

Cornerstone News – January 2025



Wishing all our friends, customers and supporters a **Happy New Year** – thank you for all your support, custom and generosity in the past year.

2024 was quite a year for us, we said “goodbye” and “hello” to a number of key staff. Most recently, Lee who started in September finished with us just before Christmas. Thankfully James has agreed to take on his hours in the short term. We will be recruiting someone to take on Saturdays very soon. We are so pleased Gilda joined us in February, she led the team brilliantly over Christmas and we served over 130 Christmas dinners to very appreciative customers. Liz remains, as ever, our cake baking marvel, her experience and support in the kitchen is invaluable.



2024 was also the year of an attempted break in over the August bank holiday, leaving us needing a new back door. It was scheduled for replacement in December but unfortunately it has now been put off to January. In November, a car accident caused significant damage to the front of the building, leaving us needing significant building work in 2025. That is not expected to take place now until March and will require us to be closed for at least a week. Pray for us amid this disruption and uncertainty, but also praise God for our amazing staff.

Volunteers

We are so thankful for all our amazing volunteers, many of whom have filled in extra gaps all year. We have very few regular gaps now during the week but we are still in need of more people to help particularly on the following shifts:

- 1st and 2nd Saturdays afternoon of each month – washing up
- Tuesdays 12-2pm – counter/ taking orders & making drinks

Do please get in touch if you are able to help or know someone who can.



In the Shop

The current Take Note promotion runs until the end of January and includes the winning books from the Christian Booksellers and Suppliers Conference in September so do come and browse the shelves.

Make and Bake

Make and Bake for Under 5's starts up again this coming Tuesday, 7th January and runs every week in term time. £2 per child – no need to book.

We now also have a selection of surplus food items on offer to families that has been organized by Grow – the local charity who run baby groups around the area. A new selection of food arrives each week on Tuesday, so do pick some up when you come to Make and Bake.

Games afternoons



Customers continue to meet here for games – Rummikub on Tuesdays and Scrabble on Thursdays, both from 2pm – both lovely relaxed players who'd be happy for more people to join them.



Prayer breakfasts

Our monthly prayer breakfasts continue on the second Saturday of each month. The next one will be on **Saturday 11th January** at 8.30am and I look forward to you joining us for croissants, tea, coffee, prayer and fellowship.