

Portsmouth Post August 2006



Christ Church Portsmouth

Christ's life for the Community
through celebration, confidence and compassion

Visit our web site at
www.christchurchportsdown.org

Services in August

Wednesday 2nd

10:00 Midweek Communion

Sunday 6th

Transfiguration

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 2)

10:30 Holy Communion

Ephesians 4 : 1-16

John 6 : 24-35

Wednesday 9th

10:00 Midweek Communion

Sunday 13th

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 1)

10:30 Family Service

Ephesians 4 : 25-5:2

John 6 : 35,41-51

Wednesday 16th

10:00 Midweek Communion

Sunday 20th

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 2)

10:30 Holy Communion

Ephesians 5 : 15-20

John 6 : 51-58

Wednesday 23rd

10:00 Midweek Communion

Sunday 27th

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 1)

10:30 Family Service and Baptism

Ephesians 6 : 10-20

John 6 : 56-69

Wednesday 30th

10:00 Midweek Communion

Events in August

Date	Event	Place	Time	Contact
Wed 2	Young Church outing to Alice Holt Woodland Park	Meet at the Church Hall	10:15	Jackie Quinn
Thu 31	Project Leadership Team Meeting (PLT)	Church Hall (UR)	19:30	Sheila Gill

Get the latest information

See the Parish web site for a full and up to date list of what's going on
<http://www.christchurchportsdown.org/whatson/events.htm>

From the editor...

Welcome to the August edition of Portsdown Post.

With many people off enjoying a family holiday or well deserved break there are not many things on the events list so I have sneaked my bit in here.

The PCC have agreed a mission program to expand the delivery of the magazine to more people in the parish - over a period of 18 to 24 months we will target one area of the parish at a time and deliver three months worth of the magazine. In the last issue we will include a flyer to sign up for continued delivery. If you would like to help once a month for three months with this important mission activity in your area please get in contact.

Would you like to write something for the magazine? Something going on, an interesting story, an unusual past time or just like to tell anyone about your faith then do please get in contact. Tell me in person, write to me, put a note in the "Magazine" pigeon hole in the church porch or drop me an email: magazine@christchurchportsdown.org I look forward to hearing from you ...

Items for the September Magazine by **21st August** please.

Nigel Wheatley, Editor

From the top of the hill Portsmouth Vicarage.



One opportunity I have as a Vicar is to visit various churches, observe different colleagues, and experience different styles of worship. I am amazed at the variety of worship styles available in the Church of England, never mind the different denominations that make up the Christian Church around the world. Because of the diocesan 'KAIROS' initiative we all have several opportunities throughout the year to experience the variety of styles in other local churches. Variety is a good thing which helps us to enjoy a wider experience as well as helps us to be more aware of our own approach in our own fellowship. Every church no matter the style of worship is, or should be, hoping for worship that is meaningful and accessible to both greater spotted pew dwellers as well as the rarer lesser spotted breed. But also every worshipper should be hoping for worship that first and foremost pleases and honours God.

The answer to meaningful 'Worship' is not just in the order, form, formality, texts or customs in our orders of services. There is more to worship than just what takes place on Sunday mornings. We need to understand the nature of the Worship of God. It is actually a way of life, it is the activity centred on God himself, and in fact it is the main priority for all Christians. Doesn't the first Commandment speak of *loving* God with *all* that we are and *all* that we have? An important clue lies in the word that is most commonly used for worship in the New Testament. That word is 'proskuneo' (Greek). It literally means 'I come towards to kiss' or 'to kiss the hand towards'. This reminds us that Worship is an affair of the heart and there is

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an intimacy with God our Father that we can discover and express. This has been made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus, who opened up a new and living way into God's presence so that together we can approach him and have the liberty to offer him the best that is in our hearts. As we draw close to him we can find an expression of a common family likeness that comes from being gathered around Jesus. This is our privilege, and it is wonderful to creatively share that with members of our church family no matter what the present circumstances are, or whatever changes the future may bring.

Paul Norton, Vicar.

Portsmouth Churches Web

For full church listings plus events, news and more log on to www.portsmouthchurches.co.uk. A gift to the city church from Portsmouth Christians in Business, this is a great one-stop shop of church information for the city. Visit the site and check it out - tell your friends and work colleagues. Site visitors can also ask a spiritual question online, use the Message Board and advertise a local business.

For information on how to advertise on the site email info@portsmouthchurches.co.uk

Mothers Union Program

Meetings in the Church Hall at 14:15 to 16:00 on a Tuesday

Sept 5 Service in church - led by Revd. Paul Norton,
and Bring & Buy in small hall.

MU Corporate Communion is always on the last Wednesday of the month except for August and December.



From Beyond the Hill Curate's Corner



It has been a long time since I have had an opportunity to write anything to you all but having to deal with moving house twice in the last few months has taken a lot of my time and energy. At last all the boxes are unpacked and we are beginning to feel settled and at home in our new environment.

Change can be difficult to deal with but we felt that after twenty four years in what had been our family home it was the right time to make the move. Our previous home was a bungalow in a quiet area of Horndean and now we are living in a terraced house in Waterlooville. We are very happy in our new home and I have realised that living right in the heart of the community is just where God wants me to be. Living alongside the hustle and bustle of everyday life and engaging with the needs of the community is such an opportunity to share in many ways the life and work of the Church.

My experience as a nurse has led me to be passionate about pastoral care and one of God's greatest commandments is that we are to 'love your neighbour as yourself'. God is not just talking about the people who live next door to us but to all our fellow human beings, therefore in this context everyone is our neighbour. We are commanded to care for each other and this is the aim of our proposed Pastoral visiting team.

Since I last wrote in the magazine we have commenced a training course for our volunteers and hopefully within the next few weeks we will be able to start visiting more people within our parish. I hope that this will be a project that will grow and develop over the years and will be a way in which the Church can forge stronger links with the

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community and with other agencies that provide care, comfort, and support to all age groups in a variety of situations.

Despite living in a so called modern developed society loneliness and isolation remain one of the biggest problems in our communities. I believe that our purpose in life is to make a difference.

Each and every one of us can make a difference to people's lives. It is usually the small things that can make a difference, just a kind word or a moment taken to listen to someone can make that person feel valued and loved. God is not visible to us but he is able to show his love through us in the way we treat one another. Before each of our pastoral teaching sessions I say a prayer that reminds us that God can use us to bring his love to his people, let me share this with you.

Lord Jesus, teach us that you have no body now on earth but ours:
No hands but ours; No feet but ours;
Ours are the eyes through which your compassion
must look out upon the world;
Ours are the feet with which you must go about doing good;
Ours are the hands with which you must bless men and women now;
For your name's sake.

Love and blessings to you all

Sandy Phillips, Curate.

Do you have time you can Give?

Giving time is just as important as giving money to the Parish There are many jobs to do to keep the Parish running and its often the same small group who pick up more than one Job Cleaning, Flowers, Church Yard Maintenance, Church Rota's, computer work. If you can commit some time to support the Parish please talk to the Wardens - they need **YOUR** help.

FAITH + FOOTBALL "Portsmouth 'til I die" - then what ?

On 6th July over 100 members from different Portsmouth churches attended a presentation by the **faith & football** team in the Milan Manderic Suite at Fratton Park. Videos of their recent Mission to Mexico described some of their experiences, with Pompey's Andy Griffin working among the street children.

Speakers included Mick Mellows, Linvoy Primus and members of the Portsmouth **faith & football** group which runs football coaching and leagues for 7-13 year-olds in Somerstown, Paulsgrove and Wymering. It was encouraging to hear their testimonies to what the Lord is doing, not only in Mexico, but also for young people in India, Nigeria and England, through **faith + football** initiatives. This Christian work is supported by former Pompey captain Darren Moore and several of the current Pompey team as well as the churches in and around Portsmouth. It deserves our whole-hearted support. You can find out about the 2005 event at www.chinachallenge.co.uk.

Patrick Whittle

Friday Fellowship

On Friday 21 July , Cynthia and Patrick Whittle opened their garden to host the Annual Strawberry Tea for members and helpers of Christ Church Friday Fellowship.

With temperatures well into the 80s , 25 church members enjoyed a tea of sandwiches, scones, cakes and of course strawberries and cream or ice cream . This event is looked forward to by all who attend Friday Fellowship. Many thanks again to Cynthia and Patrick for their hospitality and hard work in organising the event . Friday Fellowship will next meet in the Church Hall on 1 September at 2pm.

Keith Fisher

<p>Mission of the Month</p> <p>The Bible Society</p>	<p><u>Prayer</u></p> <p><u>Bookmark</u></p>
<p>We hear the words of the Bible in a great variety of ways. Recently we have had the 100 Minute Bible to increase our understanding and appreciation of God's Word. We often take our Bibles for granted but there are people who are denied access to the scriptures either because of culture, expense, language or accessibility.</p> <p>There are many tribes who have only part of the Bible in their own tongue - in 2003 the whole Bible was completed in a further nine languages but there are still over 2000 languages in which only portions have been translated.</p> <p>After 200 years the Bible Society now has a network of sister societies in about 200 countries, but our help and prayer is still very necessary to support this work. Then there is the specialist task, in conjunction with Torch Trust for the Blind, of making portions available in Braille, or on tape, for the blind ...</p> <p>To find out more, take a copy of a booklet "Making the Bible Heard", and look out for our Bible Sunday later, this autumn.</p>	<p>GIVE THANKS for the person who first encouraged you to read the Bible.</p> <p>REMEMBER how many Bibles you have (had) and THANK GOD for your ability to read them, and hear the Word preached.</p> <p>PRAY FOR staff of the Swindon office of the Bible Society and all those using modern technology to produce printed and audio versions.</p> <p>PRAISE GOD that there is a demand for Bibles in Africa and the East and pray for those who distribute them.</p> <p>ASK GOD to show you how you can help other people to appreciate the value of Bible truths.</p>
<p>Making the Bible heard</p>	

Parish Prayer Bookmark

GIVE THANKS for the many daily blessings we receive.

PRAY FOR families during this holiday season, some awaiting exam results or facing changes in their lives

GIVE THANKS for our ministry team, wardens, administrator PCC members and all enabling the church to function smoothly 7/7 – not just on Sundays.

PRAY FOR members going away for a break or remaining at home that all may be rested and refreshed.

PRAISE GOD for all recently baptised or married here and pray for others preparing for these special days.

REMEMBER all the bereaved, chronically sick, or any who are anxious about a family member, praying for strength and comfort.



FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

will not meet in August

on

FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

we resume for our tea and chat
in the Church Hall,
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Please encourage anyone who would value coming out for a friendly, relaxing time to join us on 1st or 3rd Fridays.
(telephone Cynthia for transport).

Greetings Cards may be found at the back of the church, if you need some before the next visit of the **GOOD NEWS TRAVELLING LIBRARY**

at Cosham Baptist Church on
Thursday 14th September

Home Groups

have also now stopped for a summer break and the next

Parish Meeting

will take the form of an informal fellowship evening, with wine and nibbles,
in church at 7.30 pm

on WEDNESDAY
20th SEPTEMBER.

Everyone is invited !

Latest News - Portsdown Parish Centre Development

* * *

The good news is that the PCC have now appointed Action Planning as our professional fundraising partners. Could it be that this is the last piece of the jigsaw now in place! Sandie Foster will be working with us from 1st August to enable us to raise the £500,000 we estimate we need to complete this project.

(It must be said that at this stage the detailed costs of our outline building plans are not yet clear but we hope to be able to complete our budgets for the project before the end of August).

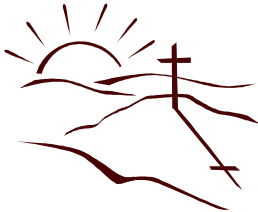
Sandie Foster is a young lady with some very good experience of fundraising for the not-for-profit sector and has a good track record of success - we are fortunate to be able to secure her services. Sandie has already laid out a detailed proposal of what she will do but the success of the fundraising campaign will depend very much on our cooperation with Sandie in the many tasks that we will now need to undertake. One of the first things Sandie will do is talk to lots of people from the church and local community as part of her fundraising feasibility study - you can look forward to meeting her soon.

If you haven't already done so, do find an opportunity to look at the outline building plans on display in the church and read all the latest project information supplied in the folder.

Thanks to those who are working very hard on the project and providing we are able to step up to the challenge of the fundraising campaign - I'm sure we can, the project remains on course for a start build date in the autumn of next year.

Sheila Gill - Project Coordinator

From the Other Side of the Hill



The solar heated water in our tank is **boiling** on this truly tropical day, as I get to grips with copy for our editor. We often have to get on with things whatever the weather but I wonder why, when we know the forecasts, we are not more flexible and adaptable ?

It was encouraging to learn of a headteacher who closed his school because children were just too heat exhausted -sensible. BUT why, in summer, not change the times for school, office hours, shop opening times, to suit hot summer days? Surely if we continue to have clock changes in spring and autumn we could have opening hours altered ? I know many senior citizens among us, and some very young persons, who tend to be up and about early on light mornings, ready to go while the day is still cool.

In the Bible there are two references to coolness. One is the terrible plight of the rich man who denied help to a beggar, died, went to hell and then himself begged for water to cool his tongue. A salutary story told by Jesus reminded his hearers to heed the words of the Law and the Prophets.

Secondly, in *Genesis*, after Adam and Eve had eaten the forbidden fruit, and tried to hide, they heard God "walking in the garden in the cool of the day". Our brothers and sisters in Ghana and Uganda know all about 'walk times'. Mornings are for work; midday to afternoon is for rest under a shady tree or on a verandah. Later it is cool enough for walking and socialising and preparing a

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main meal. Siestas are not merely a quirk of some European nations but a logical response to climatic conditions. Perhaps from the beginning God was trying to tell us that "mad dogs..... " was not his intention !

May you have some truly cool times this summer and know God's presence as a walking companion.

Cynthia Whittle

IDWAL Link

Christ Church is linked with St Peter's Cathedral in Koforidua, Ghana and we are in monthly correspondence, exchanging parish and Diocesan news together with other news of particular interest. We pray especially for the 24 people who were to be confirmed in St Peter's Cathedral during July.

Keeping in regular contact this way enables us all to pray for the others needs and the closer bonds of friendship which are developing.

If you would like to get involved then please contact Margaret Baggs.

A photo of the Very Reverend Joseph Sam Biney, Dean of St Peter's Anglican Cathedral in Koforidua, Ghana.



Parish Summer Fete

This years Parish Summer Garden Fete was a great success - A wonderful time of fellowship and a great turn out by stall holders and supporters despite the World Cup and Tennis matches.

Thank you very much to all those who helped prepare before the big day, ran stalls and events on the day, took part in arena events, set up and cleared up and especially to all those who came and spent their money.

Special thanks to Sid and Chris Way for their organisation, to Colin Dove for his support and to the army cadets for their help on the day.

Along the way we raised, after any expenses, around £2200 towards Church Funds. For those interested in the breakdown here is the detail.

Bar B Que	£121.75	Bottle stall	£113.00
Bouncy Castle	£22.00	Bric a Brac	£43.61
Cakes and Preserves	£153.53	Candy Floss	£65.25
China and Glass	£45.20	Coconut Stall	£99.80
Counting House	£1.15	Crafts	£75.40
DVD, Boos and tapes	£46.32	Flower Posy	£10.85
Football and Games	£18.45	Garden Stall	£35.85
Gate - Back	£62.67	Gate - Front	£63.23
Grand Raffle	£522.00	Guess the weight of the cake	£12.50
Household goods	£29.85	Ice Cream	£108.36
Jewellery and cosmetics	£127.15	Limo	£64.02
Refreshments	£204.62	Skittle Alley	£25.31
Soft Toys	£54.80	Stationary	£31.15
Toys	£51.71	Trade Craft	£27.00
Whiskey Raffle	£39.00		

Auction of promises - May 2007 !

Please get thinking and start to plan ... As part of the fundraising effort for the Parish Project an auction of promises and donated items will be to be held on May 19th next year in the Church Hall.

Please think of ideas for promises to offer eg. gardening, walking dog, shopping, cooking etc. and hold on to unwanted gifts or valuables you would like to donate to this event.

HEALTH WARNING

During the warm summer holiday months we have to take care to protect ourselves, perhaps with the correct sun lotion or insect repellent. So here is a timely health warning.....

Q: How can you prevent diseases caused by biting insects?

A: Don't bite any.

CHRIST CHURCH EVENING WIVES' FELLOWSHIP

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

Our first autumn Meeting will be on Wednesday September 13th. The speaker will be Andy Parfitt from Hampshire County Council's Countryside Service and his talk with slides will be about "Conservation in the Countryside". The venue is Rosemary Nisbet's, - 7.30 for 7.45.

We will have a short AGM afterwards!

AROUND THE PARISH

8: NORTH WEST FRONTIER

PO7 5AS London Road (East Side), Park Avenue(north)
PO7 5EN Penjar Avenue PO7 5ET Abbotts Close
PO7 5ER-S Park Road PO7 5EX Elstead Gardens
PO7 5EU The Crescent, PO7 5HA-E Alameda Road/ Way

Did you know that our parish includes "The Bog", a small park north of Ladybridge Road and also the row of shops opposite Purbrook Heath Road ? Near the roundabout is a Shoppers' Car Park (with 10 spaces) next to another branch of the Milton Glass Shop, managed by Jamie Bacon, and before Widley Car Sales (Carl Brannan). Between these are FRYDAYS fish and chip shop, which Jerry Holmes has been looking after for 3 years and VILLAGE BAKERS, with Keven Waite in charge - more food available not far from church !



With a tempting selection of bread, pastries and cakes you can either 'Take Away " or sit next to an evocative mural and enjoy a not insubstantial snack in the only cafe in the parish - open from Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Like its sister shop in Hambledon, the variety of hot and cold food available is worth investigating!

Along the east side of London Road there is Purbrook East Allotment Site (with an annex on the other side of the road). It has been in existence 'for donkey's years" and one former holder had tended his plot for 37 years ! There is a store which opens on Saturdays from 9.30 to 11 a.m. to sell plants, seeds and fertilisers. Those enthusiasts use compost areas to recycle in a

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truly environmentally friendly way and produce an amazing selection of fruit, vegetables and flowers.

This month let us remember;

The dog-walkers who use "The Bog";

The residents in an almost forgotten part of our parish;

The shopkeepers who serve their customers with a smile;

The allotment holders who find pleasure and satisfaction in planting, tending and harvesting their plots.

Cynthia Whittle

THANK YOU TO OUR GARDENERS.

We would like to thank all those gardeners who gave so generously for manure deliveries. Those still waiting have not been forgotten. To date we have raised £81 for The Children's Society. A special thank you to Velvet, Minstral and Mickey (horses) for their personal contribution.

Demand continues unabated so we are starting a new list for anyone requiring an autumn delivery. Moneys received will be donated to The Church Project.

Thank you. Ann and Colin Dove.

For the Record (mid June to Mid July)

For data privacy reasons this detail is excluded from the web version of the magazine - *Webmaster*

Open Church

The Church is once again open to everyone on Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 12:00. Open Church will continue right through to Harvest.

If you are able to give any time to "Church Sit" on any day of the week as either a one off, irregular or regular commitment then please signup at the back of the Church. Help to spread the load and share in the joy with our visitors.

Why not drop in yourself and spend a few minutes in prayer.

HALL CAR PARK

The rear car park in front of the scout & guide HQ has never been properly surfaced. **All users** of the Church Hall Car Park are therefore cordially invited to **contribute a bank note** towards the fund for providing a proper tarmac surface.

Please give your notes to Patrick Whittle.

More holy errors!

From church newsletter cuttings and announcements at services!

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The year eight class will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The Congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Highlights of P.C.C. Meeting - June 27th 2006.

Future Dates (19:30 in the Upper Room, Church Hall):-

2006..... July 25; Sept 12; Oct 10; Nov 14; Dec 12

2007..... Jan 9; Feb 13; Mar 13

APCM ... Mar 22 2007

Portsdown Parish Project:- A proposal to appoint Action Planning, from which Sandie Foster is the Appeals Consultant, to develop and implement the fundraising plan for the Portsdown Parish Centre in accordance with the recommendation of the PLT. The PCC unanimously agreed to this proposal.

Mission Support:- Junior Church made biscuits, in the shape of airplanes, and sold for the Mission Aviation Fellowship. Well done. Portsdown to host the 'Kairos Civic Harvest Service' in September. Christian Aid to date has raised £2737.97.

Correspondence:- Thank you letters have been sent to the family of the late Colin Ayres, and the Executors of the late Bryan Hodson, and the family of the late Robert Matthews for bequests left to the Church.

Finances:- Most bills, quota and mission payments are up to date. Fete & Hall income should be cash positive. Loose Collections is still down on 2005.

Church Magazine:- To increase the circulation of the magazine, it was decided to deliver free an area in our Parish for 3months.

Kairos :- A student Police Officer to spend a day in our parish - meeting various people and groups. This will be an Initial tryout.

Ann Dove - PCC Secretary