have permission to go into the local community, on foot only. We often take families in this position to the nearby Pocket park/Corner Shop which are just 5 minutes away from the Centre. On rare occasions, in some circumstances we do supervise in the Community further away Eg Abington Park, Northampton, Wicksteed Park, Rushden Lakes – always working with a back up person nearby in case of an emergency.

**HANDOVERS** – Available on the same busy two Saturdays. This is when a Resident Parent brings along their children for us to pass the children over to the Contact Parent, they then have permission to go off site into the Community, unsupervised by ENCCS and then they bring them back at an agreed time, all families vary.

**CONTACT PLANS** – we can offer support to Parents who are putting together a plan to ensure that they can arrange to share seeing their child in the future unsupervised, away from the Centre.

**National Association of Child Contact Centres** – we have accredited membership with this organisation, who assess us (like an Ofsted inspection) once every 3 years which we have to pass to continue to offer our services. Otherwise, Social Services and the Family Courts wouldn't use our services.

**ICFA (Improving child and family arrangements)** – We have a contract with the Family Court via a third party to provide extra work with families who have more complicated circumstances to try and resolve. We are proud that we have achieved this contract. This involves spending extra time with each parent and the child, sometimes separately, could be to do Life Story Book work with the child and 'thinking outside of the box' to move on more positively for the child to have a good relationship with both parents.