

St Michael's News June 2013

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Rector: Rev. John A. Castle



St Michaels' Links Up

We are blessed at St Michael's in having an active, varied and caring community. This is demonstrated so well by the many members of our congregation who have come forward to act as Links within the new LinkUp scheme that kicked off at Pentecost.

It is important that this web of Links holds us together and strengthens our bond as members of our Christian Fellowship at St Michael's, which in time should help us with outreach into the wider community. It is hoped that we can 'watch out' for each other within the groups we belong to and help new members of our congregation to feel included. This is the idea behind LinkUp.

We are building up a caring network of people willing to act as Links, who can provide welcoming friendship to those members of our church that they come into contact with and also LinkUp the many other groups in the church through occasional Links Fellowship meetings. There are still some unrepresented members within the scheme. Are *you* able to offer your help? We do hope so.

As you read through this newsletter you will find a section about LinkUp and how to contact us. Please pray for this scheme to flourish.

LinkUp Leadership Team



Please pray for those on the prayer board and for those who died recently: Carol King, Robert Brown, John Radford.

Church Activities

June Coffee Rota Reminder

2nd June	Ann Clough	Peter Clough
9th June	Kate Bettison	Jennie Rolf
16th June	Ann Weston	Betty Wilson
23rd June	Marion Blackmore	Jennie Piggin
30th June	Lesley Gutteridge	Di Taylor

Prayer Meetings. Prayers for Pastoral Care are on the 2nd Wednesday each month (12th June), 7.30–8.15 pm in church.

House Groups meet each week at these homes:

Monday	8.00 pm	11 Sylvan Ridge (Rupert & Sheridan)
Tuesday	10.15 am	6 Crowthorne Rd (Doris Saunders)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	28 Wiltshire Avenue, Crowthorne (Elizabeth Ritchie)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	2 School Hill (John & Sue Campbell)
Tuesday	7.45 pm	34 Albion Road (Linda Lemmon)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	25 Templar Close (John & Stephanie Martin)

If anyone would like to join a group, please speak to John White (01344 774349) for more details.

Crèche

A Crèche facility is available for under threes in the Pastoral centre. Please arrive prior to the 9.30 am service to settle your children, signing them in on arrival. Earlier collection can be arranged if you wish to share Holy Communion as a family. Otherwise, collect your children after the service at coffee time.

If you can help with the rota, please contact Caroline Bowles on 07995 65850. You will need to complete CRB forms, which are available from the office. The crèche will not be available during school holidays.

Consistory Court Petition

Notice is hereby given that the Parochial Church Council propose to petition the Consistory Court of the Diocese for a faculty to move the memorial stone of William Goodyer, d. 1855, approximately 1 m. west from its present position to allow for a pathway to be installed. Details of the work proposed may be inspected at the Parish Office from 1st June to 28th June 2013, between the hours of 09.30 and 12.30, Monday to Friday.

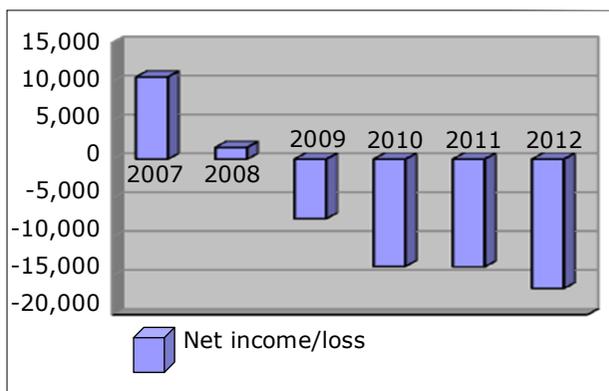
St Michael's Finances

At the recent APCM, the 2012 financial results and budget for 2013 were explained. For those who were unable to attend, a brief summary is provided here.

In many ways the finances of the church are no different from our personal finances. If we spend more than we earn we either have to make up the difference by using up our savings, or borrowing from a credit card company or bank. In 2012, St

Michael's expenses exceeded its income by £16,634, and we've had to fund this from savings (quite correctly, no bank would lend us money for this – they do for governments and I can explain why over a tea after a 9.30 service). Unfortunately, having our expenses exceed income has happened for four years in a row, leaving our savings very depleted – something has to change.

Our budget for 2012 and 2013 was/is to be cash neutral – i.e. cash in equals cash out. We have a non-cash expense of £5,440 each year, being depreciation of the Pastoral Centre. So that means our budget for both years was/is a loss of £5,440.



	2012 actual	2013 budget	
Net income	163,879	179,204	9%
Parish share	(99,275)	(101,261)	
Staff/contractors	(23,761)	(24,236)	
Running costs	(41,870)	(42,707)	
Pastoral Centre depreciation	(5,440)	(5,440)	
Charitable giving	(10,167)	(11,000)	
Net savings/loss	(16,634)	(5,440)	

(Continued on page 4)

(*St Michael's Finances' continued from page 3*)

To achieve this in 2013 we need an increase in income of 9%. It is felt unlikely that we can increase income from letting the hall so that is budgeted as flat, meaning we need to increase our giving by 13%, either by increasing our own contributions or finding new members to join us.

If all those who gave in 2012 would give an extra £10 per month, our problems would be solved. So please think about this, remembering that for some this will be hard while others could give more. But it is the cost of a take-away pizza or three large coffees per month. Part of the 'journey' is taking seriously the fact that our church is funded by its members.

Jon Toohey, Treasurer

Kidz Church is part of the 9.30 am Parish Communion Service every Sunday for children aged 3–10. Please register your children at 9.20 in the Pastoral Centre. The children join the adults towards the end of the church service. Parents interested in their children receiving Holy Communion are asked to speak to Rev. John White.

REACH, for children in Year 6 and above, runs parallel to the Parish Communion service, at 9:30–10:45 am and starts in the Upper Room of the Pastoral Centre.

toddler time

Toddler Time is for everyone under school age and their carers. It's on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, from 9.30 to 11.00 am in the Pastoral Centre (not school holidays). Come and join us for songs, craft activities, drinks, toast, a Bible story, prayers, and an opportunity for play (children) and chat (parents). NB, Dads also welcome!

Family Service

The Family Service is held on the first and third Sundays of the month, including school holidays. It caters for families with primary school and pre-school-age children. It is informal and child-friendly; there are action songs and an interactive talk. Refreshments (real coffee and pastries or cakes) are served before the service in the church from 11.00 am. The service starts at 11.15 am and lasts about 40 minutes. The Family Service is designed to be the place you really can come with your small kids and not worry how they will behave! Meet other families and make friends.



Help is always required for the Family Service with regards to refreshments, sides persons and technicians. If you would like to volunteer, please email me at kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk. Thank you, Kirsty Dunlop

The Link Scheme

The Link Scheme is putting together a list of congregation members who would be willing occasionally to offer a lift to one of our church members. If you would be willing to be called on for this, please contact a member of the Link committee: Hilary Smith (01252 872683), Stephanie Martin (01252 873316), Janet Pilbeam (01252 871386), Linda Lemon (01252 874524).

LinkUp needs your support.

Work has begun setting up the LinkUp scheme – see the March newsletter and the sheet distributed in church at Pentecost. Copies are available at the back of church.

The LinkUp scheme aims to connect all members of St Michael's together across the different services to make us a more-caring, friendly and welcoming church.

The programme has four phases:

- Phase 1: Links
- Phase 2: Link Leaders
- Phase 3: Sick and Bereavement Visitors
- Phase 4: Community Lunches/Teas



Phase 1 is being finalised at the moment. More volunteers are needed.

There are four steps in phase 1:

- Get the church connected across the services – people have agreed to be Links for most of the 'groups' within church.
- Find people willing to be Links for the rest of the groups.
- Find people willing to be Links for those people not in any group.
- Arrange the initial LinkUp Fellowship Meeting.

A form is available in church (and on the St Michael's website) for people willing to take part in the scheme. Please complete it and give it to a member of the LinkUp leadership team: Linda Lemmon, Hilary Smith Janet Pilbeam, Stephanie Martin, Sara Kaufman.



Whirlwind @ St. Michael's 30th June 2013

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, whatever your age, and whether you like things traditional or modern, there will be something for you in the "Whirlwind @ St Michael's" on 30th June.

There will be something for everyone during the morning – whatever you like there will be something that will interest you (and your family and friends).

The plan for the day is as follows:

8:00	Book of Common Prayer Communion
8:45	Breakfast starts
9:30	Introduction and Worship
9:45	Whirlwind Activities 1
10:30	Family Eucharist
11:00	Coffee Break!
11:15	Whirlwind Activities 2
12:00	Worship – bringing it all together!
12:30	Parish Picnic



It's a chance to learn more about our faith from the Bible, from prayer, from doing fun things, from music, and from each other.

We look forward to seeing all there. All activities will be either in the church, churchyard or Pastoral Centre. Come and join us at any time!

Church groups

Please book all planned events through the office (01252 873030) to ensure there are no double bookings. The office takes private bookings most weekends, so it is essential that dates are checked and then entered into the office diary. A booking form should also be completed giving times required. Please do not ask clergy to take on this responsibility.

Calling all Creative Girls

- Do you like knitting / crocheting / sewing?
- Like to chat and make new friends?
- Are you partial to tea and cake?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you might be interested in joining us on the first Monday of the month between 1.00 and 3.00 pm. We

intend supporting charities by creating blankets and clothes. Our first meeting in on the 3rd of June. Please contact Rebecca Brown (01344 775185) or Rosaria Toohey (01344 773617) for more details.

TWAM – Tools With A Mission.

We require any unwanted item for education in places such as Africa, Kosovo and other parts of the world where we can help. Tools for motor vehicles, wooden tools, sewing machines, knitting machines, wool and sewing items would be most welcome. Please see leaflets and posters at the back of church. Please contact David Ragan 01344 779176 or 07831 515783.



Coffee Helpers

We have been asked if we could get one small table and few chairs out each Sunday as some of the elderly need to sit down. Are there any volunteers that could help? Many thanks, Lesley Gutteridge.

Sandhurst Day Centre

Sandhurst Day Centre is one of the recipients of St Michael's Church charitable giving. It is located on the Yorktown Road on the edge of the Memorial Park and access to all areas is on one floor. It is a non-profit making charitable trust which aims to promote the welfare of the aged, offering a range of services to its members. There is a small membership fee, and meals are subsidised.

The centre is staffed by qualified carers, assisted by a team of volunteers, who aim to create a stimulating environment within a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Tea and coffee are available on arrival and at midday a two-course lunch is served which has been cooked on the premises, using fresh produce where possible. After lunch members may participate in various activities designed to provide mental and physical stimulation, such as arts and crafts and keep fit with qualified instructors, card games or a session of Bingo. A short ecumenical church service is held each week for those who wish to attend.

Clients are transported to and from the centre in our own minibus. This is also used for occasional outings to local places of interest.

Fay Kidd

Victoria Oakley and Edward Williams' Wedding



Picture: Courtesy, David Robins

What a wonderfully happy occasion this was. We, the choir and bell ringers, had been looking forward to this wedding for some time for good reason. Victoria's parents, Bob and Jenny, are long-time members of St Michael's congregation and take a great interest in the music which the choir perform at Evensong services, and Bob takes a keen interest in church

organs. Bob is also an ever-present bell ringer. Victoria herself learnt to bell ring at St Michael's, as did her sister Caroline, who was one of the bridesmaids.

With this as a background we were pleased to be part of making this a special day. There was ringing both before and after the wedding, and Victoria had a ring with us before leaving via the south doorway.

The choir sang five anthems in all, finishing with Rutter's 'The Lord Bless You and Keep You' while the couple were at the altar. We were pleased to welcome back our former organist Richard Seaton, who played for this wedding. John White took the service and John Castle gave the address which was received with applause from the congregation. We can't remember that happening before.

Lizzie Fulleylove and Derek Palmer

Gift aid envelopes – new rules

If you are using gift-aid envelopes, please check that the following statement applies to your donations before using the envelopes:

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and council tax do not qualify. I understand that Sandhurst PCC will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Thank you.

Used Postage Stamps

Please keep collecting used stamps, as this is a way we can easily help several charities. We currently support the British Kidney Patients' Association, the Star and Garter Homes, Research into Cot Death and The Leprosy Mission. Please cut round your stamps to cut down weight, which means we can post them more cheaply. Many thanks, Doris Saunders and Jenny Thorn.

Church Fundraising

If you would like to organise a fundraising event for the church or make a suggestion, please contact John White (01344 774349) or Jan King (01344 750285).

Food Bank

Thank you for the food donations so far. Please keep them coming. Collection boxes are located in the church and in the Pastoral Centre.

Pastoral Centre

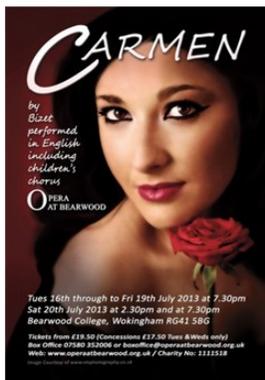
The Pastoral Centre facilities are available to hire at reasonable cost. Special rates are available for church members. Please ring the office on 01252 873030.

The Triangle Café and Christian Bookshop

The Triangle has a very wide range of devotional and other material available for all. See some of them on our website at www.thetriangle.org.uk or call 01252 519172. The Triangle Café and Christian Bookshop, 64 Kingsmead, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU147SL.

Carmen

The Social Committee is organising a trip to Opera at Bearwood's production of Carmen. The production runs from Tuesday 16th July until Saturday 20th. This year, in addition to the usual involvement of one of our vergers and three choir members, our Choir Director, Lizzie will be taking the solo role of Frasquita. She will be performing on the Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Matinee. In addition, Sue Moore from choir will be taking the role of Mercedes on the other nights. Four children from our choir will be taking part. If this has not whetted your appetite, then perhaps the presence of our Rector with trumpet in the orchestra might provide the final incentive!



Parochial Church Council (PCC) Members

After the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 28th April, the PCC consisted of:

Clergy:

Revd John Castle
Revd John White

Churchwardens:

Emma Hodge
John Martin

Deanery Synod Representatives

Jan Herd (2011–2014)
Betty Wilson (2012–2014)
John Campbell (2013–2014)
Rupert Cremer-Evans (2013–2014)
vacancy

Elected Members:

Sarah Ashton – Secretary (2013–2016)
David Ashworth (2013–2016)
Karen Allen (2013–2016)
David Hunt – Vice Chair (2013–2015)
Rebecca Brown (2011–2014)
Angela Harper (2011–2014)
Diane Pullar (2011–2014)
Catherine Wilkins (2011–2014)
Jon Toohey – Treasurer (2012–2015)
Karen Carter (2012 – 2015)
Kirsty Dunlop (2012–2015)
Clare Hardy (2013–2016)

Co-opted Members:

Dave Percival

Dates relate to period of office.

Newsletter

Please email William Lee at stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk or leave written requests with the office. Deadline for July edition: 17th June 2013.

To help the environment and save paper, you can now receive future editions of this newsletter by email? These are in colour and are normally sent out a few days before the paper copy is available. To opt into this scheme please contact PCC member David Hunt (david.hunt@bcs.org.uk).

Regular Activities at the Pastoral Centre

Little Sandhurst Nursery. Daily! Phone Marian for details 07732 409095.

Line Dancing. Every Monday evening in the hall from 7.00 pm, £5 includes raffle. Just come along and have fun. Tea and coffee available or bring your own drinks. Ring Sue or Arron on 01344 485097 for information.

Rainbows meet on Tuesdays: 5.00–6.00 pm (5–7 year olds).

3rd Guides meet on Tuesdays: 6.30–8.30 pm (10–14 year olds).

4th Guides and Rangers meet on Fridays 7.00–9.00 pm.

Pilates takes place in the large upper room, most days and evenings. For more information ring Carl on 01344 762712.

Zumbatomic after-school classes, 4.00 pm on Thursdays – the crazy-cool dance fitness workout for kids aged 4–12 years. Packed with choreographed routines to music like hip-hip, reggaeton and cumbia, Zumbatomic classes increase focus and self-confidence, boost metabolism and improve coordination. For more information contact Beth on 07976 231896 or go to www.zumbawithbeth.co.uk.

Karate Club for Children. Fridays 5.45–6.45 pm. Phone Neil on 07816 163845.

The Rock and Pop Foundation. New Thursday guitar tuition sessions started here in April. For further information please call 0844 879 3305 or visit www.rockandpopfoundation.com.

Church Calendar

Date & Time	Venue	Event	Contact
Sat 8 June 3.00–7.30pm	Thriftswood	Garden party	Jan King
Sat 29 June	Church	Organ/choral concert	Choir
Sun 30 June	Church	Whirlwind/Parish picnic (see p6)	Emma Hodge & Dave Percival
Sun 7 July 12.30pm	Rackstraws	Parish Sunday lunch	Jan King
Sat 20 July matinee	Bearwood College	Carmen: church party to Bearwood Opera. Tickets £20	Social Committee
Sun 28 July	Memorial Park	Churches Together Songs of Praise	To be announced

June Church Services

Sunday 2nd June – 1st after Trinity – Topic: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

1 Kings 18:20–39 (p359); Galatians 1:1–12 (p1168); Luke 7:1–10 (p1035)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.15 am Family Service
- 6.30 pm Contemplative Evening Prayer

Sunday 9th June – 2nd after Trinity – Topic: The widow of Zarepath

1 Kings 17:8–24 (p358); Galatians 1:11–24 (p1168); Luke 7:11–17 (p1035)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 6.30 pm Ecumenical Service at the Catholic Church.

Saturday 15th June – Wedding

2.00 pm Emma Fencott and Tom Fuller

Sunday 16th June – 3rd after Trinity – Topic: Naboth's Vineyard

1 Kings 21:1–21a (p364); Galatians 2:15–21 (p1169); Luke 7:36–8:3 (p1036)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.15 am Family Service
- 6.30 pm no service

Sunday 23rd June – 4th after Trinity – Topic: Elijah runs away

1 Kings 19:1–15a (p361); Galatians 3:23–29 (p1170); Luke 8:26–39 (p1038)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.30 am Baptism of Harry Gale and George Thumbwood
- 6.30 pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 30th June – 5th after Trinity – Topic: Passing on the mantle

2 Kings 2:1–14 (p369); Galatians 5:1,13–25 (p1171); Luke 9:51–62 (p1040)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion

Holy communion is followed by Whirlwind, see page 6.



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