

# St Michael's News October 2013

St Michael and All Angels, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst,  
Berkshire, GU47 8HN [www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)

Office open 9.30 am – 12.15 pm weekdays  
E-mail: [office@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)  
Tel. 01252 873030

Rector: Rev. John A. Castle  
Email: [Rector@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:Rector@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)  
Tel. 01252 872168



## Challenges or problems?

I prefer to think of the obstacles in my life as challenges to be faced and overcome. I believe that the challenges I face day to day are God's way of helping me to learn more about myself. I often find I can achieve more than I realised I could.

In my life I have come across people who seem to live under a permanent cloud of gloom, believing each problem is insurmountable. I pray regularly for these people, asking God to give them the strength to cope with their challenges and to turn to Him for help.

I thank God that I am able to face challenges with a positive mind and rise to meet them head on, with His guidance to help me. Some days I really feel that God is challenging me to see how far my positive attitude will stretch!

On extra challenging days I look at a card which I carry in my handbag. It says: 'Don't worry about anything, Pray about everything, Don't forget to thank God for the answers.'

### Karen Allen



*Please pray for those on the prayer board and for those being baptised here this month: Charlotte Elbourne, Michael Winn, Abigail Franklin and Neve Futcher. Please also pray for Mike, Hazel, who has cancer, and Cameron Lee, who is suffering from severe eczema (see page 9).*

## Church Activities

### October Coffee Rota Reminder

6th October	Ann Clough	Peter Clough
13th October	Kate Bettison	Jennie Rolf
20th October	Ann Weston	Betty Wilson
27th October	Lesley Gutteridge	Di Taylor

Prayer Meetings. Prayers for pastoral care are on the 4th Wednesday each month (23rd October), 7.30–8.15 pm in Pastoral Counselling room 1 (behind the office).

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, please collect your children after the service at coffee time.

The crèche will not be available during school holidays.

Kidz Church is part of the 9.30 Parish Communion Service every Sunday for children aged 3–10. Please register your children at 9.20 am 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 Castle.

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 and toast, a Bible story and 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 and includes 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](mailto:kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk). Thank you, *Kirsty Dunlop*

### Over 18 and looking for some fellowship?

Funky is a social group for 20–30s and stands for 'Finished University No Kids Yet' – although you need not meet any of these categories – it's just a name. University students are welcome. Our core activity is a Wednesday evening Bible-based study which focuses on bringing your ideas and exploring them. The group is really aimed at investigating ideas and therefore we welcome all viewpoints, as that's what makes it interesting. Alongside this we also meet every Sunday for a pub lunch and do a pub quiz on Monday evenings. Generally, it's just a place to make some new friends and get to know people. So, if you are aged 18–30 (and over, if you're really keen) give me a call and get involved. Frank, 07540 933852

### Good luck Janice

Congratulations to Janice Devine on being appointed Music Director at St James' Finchampstead. We wish both Janice and Emily well as they transfer to St James's choir, and thank them, together with Colum, James and Cameron, for all they have contributed to our church over the years.



### 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).

### 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.

### Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper this year will take place in the Pastoral Centre on Saturday 19th October 2013 at 7.00pm. It will consist of a ploughman's supper, accompanied by John's Jazz. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets are available from the Parish Office: £7 adults, £3.50 school-age children, £20 family 2 + 2.

## **Alternative Hallowe'en Party!**

**NO Witches, Ghouls or Vampires**

**BUT there will be Games, Food, Craft and a Conjuror doing "Magic Tricks"!**

**For all children aged 4-11**

**Where?**

**St Michael's Pastoral Centre, Lower Church Road,  
Sandhurst GU47 8HN**

**When?**

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October, from 5.30-7.30 pm**

**Suggested donation: £2 per child**

**Run by Sandhurst Churches Together.**

**All leaders are CRB Checked. If you'd like to help, or for more info, or to book, contact the Parish Office (01252 873030)**

## PCC working morning

On 21st September, the PCC met for a working morning, a chance to reflect on our journey so far and to look at the journey ahead of us.

The morning started with fellowship over breakfast, which was followed by a time of worship before we all reflected on What the Lord is Doing, both in our church and in the wider community. We also reflected on what He is holding back? As well as a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, we looked at the resources (human as well as financial) we may need.

There is a lot of work ahead of us and we need your prayers as we move forward. Please pray for your PCC and for the meeting on 9th October.

Emma Hodge

## Traidcraft



Sale of Gifts – Traidcraft are having a sale in October to make way for new gifts for Christmas. Come and grab a bargain!

## Foundation Governor needed!

St Michael's School has a vacancy for one Foundation Governor, to serve for an initial term of four years. We have ten foundation governors at St Michael's, out of a total of 18 governors. Foundation Governors are selected locally, but actually appointed by the Diocese of Oxford. The selection itself is carried out by a small team of governors, which includes the Rector, and is based on consideration of the skills which applicants have to offer and the needs of the governing body (GB).

The full GB meets five or six times a year, and governors are also expected to contribute to the work of at least one of our committees (Finance, Premises, Personnel, Admissions, and Curriculum & Standards). This usually involves one further meeting each term. We also expect that governors will involve themselves in other school activities if time permits, such as attending school productions, the Annual Carol Service and so on. So you must have some spare time in addition to any skills that you may be able to bring to the GB.

If you are interested and would like to know more about what the post involves, and have full details of how to apply and the selection procedure, please speak to Rev. Castle or to me not later than Sunday 13th October.

We look forward to hearing from you! Chris Harris, Chair of Governors

## News from Maggie Crewes

*'A new month, a new country, a new six-month chapter with Chisomo Children's Club in Malawi!'*



After a difficult few months for Maggie with her father's death, just as she was about to set off for a new assignment in Malawi, she now writes that she has arrived safely (August 27th), settled into a little flat there and unpacked for the first time really since April 2012 when she left Ethiopia!

She gives thanks to God for good initial meetings with the Chisomo staff. 'I am working closely with the new director – his name is Archangel – that must bode well! He is a keen Christian man and enthusiastic about the challenge to "turn Chisomo around" and re-energise this ministry to street children in Malawi.'

Please continue to pray for her as she settles in, seeks funding, sets up the program of staff training, and reviews things like Child Protection policies over the coming months.

Please also pray for the Chisomo staff team – they have been through difficult times – pray for a good team spirit to be re-kindled and that they would be encouraged by our God of re-creation who longs to touch the lives of children and families here in Malawi.

And for her Mum: 'We are very thankful to have found her a new, much more suitable place to live – but making the adjustment is huge. She moved in early September and has been struggling with this – learning a new place, meeting new people, and not really grasping why it has to be like this – all whilst grieving Dad. Please pray also for my sister Jen who is carrying the load of caring for her.'

Liz Percival

## HOST

Could you offer someone a home far from home for just a day or two? HOST, a well-established charity, is hoping to hear from people who enjoy making others feel at home, and who would love to meet interesting young adults from other parts of the world who are currently studying at universities in the UK, and who want to understand this country better. Invitations can be for a day, a weekend, or three days at Christmas. Sharing Christmas with someone who has little idea what Christmas is can be really special – and for the guest,

much better than being on a deserted university campus. Invitations are urgently needed from volunteer hosts, no matter how far they live from a university. To find out more, please see [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or contact local organiser Paul Ryall 01692 630710. Thank you.

### The Elusive Quest: religious peace building in a world of difference

This lecture, by Canon David Porter, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Director of Reconciliation, is the 2013 Beach Lecture given at Newbold College of Higher Education, St Mark's Road, Binfield RG42 4AN on Tuesday 15th October at 7.30 pm. In April 2011, you may remember, Canon Porter gave the final lecture, about Christian reconciliation, of St Michael's 2011 winter talks. More information can be had by searching [Newbold Beach Lecture 2013](#).

### TWAM – Tools with a mission. Revive and thrive.

We require any unwanted item for education in remote places such as Africa, Kosovo and many 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 back of church. Please contact David Ragan 01344 779176 or 07831 515783.



### 100 Club Draw – July 2013

1st Prize – Mrs Iris Bryant. No. 33 £20  
2nd Prize – Mrs Rosemary Steele. No. 54 £10  
3rd Prize – Mr Adrian Cox. No. 41 £5

### 100 Club Draw – June 2013

1st Prize – George Castle. No. 17 £20  
2nd Prize – Ed Berridge. No. 102 £10  
3rd Prize – Mrs Rosemary Steele. No. 54 £5



'CAP Money' is a free money management course that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple cash-based system that really works. This course will help anyone gain more control over their finances, so they can save, give and prevent debt.

We ran this course in April and have now arranged to run it again in October. It consists of three one-hour sessions, starting on 16th October 2013. The course will be held in the Pastoral Centre Upper Room, St Michael's Church, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst GU47 8HN. Phone Rupert on 01344 777137 to find out more and to register your interest. Alternatively, you can go on to the website [www.capmoneycourse.org](http://www.capmoneycourse.org), where you can find more information and register your interest to join us or another church nearer you.

### Nifty Needles

Do you like knitting, crocheting, sewing and making new friends? Please do come along on the first Monday afternoon of the month, 1.00–3.00 pm in the Pastoral Centre lounge, and get creative! Please bring your own knitting, crotchet, sewing or creative project to enjoy creating in the afternoon, or have a go at a knit for one of the charities we are supporting. There are lots of experienced knitters to help beginners so just come along. Please contact Rebecca Brown (01344 775185) or Rosaria Toohey (01344 773617) for more details.

### 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. 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 Jan King (01344 750285).

### Gift Aid (blue) envelopes – new rules

Please use the Gift Aid envelopes for even small amounts of cash if you are a taxpayer and have paid enough tax to do so. This is free money from the government and worth doing because it all adds up!

**But**, 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.

### Heritage Open Days

During the weekend of Friday 13th to Sunday 15th September; several people enjoyed exploring the heritage of our church. Tours of the church were given by Catherine Wilkins, here showing a picture of the old church, prior to 1853. Tours of the belfry were given by Derek Palmer.



## Royal County of Berkshire Churches Trust

The Royal County of Berkshire Churches Trust was set up in 1984. Its objective is to raise funds to help with the cost of repairs to the fabric of Christian Churches in Berkshire of any denomination belonging to or associated with 'Churches together in England'. It also aims to encourage churches to make use of their buildings for the benefit of the community at large, if this can be achieved without compromising the architectural quality of the church. As well as helping to fund repairs to roofs, spires and flooring, the Trust also helps with new heating systems.

One source of funding is the Ride and Stride, which takes place each September. This year it took place on the 14th. The money raised is split between this charity and the participant's own church.

Emma Hodge

### The Triangle Café and Christian Bookshop

The Triangle has a very wide range of great devotional and other material available for all. We always have good offers in store, from wafers to candles. We have Alpha and other course materials, Fairtrade products, great books for children, and much much more! The Triangle Café and Christian Bookshop, 64 Kingsmead, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU147SL. Tel. 01252 519172. [www.thetriangle.org.uk](http://www.thetriangle.org.uk)

The Triangle is seeking a volunteer in the bookshop for up to two days per week, in whole or half days. The person should preferably have some retail and computer experience, and be willing to work for the vision of The Triangle. Apply to Paul on 01252 519172 or email [admin@thetriangle.org.uk](mailto:admin@thetriangle.org.uk).

### Please pray

Please pray for Cameron Lee (aged 10). Cameron suffers from a severe form of atopic eczema. Symptoms include cracked, sore and bleeding skin. The exact cause of atopic eczema is unknown. However, it often occurs in people who get allergies (atopic means sensitivity to allergens). Atopic eczema can run in families and often occurs alongside asthma, which Cameron also suffers from.

Twice a week, Cameron attends Frimley Park hospital for treatment for his skin condition as well as taking regular prescription drugs such as steroids, which have very serious and damaging side effects both physically and mentally. We are fully aware of God's grace and power in prayer. We come to you for urgent prayers to our Lord for help and healing, in faith and confidence that Christ our Lord can heal him.

God bless you all. Aisha, William and Lauren (Cameron's Mum, Dad and little sister)

### Pastoral Centre

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

### Newsletter

Please email William Lee at [stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk) or leave written requests with the Pastoral Centre office. Deadline for November edition: 25th October 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](mailto:david.hunt@bcs.org.uk)

### Reminder

On Wednesday 2nd October at 8.00 pm John Castle gives an illustrated talk entitled 'The Holy Land – a Virtual Pilgrimage' about his experiences in the Holy Land. This will be an illustrated talk about the holy sites and the Biblical story with reference to the situation today.



## Regular Activities at the Pastoral Centre

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.

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 such as hip-hop, 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](http://www.zumbawithbeth.co.uk).

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

Karate Club for Children. Friday's 5.45–6.45pm. 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](http://www.rockandpopfoundation.com).



## Church Calendar

Date & Time	Venue	Event	Contact
Sun 29 Sept – Sun 27 Oct		Harvest Quiz	Jan King
Wed 2 Oct 8.00 pm	Church	Talk: The Holy Land (see p10)	John Castle
Sun 6 Oct 8.30–11.30	Pastoral Centre	Home Produce Stall	
Sun 13 Oct	Church	Harvest Festival (donations to Crowthorne foodbank)	
Sat 19 Oct 7.00 pm	Pastoral Centre	Harvest Supper	Social Committee
Sun 24 Nov	Empress Gardens	Lunch	Jan King
Sun 1 Dec 8.30 am–12 noon	Pastoral Centre	Advent Fayre	Jenny Thorne & Social Committee

# October Church Services

### Sunday 6th October – 19th after Trinity – Topic: Enduring hardship

Lamentations 1:1–6 (p822); 2 Timothy 2:1–13 (p1195); Luke 17:5–10 (p1051)

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

### Sunday 13th October – 20th after Trinity – Topic: Harvest/The ten lepers

Deuteronomy 26:1–11 (p203); Luke 17:11–19 (p1051)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.30 am Baptism of Charlotte Elbourne and Michael Winn
- 6.30 pm Ecumenical Service

### Saturday 19th October – Weddings

- 12.00noon Emily Stones and Graham Birch
- 2.00pm Donna Baulch and Steve Roberts

### Sunday 20th October – 21st after Trinity – Topic: Correctly handling the word of truth

Jeremiah 31:27–34 (p793); Timothy 2:14–26 (p1196); Luke 18:1–8 (p1052)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion and Baptism of Abigail Franklin
- 11.15 am Family Service. **Topic:** Prayer
- 6.30 pm No Service

### Sunday 27th October – 22nd after Trinity – Topic: Choosing a godly life

Joel 2:23–32 (p913); 2 Timothy 3 (p1196); Luke 18:9–14 (p1052)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.30 am Baptism of Neve Futchter
- 6.30 pm Memorial Service



Find us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsSandhurst>



Follow us on Twitter (@StMichaelShurst)

<https://twitter.com/#!/StMichaelShurst>

If you have any comments, events, news or updates for the website or the Facebook page, please email Louisa on [louisaww@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:louisaww@yahoo.co.uk).