

Portsmouth Post April 2007

35p



Christ Church Portsmouth

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

Visit our web site at
www.christchurchportsdown.org

Services in April

Sunday 1st

Palm Sunday

08:00

Holy Communion (Order 1)

Philippians 2:5-11

10:30

Family Service

Luke 19:28-40

Holy Week

Monday 2nd

10:00

Morning Prayer

1900

Compline

Tuesday 3rd

10:00

Morning Prayer

1900

Compline

Wednesday 4th

10:00

Holy Communion

1900

Compline

Thursday 5th

Maundy Thursday

10:00

Morning Prayer

1900

Holy Communion - Agape

Friday 6th

Good Friday

10:00

Walk of Witness

14:00

Hour by the cross

1900

Compline

Sunday 8th

Easter Day

08:00

Holy Communion (Order 2)

Acts 10:34-43

10:30

Holy Communion

Luke 24:1-12

Services in April (continued)

Wednesday 11th

10:00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 15th Easter 2

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 1)

10:30 Morning Prayer

Acts 5:27-32

John 20:19-31

Wednesday 18th

10:00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 22nd Easter 3

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 2)

10:30 Holy Communion

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

John 21:1-19

Wednesday 25th

10:00 Holy Communion

Sunday 29th Easter 4

08:00 Holy Communion (Order 1)

10:30 Family Service & Baptism

Junior Church Outing

Acts 9:36-End

John 10:22-30

The list of events in April can be found on Page 6

Important Announcement

At our APCM on 22 March our Archdeacon, the Venerable Dr Trevor Reader, announced that our present incumbent, Revd Paul Norton, has decided to take early retirement on medical grounds effective 31 March. This means that at the beginning of April we will start the process to advertise for a new incumbent. We hold Paul and his family in our Prayers and give thanks for his ministry here at Christ Church.

Silvia and Rosemary - Church Wardens

From Beyond the Hill

Curate's Corner



At our recent Mothers day service we were considering all the different roles that mothers have to undertake. Along with the more obvious, being a cook, a cleaner and a chauffeur one of our young people remarked that the most important role that his mother fulfilled was her ability to allow him to be himself. I found this to be a very profound statement and I have continued to reflect on it.

Society and the media bombard us with messages and suggestions as to how we should look and act. Most of us have areas in our lives which can leave us feeling sensitive, hurt and vulnerable. Perhaps we are aware that there are things that we cannot do, we feel unhappy with our appearance, we lack confidence, have difficulty in forming relationships, long to be like others but feel like outsiders watching from the sidelines longing to join in. When we hurt and feel uncomfortable with ourselves a natural reaction is to withdraw. Ironically the more we withdraw from others the more they withdraw from us. Then of course we no longer feel just hurt, we feel the even worse emotion of rejection. Rejected because we did not get the job or promotion we hoped for, rejected by our peers or colleagues, rejected by someone we love, rejected by society because we do not look or sound right. This *perceived* rejection can make us unconsciously at least, exclude ourselves from deep and meaningful relationships. This is a totally understandable response, but it can leave us isolated and with poor self esteem.

How wonderful it was then to hear this young man, fortunate to be living in a stable loving home, state that his mother loves him just the way he is, she loves and accepts the person that he is and allows him to

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

be truly himself. Mothers are called to love their children with an unconditional love and at the heart of the Christian message is *Gods love* and *inclusiveness* of all people whoever and whatever they are. Jesus reached out to the most sinful, the most hurt; the most damaged and rejected people in society.

The symbol of the cross, central to the Christian faith reminds us that Jesus stands ready arms open, ready to receive all who are willing to accept him as part of their lives. He wants us to live our lives to the full potential being free to be the people we truly are made in his image. We are individuals unique not cloned to be exact replicas. Our faith and a relationship with Jesus Christ enable us to be free, to be truly who God wants and made us to be. Jesus suffered humiliation, hurt and rejection more than most of us will ever know and yet he continues through the power of the *glorious resurrection* to stand arms open, ready to receive us all.

This Easter it would do us all good to stop and reflect who and what we are. To allow God into our lives to ask for his healing and peace so that we too can open our arms to embrace our fellow human beings, to reach out in love to accept one another just as we are and not wanting them or us to be something or somebody different. 'Because I live, you also will live' John 14:19

The Lord be with you in his resurrection power this Easter.

Sandy Phillips (Curate)

A date for your Diary

There will be a "Bring and Share" lunch in the hall after the church service on Sunday 6th May to celebrate Cynthia's 70th Birthday and to mark her retirement.

Events in April

Date	Event	Place	Time	Contact
Mon 2	Special PCC Meeting	Church	19:30	Rosemary Filtness
Fri 6	Walk of Witness	Church	10:00	Cynthia Whittle
Tue 10	PCC	Church Hall (UR)	19:30	Rosemary Filtness
Tue 17	Mothers Union Service in Church followed by Bring & Buy	Church Hall	14:15 - 16:00	Sheila Taylor
Fri 20	Friday Fellowship	Church Hall	14:00 - 16:00	Cynthia Whittle
Thu 26	A Concert by the Musical Department of South Downs College	Church	19:30	Parish Office

A Concert by the
Musical Department of South Downs College

To be held at

Christ Church Portsdown

London Road, Widley on

Thursday 26th April 2007 at 7.30pm

The Choir - Chamber Choir and Wind Band will perform a selection of classical music including Handel and Vivaldi

This is the third year that the Music Department have presented their very successful concert at Christ Church.

Light refreshments will be available during the interval.

Please come and support the Students of South Downs College as well as Christ Church

A retiring collection will be taken which will go towards the funds of Christ Church Portsdown

Dear Everybody

I find it difficult to find words to sufficiently express my gratitude for all the cards, letters and messages I received after the sudden death of my husband David. Your sympathy and kindness has helped my family and me over the last few weeks of initial shock and bereavement. I have felt the strength of being 'wrapped around' by your thoughts and prayers which helped to calm and comfort me.

It was a fine sunny day for David's funeral which was held on the 1st March (coincidentally falling on St. David's Day) at Portchester Crematorium and officiated by Sandy. The service had a wonderful sense of celebration and thanksgiving for his life. So much so that the children said to me afterwards "It's been a great day Mum hasn't it?" Bizarre I know, but I felt just the same way.

Once again our grateful thanks to all of you

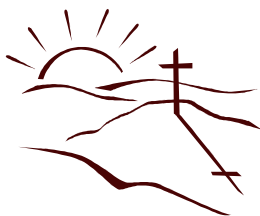
Jenny Whiteside and my family.

Sainsbury Vouchers for the Scout Group

As a Scout Group we are taking part in the Sainsbury's Active Kids scheme, to get some new equipment for the Group. We would be very grateful if members of the congregation could use the collection box in the Church porch to drop in any active kids vouchers they may have from their weekly shop, or petrol stop. Many thanks.

Mark Isaac

From the Other Side of the Hill



"Age is a case of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter".

If only that were true! From our earliest days we have expectations, good or bad, at certain birthdays. No more 11+, but car booster seats, GCSE, school leaving, buying drinks, church electoral roll - all governed by age. However young one feels or looks, there are reminders that with an "old age" pension come conditions as well as benefits. At 65 Guide leaders step down - and Rainbows will be sorry as "Snowdrop" leaves. I, too, have to accept my age. Unlike a renewable Driving Licence, my Reader's Licence is not. But once "Admitted to the Office of Reader" (the technical term) - always a Reader.

I am allowed to exercise this Office in this diocese or any other with the Bishop's permission. So I anticipate that from May I will still be able to take services, when available, with "Permission to Officiate". What about other activities / responsibilities / chores / tasks / that I do? I would like to think that the time has come for me to "hand on" a few of them. This should be normal practice in a lively church where every member accepts different roles.

In Scripture the most unlikely people found that if they resisted God's promptings, He found a way to push them. Moses' excuses didn't help him; Jonah had a rough time and Elijah had his doubts! But when these people accepted their role, God honoured them. Barnabas, Dr Luke and John Mark worked alongside Paul and were wonderfully rewarded through the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter

(Continued on page 9)

took his time to grasp the truth, even after 3 years with Jesus' personal teaching, then weaknesses were turned to strengths and he became the Rock. Unless we take risks for Christ the Holy Spirit cannot fulfil his work through us.

We are not all expected to become leaders, but God can use whatever we willingly give. Two hours for "Open Church"; a tithe for Gift Day; an afternoon collecting for Christian Aid; have you secretarial skills, financial experience, time to make tea or coffee in the hall ; can you wield a duster or rake.....? We need to always re-appraise our use of time, energy and skills. **"Those (church) helpers who do their work well win for themselves a good standing and are able to speak boldly about their faith in Christ Jesus"** 1 Timothy, chap. 2 v. 13 (GNB)

May we all have a really joyful Easter

Cynthia Whittle

BECOME A CHRISTIAN AID WEEK COLLECTOR

And you are not just pressing bells you are touching lives

During Christian Aid Week our collectors drop lots of red envelopes through lots of doors. A few days later they collect lots of donations. Their efforts help to improve the lives of people in the developing world. If they are able to get people to Gift Aid their donation, then 28% is added through government tax relief.

Christian Aid Week is May 13th-19th this year and we need volunteers more than ever. Without them it simply could not happen. If you are interested in becoming part of our wonderful team of collectors contact Rosemary Nisbet.

A few hours of your life could change someone else's forever.

Our CMS Link

At Christ Church we have a CMS link with Isobel Booth Clibborn who lives in Kampala & works for the Viva Network. This is an organisation which coordinates various groups working with poor and orphaned children.



Isobel is always pleased to receive letters from her link Churches and

at Christ Church we have a team working to do this. One letter, with the magazine, is sent monthly from the parish together with a letter / e-mail from one of the team.

The list of writers for 2007 is as follows:

Jan Pat Cole	Feb Ann Davies
Mar Rosemary Nisbet	Apr Sheila Gill
May David Salmond	Jun Daphnie Bevis
Jul June Tewsley	Aug Dave Fowler
Sep Judy Scott	Oct Pat Hatchard
Nov June Ames	Dec You ??

If there is anyone who would like to join the team please let me know - There is a space for December

Margaret Baggs

Mission of the Month Barnabas Fund

The mission of the Barnabas Fund is to support Christians where they are in a minority and suffer discrimination, oppression and persecution as a consequence of their faith.

The goal is to strengthen Christian individuals, Churches and their communities by providing material and spiritual support in response to needs identified by local Christian leaders.

In accordance with biblical teaching, the Barnabas Fund believes that Christians should treat all people of all faiths with love & compassion, even those who persecute them.

As we have the opportunity let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.
Galatians Ch 6 V10

**Your help can enable the
Church to survive and grow in
the most difficult
circumstances...**

Prayer Bookmark

Pray for the protection of Christians this Easter where other faiths are in the majority

Thank God for the full time Christian workers ministering in their own countries with the support of the Barnabas Fund.

Pray for the Banabas Fund advocacy campaign on behalf of Christians and that western leaders will feel a responsibility to protect them.

Pray for those suffering persecution in all its forms because they love the Lord.

Thank God for the work of the Barnabas Fund in providing Bibles and Christian literature for adults and children in appropriate languages.



Prayer

GIVE THANKS for answers to prayer for our church and for individuals

GIVE THANKS for the fellowship we continue to share and support we give to each other

PRAY FOR our new PCC members and our Church Wardens as they undertake their responsibilities

PRAY FOR all who minister and administer in our church to make sure all runs smoothly

PRAY FOR those who will be coming into church for Easter, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals and those receiving our Parish Easter Card that they may know Christ's love for them

REMEMBER our unseen congregation whose fellowship with us is through the Holy Spirit

HOME GROUPS

Thank you to the hosts and leaders who have been so welcoming during Lent.

When our Lent Course ends there will be no further meetings in April but there will be a Parish Meeting on May 2nd and then Home groups during the week beginning May 21st when we shall be looking again at Hebrews.

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

We meet only on April 20th this month, but resume on the first and third Fridays in May (4th and 18th). We are a happy group and enjoy making friends. You can just drop-in to see what we are like -there is always a cup of tea or coffee ready. Lifts can be arranged too.

TRAVELLING LIBRARY VISITS

Please note that Travelling Library dates (all 9.45 am to 11.30 am, at Cosham Baptist Church) for April-June will be on Thursdays 19th April and 21st June, then 12th July as usual (but no visit in May). Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and browse through lots of good books, videos, CDs and greetings cards.

The Children and young people section of
Havant Bereavement Care Group

Name the Doll

AB's

Face Painting

Book Stall

**SPRING
FAIR**

Christ Church Parish Hall
10:00 until 14:00

Cake Stall

Raffle

Come along and help us raise
funds to support children
who have suffered a
bereavement

Plant Stall

more...

Saturday May 12 2007

more...

From the editor...

Welcome to the April edition of Portsdown Post. I hope you enjoy reading this months magazine.

To put an article in the magazine hand it to me in person, put it in the "Magazine" pigeon hole in the church porch or drop me an email: magazine@christchurchportsdown.org.

Items for the May magazine by **Sunday 21st April** please.

Nigel Wheatley, Editor

Diary of letters from Rev Hellen Ogwal - 2006

The final in a series of six articles from Karen Davies who has kept a diary of letters from Rev Hellen Ogwal in Uganda.

Hellen starts off 2006 with a greeting to us all in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Her family are all well apart from bouts of malaria. The younger children are doing well at school.

Hellen's work at school is going well, they have some student teachers to help with the work load and her chaplaincy work is also going well.

Hellen thanks everyone at Christ Church Portsdown so much for our continued love, concern and support. She feels her prayers have been answered in so many ways the recent one being to enable her to support orphans. By Gods' grace may we continue with the same heart and spirit for she is deeply appreciative.

There have been elections in the country and on the whole everything went well. The insecurity in the North has also improved with few isolated rebel attacks. Pray with her for lasting peace especially now as both government and rebel leaders are having peace talks. She hopes it will have good results.

However, life in the displaced peoples camps is still not so good, the food is of poor quality. She hopes things will improve for them.

Thank you so much,

Love, Prayers and Appreciation
Hellen and Family.

Karen Davies

THE PARISH AS IT USED TO BE

Reminiscences by Nigel and Jackie Gauntlett

'Windy Ridge' has always been Nigel's home and his father Douglas was Church Warden at Christ Church for many years, and brother Des attended Boundary Oak School. It was grandfather George who had the Dairy Farm, moving from Copnor as a tenant farmer until he bought the freehold from the Thistlethwaites. Later the family also farmed MOD land right up to Portsdown Hill Road. Many parishioners remember the Milk Floats and horses which were around until the 1980's. The Gauntlett name was synonymous with a milking herd and retailing, as well as Gauntlett Park. Gradually land has been sold and one part is now Claremont Gardens; but the old farmhouse still remains. Morelands had served as a Poultry Farm and as a Barracks.

Nigel remembers Portsdown Cottage which gave way to Christ Church Gardens; there was a huge house near the Boundary Stone; Dell Gardens; an Aunt who had a Cafe at Waterlooville and members of the family who had a pawnbrokers in Cosham High Street. Other memories include having Dudley White as a neighbour. He gave the land so that the bridge for the new road could be built near The George. It was opened in July 1968. Jackie believes that a photo of the occasion in "Portsdown Panorama" (Anthony Triggs) shows Dudley looking over his hedge at the opening ceremony. Photos of Christ Church and our church hall c. 1935 also appear in that book with a caption about fund raising, and needing £2000 !

This is just a small part of Nigel's extensive knowledge of his family's connection with our parish. Perhaps other readers will have their memories jogged and contribute to our intriguing series. e.g. who lived in Portsdown Cottage or that big house near the Boundary Stone?

Cynthia Whittle

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

I was interested to read Ann and Colin Doves reflections on the Knights of St John in the February magazine following their visit to Malta.

Perhaps readers would like to take this further and visit Shipley in West Sussex which is just off the A272 Billingshurst / Haywards Heath road. It is a pretty village with a Mill, a Castle and an interesting Church.

Shipley, mentioned in the Domesday Book, was given to William de Braose, a powerful Norman supporter of William the Conqueror, soon after the Battle of Hastings. He and his son took part in the Crusades and were great benefactors of the Church. The son passed on the estates at Shipley to his nephew whose brother Dean of Lincoln, gave them to the Knights Templar.

The Knights Templar were a religious order of fighting monks founded in 1119 (the order of the Poor Knights of the Temple of Solomon) who vowed to defend the Holy Sepulchre and to protect pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem. Over the next 200 years their wealth grew and in 1308 Edward the second, jealous of their power and privilege, seized their property and dissolved the order.

The Church of St, Mary the Virgin is one of the oldest Norman Churches in Sussex and dates from the 12th century, contemporary with Chichester Cathedral and was built by the Knights Templar on the site of a much smaller church which was probably of wattle and daub construction. There is a mediaeval bollard in the porch which was probably removed from the basin below the church where

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

barges arriving from Shoreham by the River Adur (now no more than a trickle!) would tie up at Shipley.

The poet John Ireland is buried in the Churchyard. The Shipley Mill, once owned by the writer Hilaire Belloc, is open to the public at weekends during the summer. Teas are available at the Parish Hall on those days.

For those who would like to explore further and to walk, on the eastern side of Shipley is the present Knepp Castle (comparatively modern - 1809). It has a pleasant public footpath through the estate past the Castle with distant views of a large lake. It is a private road and the public are not allowed to drive through.

.On the opposite side of the A272 at Dragons Green is an excellent hostelry with a large garden. Have a look at the memorial in front garden.

It takes approximately an hour to get to Shipley and is a pleasant journey through beautiful countryside.

Margaret Herrington.

Ramblings from the vestry roof

Hello everyone ... just a short item this week as I have a stinker of a cold. I know that money is very tight and that the Church is "a bit strapped for Cash" but can you all please dig deep Because of the poor state of the Church Roof the rain is starting to soak into my house and its not doing my health any good ... Please see if you can make a donation to fix the roof Thanks

Charlie the Church Mouse

Parish Fete

(Already I hear you ask—its just over 3 months away

MORRIS DANCING

Its time we started practising again for Church Fete on 7th July.
Anyone interested - male/female, two left feet or whatever.

Contact June Tewsley. We usually meet on a Sunday afternoon/early evening - time flexible.

Its good fun, do join our motley crew.

CRAFT STALL

What would YOU buy from a Craft Stall ? Please give us some new ideas of what to make and if you can join in with sewing/sticking/cutting out etc. we do need more "crafty people" to join our sadly depleted group.

Please contact June Tewsley with ideas and or your offers of help.

THANK YOU GUIDES & SCOUTS

Many people remarked on the excellent service organised by the Scouts to mark the centenary of Scouting. At that service the Guides presented a cheque for £125, from the proceeds of their table-top sale, towards the Hall Car Park Fund. We are indebted to the Scouts who rose to the challenge of dismantling the old piano from the hall. Well done, Portsdown Guides and Scouts !

(Please, can anyone help dispose of the remains of the piano ?)

Christ Church Mothers Union - Future Events

Coffee & Cake morning Bric-a-Brac, Book Stall & Raffle:

Saturday May 19th. 2007

**At Christ Church Hall London Road, Wisley -
from 10:00am - 12:00 noon**

Come and enjoy a cup of Coffee or tea, with a toasted teacake or scone. Treat yourself to a delicious cake to take home for your tea from our cake stall. Proceeds in aid of M.U. branch funds

Outing to RHS Gardens Wisley.

This Outing will take place on Tuesday June 19th 2007. leaving Christ Church at 9.30am - stopping for a break at Guildford. We will be leaving Wisley at about 4.30pm. arriving home at about 6ish. The cost for this outing will be £14.00.

To join us on the outing please contact one of the following:
Sheila Taylor or Pat Hatchard

Mothers Union Program

Meetings in the Church Hall at 14:15 to 16:00 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month



- | | |
|--------|--|
| Apr 03 | Holy Week - No meeting |
| Apr 17 | Service in Church - led by Revd. Sandy Phillips. Tea & Bring & Buy in church hall. |
| May 1 | Revd. Paul Newman, Chaplain of HMP Kingston. His experiences as a prison Chaplain. |

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



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 299731

THE ASHTON SINGERS

present

Renaissance Choral

CONCERT

FRIDAY 30 MARCH 2007

20.00 hours

SOUTHWICK CHURCH (off B.2177)

**TICKETS £5 in advance or £6 on the door
(includes refreshments) PLEASE BOOK EARLY!**

Send cheque payable to 'The Rowans Hospice'
with SAEmarked 'Concert' to The Chaplain,
The White House, High Street, Southwick, Hampshire, PO17 6EB

**PLEASE DO COME ALONG AND
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOSPICE**

News from St Georges Waterlooville

There is to be another Waterlooville Music Festival this year following on the success of last year. It is running from Saturday June 9th to the 16th.

We plan to start with a flower workshop for children.

We have a good wide variety of music already booked. There will be a scratch performance of Faures Requiem on the first Saturday evening, singers please book the date. Last year they could hear the Messiah in Asda so we have a reputation to keep up!

We have various choirs joining us, some bands, an organ recital, a couple of schools, a rock band, a steel band and the whole week wrapping up with a Last Night of the Proms type evening after the Fete on the 16th. Do book the dates in your diary and buy a passport ticket so that you can attend all the concerts at a reduced price.

Jane Rice-Oxley

For the Record (mid February to Mid March)

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

CHRIST CHURCH EVENING WIVES' FELLOWSHIP

There is no meeting in April—the next meeting is 9th May

Rosemary Nisbet.

HALL CAR PARK

The rear car park of the Church Hall 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.

Around £600 has been raised so far.

Please give your notes to Patrick Whittle.

More holy errors!

From church newsletter cuttings and announcements at services!

Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan in preparing for the girth of their first child.

Women's Luncheon: Each member bring a sandwich. Polly Phillips will give the medication.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Smith to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Highlights of P.C.C. Meeting - March 13th.

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

2007..... Apr 10, May 08, Jun 12, Jul 10, Aug 14, Sep 11, Oct 09, Nov 13, Dec 11

2008..... Jan 08, Feb 12, Mar 11, **APCM** ... TBA

Financial Report :- Christ Church is not currently financially viable, drastic action is required. The Church roof needs to be repaired - but there are no funds available for this vital work.

Honorary Treasurer:- Brian Mansbridge is to resign from his post as treasurer from the 2008 APCM. This will be a great loss, but the PCC thanked Brian for his devotion and hard work for the finances of the Church - since 2002 There is now a great need to find a replacement during the coming year.

Correspondence :- A letter from the Two Saints thanking us for the donation of clothes for the Homeless in Portsmouth.

Summer Fete:- The Church Wardens are waiting to hear from Purbrook Park School in answer to their letter asking permission to use their premises for our Church Fete

Southdowns College :- Are to hold their concert on Thursday 26th April in the Church. Please try and attend this evening - proceeds to the Church.

Music;- Some music used during family/Baptism services is not very joyful or suitable - especially if we wish to encourage people to join us in our Church.

Ann Dove - PCC Secretary