

Outlook

Hughenden Parish Magazine
St Michael and All Angels



April 2012

Welcome

The fact that you are reading these words suggests that you are a new reader of this magazine. Either you are a newcomer to this area or you are a visitor.

If you are a visitor, we hope that you have enjoyed your visit to our church; that you have found it interesting, instructive and conducive to prayer. If you are going to be here at one of our regular service times, we hope that you will join us in the worship of God and we ask that you take our greetings back to your own church.

If you are new to this Parish, we bid you welcome and invite you to join us and share in the fellowship of God's family in Hughenden. This magazine gives details of the regular times of worship here. We hope that you will find something to meet your spiritual needs. The printed word is cold and remote and we would like to make personal contact with you, so please leave your name and address in the box at the back of the church.

Whoever you are who reads these words, may God bless you, sustain you and protect you, your family and friends, now and always.

Outlook

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Front cover picture

St Michaels Flower Festival
2004. Photo by Bob Tucker.

April 2012 EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

“We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by GOD’S Almighty hand,” is familiar as the first two lines of a Harvest hymn: but what about our Faith?



Without input from us, it can become a dull repetitious exercise confined to a short time on Sunday mornings, if that. Our personal faith and our walk with GOD is what we make of it. Lent offers us the opportunity to examine ourselves, not as a time for defeatism but for hope in the Crucified and Resurrected JESUS.

There is so much that we can do for ourselves: Bible study, with the help of professionally prepared notes, House-groups led by other members of our congregation at varying times and days of the week to suit all participants and the Alpha Course, which has proved hugely popular, bringing expert knowledge of our Faith, easily accessible and excellently presented. Then there are the opportunities such as the Ashburnham weekend and Spring Harvest, where larger groups of parishioners go away together for an inspirational and convivial time together to learn and grow in Faith.

Wherever we are on our particular journey, Easter offers a time to take stock and plan ahead. As we wonder upon the horrors of Good Friday and wait for joyous dawn of Easter Sunday, it is inevitable that we ask ourselves “Why did He suffer for me?” One of the answers is that you mean everything to Him. Another question might well be “Would You suffer it all again, looking at us and His world?” The answer – given every Easter Sunday – is “Yes, every time.”

May you enjoy a happy and blessed Easter and grow in Faith.

Jane and Christopher Tyrer, Editors

From the Vicarage Easter 2012

I have absolutely no problem as a Christian with the idea that, over the years, the perspective of one's beliefs develop and change. I see this happen with my reaction to some of the songs we sing in church as a part of our worship: now that we do make much of using audio visual technology, at least for one of our services. There is a modern hymn which I think will pass the test of time and become a classic. It is 'In Christ Alone'. There is one line though which I think has got the wrong emphasis. It is a part of the second verse 'In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save; till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied....'

The Bible does talk about the wrath of God, but always in the context of God's love and God's desire for us to come to know just how much we are loved and so turn to Him. So 2 Peter 3:9: 'He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to

repentance.' I would rather focus on the truth contained in the famous verse John 3:16: 'for God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.' I am not a universalist. I do not hold to the belief that in the end everything will work out alright for everyone. I believe that it is tragically possible ultimately and forever to reject God's love, a love which will never be forced upon us. Nonetheless, there is a very strong emphasis on the desire of God for everyone to know God's grace and mercy. In this light I have asked for the word 'wrath' to be replaced with 'love' in that hymn, I think it works better, 'till on the cross as Jesus died, the love of God was satisfied'.

There is another song which I am now having a bit of a re-think about. It comes from another of our more contemporary offerings 'How deep the father's love for us'. We sometimes sing it on Good Friday. For years I have had no problem with the second verse

'How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away, As wounds which mar the chosen One, Bring many sons to glory.' Now though I am not so sure. The phrase 'The Father turns His face away' comes from that terrible cry of Jesus as He hung dying on the Cross 'My God My God, why have you forsaken me?'. The traditionally taught understanding of this is that as Jesus took upon Himself the full force of the sin of the world, His heavenly father turned away because of that sin. It was an affront to the moral purity and holiness of God.

I now think that this is an incorrect understanding. Jesus' cry of abandonment on the Cross was a direct quote from Psalm 22. This was a Psalm attributed to King David. What I believe was happening is that Jesus, as He suffered terribly on the Cross was experiencing what so many people experience, the *feeling* of rejection by God, of wondering where God had gone. Jesus' cry is a cry of absolute honesty. But I actually think that it speaks of His solidarity with us, of our sense at times when we just don't know where God has gone. However if we read further on in the same psalm we

will come across this: 'The Lord does not hate or despise the helpless in all of their troubles. When I cried out, He listened and did not turn away.' Jesus' cry is a cry that will resonate with many who have been in situations when they have asked where God has gone and even might come to the conclusion that He has abandoned them. But the Father did not turn His face away. Whilst I understand the sentiment and why it was written, I now believe that line in an otherwise great song is wrong. I like the Christian Pastor, Writer, and agitator for social change, Steve Chalk's take on this (in fact it was what something of his that I read recently that has led me to my re-think). 'While our struggles often cause us to believe that God has abandoned us, the reality is that He is still there with us. In fact, the whole Bible is the narrative of a loving unerring determination to cling to His faltering, struggling and sin-laden people, and never give up on them or desert them. It is about His refusal to separate Himself from them. Perhaps it was just this sense of hope, drawn from the fact that God listens when we cry out to Him, that Jesus was trying to cling to as He echoed David's words.'

Steve Chalk goes on to write 'While suffering may cause us to believe that God has abandoned us, the reality is that He is always right there with us. The cross of Jesus stands at the centre of our pain-ridden

world; thrust into the dirt to proclaim 'God is here'.

I say Amen to that.

Simon



Reminder Pub Quiz Wednesday 11th April @ 7.30 pm.

The Bootlegger Pub (was Flint Cottage) just opposite Wycombe Station on Amersham Hill. Over 300 different wonderful beers to sample! Nibbles and finger food will be served.

Mark Sherrington 07789 641219

Mark Sherrington

Friendship Morning



This is a get together in Church House on the 3rd Thursday each month at 10.30 a.m. It is primarily for those who are bereaved, who live on their own, and for those who are lonely. The emphasis is very much on companionship, and the atmosphere is light and cheerful. Please contact me if you think this is for you.

Judith Camplisson – 01494 565108

Imprints

It's the little things we do that leave an imprint of ourselves.

*Tiny gestures: a lock of hair lightly brushed aside;
a stroked chin;
arched and twinkling eyes.*

*We know them by their gait:
the penguin-shuffle, the ambling ape,
the urgent pace of a trotting fox,
the slow deliberation of a stork;*

*by words well learnt through much repeating;
warm hand-grasps, the hearty greeting;
windmill arms that flail the air;
a hesitant cough, the solemn stare;*

*Granddad seated, hands on knees;
jovial uncle, out to tease;
aunt, so elegant, sipping tea
- her little finger for all to see.*

*By simple things we are known.
And in a garden long ago
she knew Him as He spoke her name: "Mary".
In a village called Emmaus
at the breaking of the bread, He was known.
And wonderfully alive, though short-time slain,
they knew Him by the imprints of His pain.*

Ron Cretchley 12.4.2000 www.thinkingpoet.co.uk

Working in Partnership with the National Trust

There is a strong link between the National Trust at Hughenden Manor and our church, particularly as we have Disraeli's memorial and grave in our church and churchyard. At a recent meeting with the National Trust, we agreed that there were many common items with which we could help one another and we shall be holding quarterly liaison meetings which we hope will be beneficial to both parties.

For your interest, among several events taking place at the manor this month, two are associated with the church. Primrose Day will be held on Thursday 19 April, from 12 pm to 4 pm. This is to commemorate the life of Dizzy. You can listen to talks recounting the events of Parliament and Hughenden. People will be encouraged to visit Disraeli's memorial and grave. On Saturday and Sunday, 28 and 29 April between 12 pm and 5 pm, there will be 'The Royal Visit' – come and see Queen Victoria arrive at Hughenden for her private lunch in the manor with Disraeli. On this occasion, once again, visitors will be encouraged to come to our churchyard to see Disraeli's grave and Queen Victoria's memorial to him inside the church. Of course, all National Trust members have free entry to the Manor. Hopefully, after visiting the church, some of the visitors will stay for a cream tea in Church House.

I sincerely hope that this initiative will bring about a closer relationship with our neighbours and will result in solving a number of our joint problems when both church and National Trust are busy.

Brian Clark, Churchwarden



Floodlighting Dedications



Floodlighting dedications received too late for the March magazine were
for:

11- 17 March Judy Wilson - celebrating shared sidesman duties with John Babb and wishing him much happiness in his new home.

18- 24 March Sara Badrick is remembering her beloved husband John, particularly on 21 March which would have been their 48th wedding anniversary.

So far, there is one dedication for April:

22- 28 April Stan Cole & family are remembering with much love June, particularly on 22 April, her 7th anniversary

If you have special occasions to mark, why don't you dedicate the flood-lighting? Your dedication can be for anything within reason, remembering loved ones, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, new babies - or just for the joy of being alive!

Lin Smit



Tiny Tots Informal Service

3rd Wednesday every month at 1.45 pm
All are welcome at this service in church where we have
a story, some songs, toys, tea and squash.
Do come.



The next service is on the 18th April

For details contact Nicky Fairbairn on 01494 520359

A Bedtime Prayer

Before I sleep, I thank You for
The gift of Life this day...
Forgive those thoughts and words and deeds
In which I went astray.

Bless and protect all those I love –
My friends and neighbours too.
And all the people I would love
If I were God like you.

Be with the sick, the sad – and those
On duty through this night.
Grant us Your Peace. Peace to the world...
And Love...and Joy...and Light.

Dennis Wright 1977

Submitted by Pam Smith.

Mothers' Union: Communism and Christianity in Russia

The speaker at our March meeting was Brian Clark, one of our churchwardens, who spoke about his time working in Russia in the early nineties.

Brian was born in Bridlington in Yorkshire and moved to Leicestershire at an early age. His mother, Annie, had always told him that there was a little candle flame inside us which God had put there and it was up to us what we did about this flame. For many years the light in him just flickered but it never went out.

Brian completed an apprenticeship as a radar mechanic. He subsequently took a job as a project engineer at Pedigree Petfoods and 8 years later moved to Buckinghamshire when he began working for H J Heinz. Brian spent some 30 or so years with this company, the last 15 years in procurement and acquisitions. Towards the end of this time big changes were happening in Russia as Mikhail Gorbachev emerged and brought about perestroika which means restructuring. Mr Gorbachev went to the USA and had talks with Ronald Reagan, the President, after which America promised to aid the then Soviet Union in restructuring and financing factories and businesses which had suffered for many years from lack of organisation, facilities, etc. Under the communist rule, people were used to being told what to do and had forgotten how to think for themselves.

Brian was asked by Heinz if he would take on the task of assessing food factories in Ukraine and Russia with a view to building a state-of-the-art factory as a joint venture between Russia and Heinz. Over the next eighteen months or so he travelled extensively around eastern Europe including Ukraine, Moldavia, Georgia, Armenia and Russia, during which time he visited not only factories, but churches from which the interiors had been stripped out during the communist years. He told of seeing mounds outside many villages where thousands of bodies were buried after the slaughter of the last war and of a huge war museum outside Volgograd, a beautiful city. In Kiev he was taken to the catacombs, a series of underground caves and passages where priests held services. Apparently the grandmother of Nikita Krushchev, a former leader, was a Christian and Krushchev allowed services to be held as long as they were out of sight – hence the caves. A priest gave Brian some small candles and asked him to take them back to our church, light them and pray for the people of Ukraine. Some people may remember the candles

being lit and passed around the church during John Eastgate's time. Brian found the faith of these people very moving.

He visited various schools, at one of which in Ukraine he was talking to the children when he noticed the headmaster with tears on his face. He told Brian that he had been teaching for many years but never thought that in his lifetime, he would see an Englishman talking to his children.

Brian reminded us of the time when the communists had taken over the White House, the Russian parliament building, surrounding it with tanks and armoured vehicles which were pointing at the crowds. This was when Boris Yeltsin, the mayor of Moscow, arrived and famously climbed on top of a tank and persuaded the general in charge to change sides. Gorbachev, who was under house arrest, was persuaded that he should hand over the presidency to Yeltsin and go on a world lecture tour, which he did. Yeltsin then became president until his eventual downfall, victim to the all too plentiful vodka!

Eventually, a site for a baby food factory was chosen in the town of Georgievsk in the Stavropol Region, which is in the foothills of the Caucasus mountains between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. Brian travelled to and from the site, holding meetings with the governor of Stavropol and all the local dignitaries, as well as with the variety of contractors on site. With many ups and downs along the way, the factory was finally opened in 1995 and today, under Russian management, is still producing high quality baby foods. One Sunday in Georgievsk Brian was taken to the local church which now was highly decorated with icons, gold and silver plates and chalices, etc. The priests wore intricately embroidered robes and the choir of ladies (Brian likened them to a Mothers' Union choir!) sang enthusiastically. Under communism religious services were not allowed and the churches were completely emptied of all their furnishings and decorations and whitewashed, often being used for storage of grain or machinery. However, after glasnost, the treasures slowly reappeared, having been hidden away during those sterile years and people were once more free to worship openly. Again, this evidence of a strong and continuing faith made a big impact on Brian. As he was leaving the church he saw a number of men on

crutches or in wheelchairs and was told they were veterans of the Russian/Afghanistan war. He posed the question 'Here we are today, witnessing the same thing; will we ever learn?'

He had brought along various items given to him over the years, ie a 'baboushka' doll, beautiful hand knitted shawls made by people from the villages and of course, a highly decorated bottle of vodka. Brian closed by saying that his candle flame was now burning very, very brightly following these experiences. God does work in mysterious ways.

Janet Cook thanked Brian for a most enlightening and entertaining evening.

The Fairtrade Big Brew coffee morning and Bring & Buy held on February 29, was very successful and made £300.05 which will be sent to the Mothers' Union Overseas Fund. Many thanks to all who helped and everyone who supported the event. At our meeting next month at 8 pm on April 3, Kate Brocklehurst from the National Trust is our speaker and her talk is called 'Behind the Scenes at Hughenden'. Do come - as always, everyone is welcome.

Sylvia Clark

No rain - not for the first time!

Going back to Friday 6 January – it was a dry and calm day following the previous days of high winds and the doggy walkers were out in great numbers, walking in Hughenden Park near the church.

My daughter and her friend were amongst them when they witnessed one of the very large trees split in two and crash to the ground, creating a thunderous noise. Luckily no one was near it (see photo) which I took two days afterwards.



Now I wonder what caused this sad happening? Was it previously affected by lightning at some time or as it was a dry year, and it's sad to see our stream dried up,

perhaps the tree lacked water? Perhaps the National Trust will give us a reason for this large tree to crash, as the trunk looked quite healthy.

I have recently been reading the Hughenden Church monthly parish magazine for September **1898** which I was given and the following was reported by the Parish Council:-

The Brands Fee Committee of the Parish Council decided to take advantage of the dry weather to have the Cryers Hill Pond cleared out, work which is much needed. This has now been done thoroughly and when the long expected rain comes there will be plenty of room for water. The pond will not stand in need of further attention for years to come.

The Drought - *All through last month the dry weather continued and the want of water on the hills has caused very great inconvenience. Even the wells in the Valley have threatened to run dry and not for many years have the springs been known to be so low. So far as was possible water has been sent up to Naphill but the fact that there is no water in the stream in the park has made it a more difficult matter than usual and the Parish is much indebted to Mr Kimber for the free use which he allowed to be made of the pump at Church Farm. As we write these lines the rain seems to be coming at last, may it continue.*

1899 January - *For the third year in succession January has been a mild month. The rainfall however was largely in excess of the average and the springs in consequence have begun to rise.*

For the past two months a good many wells in the Valley have been dry and just after Christmas it was found necessary to sink the well at the Almshouses to the extent of nearly four feet.

So going back 110 years ago there was a great shortage of water and the Hughenden stream dried up. Today we take our water supply for granted. We turn our taps on and have daily showers and are perhaps wasteful with it.

The population is growing, putting more strain on our resources, so perhaps we should be more careful with it in many ways. We are so

lucky, to think how our ancestors suffered and experienced the water shortages in those past years.

I started this article on the tree crashing in the park, so I must mention what a wonderful sight our village tree in Naphill has been again this Christmas. Thanks to Mike Mason and his team who make this possible every year. Thanks also to Dilly Knox (of Bletchley Park fame) for donating it to the village. His history was in my village history exhibitions I have done in the village hall.

Pam Smith

Jan 11th - Just had a report on TV saying south of England will be experiencing a shortage of water this summer due to the dry seasons there have been.

An Easter Prayer For Persecuted Believers.

That first Easter, the authorities were determined to arrest Jesus...

Merciful Father, grant your peace to Christians who today face plots against their lives and their freedom.

That first Easter, Jesus prayed in Gethsemane, knowing He faced the cross...

Merciful Father, send your strengthening angels to those facing suffering and death, that they may be enabled to do your will and honour your name in their faithfulness and courage.

That first Easter, Jesus told his followers not to retaliate...

Loving Lord, where your people face violence, pour out your Spirit of peace, that they may respond with love rather than hate, and pursue reconciliation rather than retaliation.

That first Easter, Jesus faced a hostile and illegal trial...

Heavenly Father, grant believers facing trial as a result of their faith in you courage and strength when they are brought to court; let truth and justice prevail.

That first Easter, Jesus was insulted, beaten and then executed...

Almighty God, give each follower of Jesus experiencing insults and physical attacks, strength of body, mind and spirit.

That first Easter, Jesus said, "If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also."

Gracious Jesus, may those who share in your suffering receive your assurance that they will also share in your glory. Amen.

The top 10 countries that persecute Christians.

1. North Korea
2. Afghanistan
3. Saudi Arabia
4. Somalia
5. Iran
6. Maldives
7. Uzbekistan
8. Yemen
9. Iraq
10. Pakistan

"We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

(Source Open Doors www.opendoorsuk.org)



Valley Wives March Notes

Margaret chaired our meeting and made the announcements. She welcomed Gordon Massey. He gave us a slide talk entitled "Portsmouth to Barcelona Cruise": about the Saga ship "Spirit of Adventure" in 2009. She carried 350 passengers and so had the advantage of being small enough to sail up rivers. We saw a map of the journey and could follow the route; later he showed fine pictures of all the major features of interest seen in the towns and countryside on the way to Barcelona: such as monuments, bridges, gardens, museums, canals and many examples of modern and ancient architecture. The final berth was in the huge cruise liner terminal at Barcelona which can accept twelve liners per day bringing as many as fifty thousand visitors to the city. The amazing Cathedral is a focal

point with its stunning architecture. Founded in 1856 as a modest chapel, it has become something that has to be seen to be believed, with its many facades and towers. Members who had not been to this wonderful place felt a desire to visit it and to travel there in the same luxurious way! Norma proposed the vote of thanks for a most interesting talk and for the small excerpts of appropriate music that accompanied the slides.

Our next meeting is on the 13th of April, the title of which is "Tales of the Unexpected" by Alan Copeland. The competition is for an item beginning with N. Josie was our winner last month with letter J.

Joan Steel

Annual Plant Sale in aid of Ebenezer Children's Centre



SATURDAY 12th MAY from 10 am to 5 pm at "Chadwell", Coombe Lane, Hughenden Valley

Sale of bedding plants, perennials, vegetables, houseplants,

together with books and preserves.

Proceeds to Ebenezer Children's Centre, Uganda.

The bedding Plants are from Endeavour Nursery,

Chesham - a Social Services nursery providing work opportunity for adults with disabilities.

To place orders beforehand please contact Rita Pulley - 01494 563470

Christians in the Community

On Saturday, 28th April, Christians in the Community will be holding a coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel Hall in Naphill, from 10 am to 12 noon. The profits from this event will help to fund our Christmas gifts in the community and the Carols by Candlelight service held in the Naphill Village Hall. Coffee, tea and cakes will be available and there will be a 'Bring and Buy' stall. Do come along and support us, enjoy a little light refreshment and meet members of the wider community.

Yvonne Cook

Parish Financial Update

At our January PCC meeting we reviewed the Accounts for 2011. Those of you with good memories will remember that we had budgeted for our expenditure to exceed our income in 2011 by £43,000 – this was mainly due to the significant amount of money that we needed to spend to bring Church Cottage up to the required standard. The good news is that our shortfall was only £40,000 – and this was despite the fact that the Church Cottage building work cost more than we had initially budgeted for. The reason for this better than expected shortfall was that our income exceeded our expectations by £15,000. Despite the recession hitting, our regular giving held up (thanks so much to everyone), Church House teas raised an incredible £10,000 (what a truly fantastic effort), the Auction contributed over £4,000 and Wedding & Funeral income was also better than budget. As a result, we were still able to continue our great tithing tradition and make significant donations to a number of charitable causes that are close to our hearts.

Now for this year's budget: the PCC has approved a budget for 2012 that sees our expected expenditure again exceed our expected income, this year by £25,000. We have looked at every area of expenditure to ensure that we are being cost effective. However, the PCC and the Standing & Finance team believe that we should continue to fund the majority of our current activities, plus make allowance for additional items such as the possible appointment of a part-time Youth Worker (in partnership with Wycombe Youth for Christ), whilst continuing our tithing at current levels. This budget also includes an amount of £12,000 to cover possible repair costs resulting from our forthcoming Quinquennial inspection. If our forecasts are accurate then the funding shortfall will need to come out of the 'Reserve Fund' that we are fortunate to still have. In particular we already have sufficient funds in our Youth Reserve Fund (made up of specific donations) to more than cover the costs of any new recruit.

We are very conscious that many people are themselves currently experiencing challenging personal and family financial times. However, given this is now our second year of running at a budget deficit we will be holding a Gift Day again this year on the 13th May.

We would just ask everyone though, to prayerfully consider our shortfall, especially when reviewing your own finances. Whilst we think it right to break into our reserve fund again this year and so reduce it, we also believe that it is prudent not to let the reserve fund drop beneath a certain sum. At the present run rate projections we will have about two further years of dipping into the reserve fund before we have to call a halt to budget shortfalls in order to protect what is left.

May we end this update by saying a huge thank you to everyone who already contributes so generously to our financial needs – please be assured that every penny is carefully spent.

Mike Dean Standing & Finance Committee



themarriagecourse

Every year, St. Andrew's Church, Hatter's Lane, High Wycombe runs the marriage course, developed by Holy Trinity Brompton (creators of Alpha).

This year, our Curate Helen Peters and her husband Richard will be involved in leading this.

We would love to invite any couple or couples from St. Michael's to sign up for this year's course with two thoughts in mind:

- It is a brilliant course to enrich any marriage / long term committed relationship
- To consider if this is a course that we would like to offer and run as a church in the future

The course runs for seven weeks set in a fantastic atmosphere. You and your partner are served with a candlelit meal and/or coffee, tea and dessert at a romantic table for two while listening to practical talks that are informative and fun. There is never any group work and you will never be asked to share anything about your relationship with anyone other than your partner.

Sessions are on Mondays at 7.30pm

30 th April	Building Strong Foundations
14 th May	The Art of Communication
28 th May	Resolving Conflict
11 th June	The Power of Forgiveness
25 th June	The Impact of Family- Past and Present
2 nd July	Good Sex
9 th July	Love in Action

If you are interested or for more details please contact Helen on 01494 716772 helen.peters@peters-research.com

High Wycombe and District Branch of the MS Society

The High Wycombe and District Branch of the MS Society held a Ploughman's Lunch on Wednesday 15th February and raised a total of £306.00.

We would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Branch to thank everyone who came and supported our event: it is very much appreciated. The money raised will help people with MS in the local area.

Charity Evening on 23rd April



The High Wycombe and District Branch of the MS Society are holding another Charity Evening at Papaya Lounge (7 Abbey Barn Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1RS) on Monday 23rd April.

The food will be served from 8.00pm. Tickets are £19.95 for 3 course meal – drinks and dessert not included – and there will be a Raffle.

The Papaya Lounge will donate £5.00 per head to the Branch.

For tickets please ring Judy Biggs on 01494 562204. Cheques to be made payable to Papaya Lounge.



Wycombe Homeless Connection

Help us help the homeless this winter

Wycombe Winter Night Shelter has once again been opening its doors to Wycombe's homeless people, providing warmth, welcome, food and sleep for some of our most vulnerable fellow-citizens. Alongside running the Shelter, at Wycombe Homeless Connection our mission is to help people rebuild their lives, and this we do all year, providing advice and support to help people regain stability. It's remarkable how easy it is to lose one's home through debt, ill-health, redundancy or family breakdown. About 250 people come to us each year, and we help them with things like replacing stolen ID, sorting out benefits, job-seeking, raising a deposit and finding a landlord. For a good number, we provide the only community they have: *"When I was homeless*



last winter the shelter was a lifeline.... such nice people who made you feel welcome and human again. I think it made a massive difference in my life and all those who were homeless at the time. Brilliant!"

We enjoy fantastic support from over 250 volunteers, many of whom are from over 40 local churches, including a number from Hughenden. They give their time hosting at the Shelter and in many other ways. One recently told us: *"Whatever your God-given talent – be it hiding in a cupboard to sort out supplies or meeting and greeting guests at a shelter, volunteering at WHC has a place for you. Be warned: I started as a quiet and retiring person - now I am outgoing, boisterous and addicted!"* If you'd like to help – get in touch!

We need around £100,000 each year to employ our dedicated project workers and acquire all necessary resources and equipment to provide year-round support services and the Shelter. The funding climate is currently very tough and we receive very little support from official sources, so we need all the help we can get.



We welcome donations of any size, but regular donations are especially valuable to us as they help us to plan ahead. Please consider joining our **Lifebuilders** who support us monthly.

- £10 a month pays for a meal for 25 at one evening session that is often the first step for a homeless person towards accepting help
- £20 a month pays for the WHC staff's work for one day helping individuals rebuild their lives
- £30 a month pays for the WHC mobile phone for a year so that staff can respond to calls for help

Donors can pay by standing order, and if they pay income tax, they can make the gift 25% more valuable at no extra cost through Gift Aid. Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are available from our website or from the office.



For one-off gifts:

- Websites like Virgin Money Giving are easy to use and can all reclaim Gift Aid for us, where appropriate
- WHC has its own page on the Virgin Money Giving website which makes it easy to give or set up your own fundraising event or sponsorship
- Cheques are also welcome and can be made payable to 'Wycombe Homeless Connection' and sent to the WHC office, again with a Gift Aid form where appropriate.

If you choose to help, however you do it, our homeless friends will bless you for it!

Here are our contact details. Wycombe Homeless Connection Christian Trust is Registered Charity number 1131541. Find us at 8 Castle St, High Wycombe HP13 6RF, 01494 447699, contact@wyhoc.org.uk or www.wyhoc.org.uk.

Good Companions

Our March meeting began on a sad note, acknowledging the death of Ena Tebby. Ena had been a member for many years and was well into her nineties. Members present observed a minute's silence in her memory.

Our entertainment featured yet another return visit from the Swan Singers. Conducted on this occasion by Keith Pulford and with piano accompaniment from Gwen Woodstock they treated us to a selection of old favourites arranged for four-part male voice choir. A bass solo was given by Alan Walsh with well known "Old Man River". John Crosby's rendering of the folk song "Take the Iron Road" reminded us of the hard times faced by the working man of the early days of the railways. Don Jarvis accompanied himself on the ukelele with a rendering of "Ye banks and Braes" and touches of humour came from Jim Roy with "Blame it on the Vicar" and from Brian Murgatroyd the Master of Ceremonies with his monologue the Jubilee Sovereign. All in all we had a tuneful melodious and thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Our April meeting will feature a talk by Ann Biggs about Wycombe centre in the 60s and 70s.

Michael Harris

From the Parish Registers

Holy Baptism: on 4th March:

Oliver John, son of Adam and Abigail Stubbs, from High Wycombe.

The Departed:

Alison Carole Peters, aged 46



Communicants: February

Sundays:

5th 12

12th 18 + 70 = 88

19th 31 + 53 = 84

26th 24 + 71 = 95

Weekdays

2nd Candlemas 28

22nd Ash Wednesday 39

As a matter of record, snow fell from 1600h to midnight on 4th, leaving 4 – 6 inches. Ante-communion was said at 8 am, and there were 16 in attendance at 9am.

"Worship Songs of Praise"

on Saturday 14th April in Church in the evening.

Sponsor a song!



There will be a collection in support
of the EBENEZER CHILDRENS CENTRE

For further information contact
Jacky or Tony (Sackville) 07921 258822

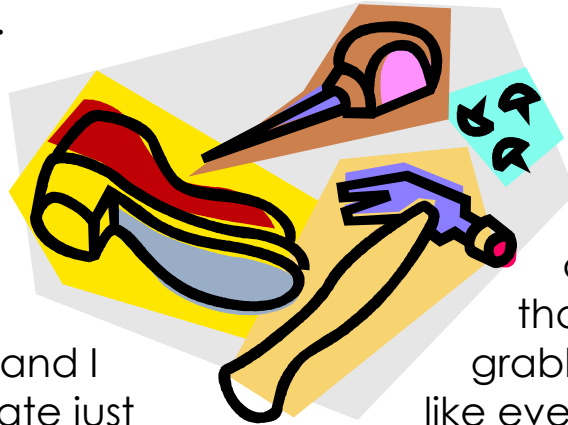
Jacky and Tony

Hosannas of a Shoemaker

After visiting the synagogue I had gone to open up the shop as usual. I'm Reuben, a shoe-mender you know and business was good. At Passover Jerusalem was full and people always need their sandals repaired.

So I'd just settled down at my bench to sort out a new delivery of leather that the tanner's boy had brought round, when I realised things were a bit strange. The sun was already strong, the dust was dancing in my open doorway and outside, well, it looked like people were expecting something. There were gatherings of excited chatter, and anticipation filled the air. I didn't even take off my apron; I needed to be there.

Odd how you in a crowd. Maybe noticed. Maybe you confidence, I talk was of Jesus, his way into the city and I to wave and celebrate just



behave differently I felt I wouldn't be many others give don't know. But the that he was making grabbed at palm fronds like everyone else. And

what did I know of this man? Some said he was just a bad Jew, disobeying all the rules he had grown up with but there were other thoughts. Whispered, sometimes with fear, sometimes with suppressed elation. Could he really be the one or was this just another sorry case of blasphemy? Anyway, there I was ready to shout hosanna with the best of them, when this donkey came into view, kicking up the dust and creating a golden cloud around the man on his back. My breath caught in my throat and I was still. I thought I was welcoming a king but in front of me was a tired looking man who could have done with one of my wife's hot meals. And the scruffy animal he was riding? Well, it turned out it didn't even belong to him. But then I think I went a little mad. The hosannas bubbled up inside me and burst out and my feet wouldn't stay on the ground. He rode passed me and I suddenly felt drained and exhausted but with this stupid grin on my face.

The crowds drifted away and I stepped over palm leaves as I made my way back into the shop. Bad decision as it turned out, I think I should have gone straight home. Anyway, I had thought I would do a few jobs and I picked up my small hammer to finish the nails on the sole of a roman sandal. The first slam of the hammer resounded in my head and I had to grab the edge of the bench to stop myself falling. I pulled myself together and the hammer came down on another nail. My heart lurched and my stomach turned, sending bile into my

mouth. The third nail went into my hand and the blood flowed. I cried out, not for myself but for him, for I could see the hosannas dying as the nails bit hard into bone and wood.

I closed my shop and left, in search of my wife and some peace of mind.

Susan Brice

24/7 Praying for High Wycombe

24/7 Prayer for Wycombe this month takes place in Church House on Thursday, 12th April, and commences at 8 am and concludes on Friday at 8am. The sign-up sheet is on the table at the back of the church and the Prayer Points for April will be available by the beginning of the month. If you forget to collect a copy, these can be emailed to you if you contact Yvonne (563960). Prayerfully consider committing to one hour, or part of an hour, of prayer for our town and the ministries that take place there.



On Wednesday, 7th March, a substantial number of us gathered at Kings Church, Desborough Road for the Wycombe Prayer Celebration evening. We enjoyed an evening of worship and prayer, which focused on the forthcoming 'Love Wycombe' event to take place on Pentecost Sunday, 27th May, at 11 am in Frogmoor; ideally arrive at about 10.30 am. This event is an opportunity to meet with other Christians from churches in our town and the surrounding area to worship and praise God together in the town centre. This will be an 'all age service' that will engage children, young people and adults. (See below)

Pray for this event in your daily prayers. Pray that this will be a very special day, for engagement with those who are on the periphery and that they will be encouraged to join in our celebrations. Pray for good weather and that finance for the event will not be an issue. St Michael's will be taking part along with forty other churches. The service will last for an hour and if you feel you cannot comfortably

stand for that length of time you may bring a folding chair with you. Be encouraged to come along and make a difference.

Further information available from Simon (563439), Jacky (07921 258822) or Yvonne (563960)

Yvonne Cook



What? An open air, all age, Christian Service / Celebration with over 40 local churches represented.

When? Pentecost Sunday 27th May

What time? Gather from 10.30am for 11am start

Where? Frogmore, High Wycombe

St. Michael's 10.30am service on 27th will be transferred to Frogmore so we can all join in with the celebration.

For more details about the event, how you can pray and become involved please visit www.loveycombe.org.uk



Calendar – April 2012

Morning Prayer is said daily from Monday to Saturday. Please check the weekly notices sheet for timings. Bell-ringing practice is held at 7.30pm on Tuesdays in the Bell-tower. New ringers are always welcome. Choir practice takes place at 7.45pm on Wednesday in Church. If you can read music (and particularly if you are a soprano) do come and join us.

Sun	1	Palm Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 9.00 am Sung Communion with Palm Procession from Mothers' Union Garden (weather permitting) 10.30 am All Age Family Service noon- Winter Warmers: Church House 3.30pm 2.00 pm Church House Teas season starts 6.00 pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon) 7.00 pm Prayer Hour: Church
Mon	2	Monday in Holy Week 7.00 pm Holy Communion: Church (30 mins)
Tue	3	Tuesday in Holy Week 7.00 pm Holy Communion: Church (30 mins) 8.00 pm Mothers' Union: Church House
Wed	4	Wednesday in Holy Week 7.00 pm Holy Communion: Church (30 mins)
Thu	5	Maundy Thursday 8.00 pm Holy Communion of the Last Supper and Stripping of the Altars 9.00 pm Vigil until Midnight: North Chapel
Fri	6	Good Friday 9.00 am Good Friday walk of witness starts at The Harrow, Hughenden Valley 9.00 am A. liturgy for Good Friday led by the choir 10.30 am Family Service for Good Friday 2.00 pm Prayers for the last Hour at the Cross
Sat	7	Easter Eve 7.30 pm Easter Eve service of Blessing of the New Fire, Lighting of the Paschal Candle and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. Plus chocolates!
Sun	8	EASTER DAY 8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.00 am Choral Mattins with Holy Communion 11.00 am Family Communion - please note time 6.00 pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Mon	9	10.15 am Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Tue	10	No Art Fellowship this week.
Thu	12	8.00 am 24 hours of prayer for High Wycombe: Church House
Sat	14	Worship Songs of Praise: Church. In aid of Ebenezer Childrens' Centre
Sun	15	Second Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.00 am Sung Communion 10.30 am Informal Family Service with JC Club 6.00 pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon) 6.00 pm Come Close: Church House 7.00 pm Prayer Hour
Mon	16	10.15 am Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Tue	17	1.00 pm Art Fellowship: Church House.
Wed	18	1.45 pm Tiny Tots' Service: Church

Thu	19	10.30 am Friendship morning: Church House. 8.00 pm Parochial Church Council: Church House
Sun	22	Third Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.00 am Mattins (Book of Common Prayer) 10.30 am Family Communion 6.00 pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon) 7.00 pm Prayer Hour
Wed	25	Mark the Evangelist 10.00 am Holy Communion: Church (30 mins)
Sun	29	Fourth Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion (said) NB There is a combined service at 10.00 am Parish Communion with JC club 12 noon Annual Vestry Meeting and Parochial Church Meeting, and lunch. 6.00 pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon) 7.00 pm Prayer Hour 30 10.15 am Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study

Service Rotas

1st Sunday : Sunday April 1st

0800

1. Sidesmen: Philip Hayworth and Grantley Hoath
2. Server: Judith Wilson

0900

1. Sidesmen: Anne Moore and Keith Dean
2. Servers: Alan Jaycock, Andrew Cole and Edie Sadler
3. Intercessions: Arthur Johnson

1030

1. Sidesmen: Phillips Family
2. Greeters: Anne Dean and Clare Godfey
3. AV Operator: Tom Brewer
4. Intercessions: Sunday School
5. Creche: Zoe Stamp, Nickie Marsh and Lyndsey Robinson.
6. Coffee: Joan Steel and Penny Austin

2nd Sunday: Sunday April 8th Easter Day

0800

1. Sidesmen: Judy Wilson and John Babb
2. Server: A Cole

0900

1. Sidesmen: Edie Sadler
2. Servers: Alan Jaycock, R Harris and Edie Sadler

1100 PLEASE NOTE THE TIME.

1. Sidesmen: Ann and John Smalley
2. Greeters: Anne and Mike Dean
3. AV Operator: Tom Brewer
4. Intercessions: Jean and Derek Godfrey
5. Creche: Helen Collins, Eleanor Telling and Lucy Rippon
6. Coffee: Penny Austin and Sylvia Clark



3rd Sunday: Sunday April 15th

0800

1. Sidesmen: Jean Godfrey and John Babb
2. Server: Judith Willson

0900

1. Sidesmen: Christopher Tyrer
2. Servers: A Cole, Andy Mc Barnett and Edie Sadler
3. Intercessions: Christopher Tyrer

1030

1. Sidesmen: Amanda and Chris Janes and Rita Pulley
2. Greeters: Sylvia and Brian Clark
3. AV Operator: Tom Brewer
4. Informal Service
5. Creche: Pam Felix, Vicki Michell and Kirsty Brewer
6. Coffee: Judy Biggs and Sylvia Clark

4th Sunday: Sunday the 22nd April

0800

1. Sidesmen: Denise barrow and Jean Godfrey
2. Server: Alan Jaycock

0900

1. Sidesmen: Louise Stallwood and Richard Stallwood

1030

1. Sidesmen: Heather and Brian Morley and Tim and Angela Aze
2. Greeters: Penny Austin and Christopher Tyrer
3. AV Operator: Tom Brewer
4. Intercessions: Helen Pearce
5. Creche: Sylvia Clark, Angela Aze and Mark Sherrington
6. Coffee: Tricia Devlin and Joy Bradley

5th Sunday: Sunday the 29th April

0800

1. Sidesmen: Rosemary Petty and Meg Freeman
2. Server: Judith Willson

1000

1. Sidesmen: Audrey Tricker and Judy Biggs
2. Greeters: Derek and Jean Godfrey
3. AV operator: Tom Brewer
4. Intercessions: Anne Smalley

5. Creche: Helen Collins, Jane Lomas and Shirley Brown
6. Coffee: Lynn Watterson and Lizzie Hurrell

The Lectionary – April

		Readers		
		8am	9am	1030am
1st	Palm Sunday			
	Isaiah 50, 4-9a	P Hynard	Susan Brice	Rhian Comley
	Philippians 2, 5-11	C Carter	R Gee	
	0800: Mark 11, 1-11 0900: Mark 15, 1-39 1030: Mark 11, 1-11	Celebrant	Celebrant	
	Evensong:			
	Psalms 69, 1-19			
	Isaiah 5, 1-7	Arthur Johnson		
	Mark 12, 1-12	Susan Brice		
8th	Easter Day			
	Isaiah 25, 6-9	Judith Willson	Darrell Hamley	Sylvia Clark
	Acts 10, 34-43	J Godfrey [Downley]	Kathleen Moxham	Judith Camplisson
	John 20, 1-18 OR Mark 16, 1-8	Celebrant	Celebrant	Celebrant
	<u>Psalms at 9 am:</u> 114 and 117			
	Evensong:			
	Psalms 66			
	Ezekiel 37, 1-14	Lin Smit		
	Luke 24, 13-35	Mike Morgan		

15th	2nd Sunday of Easter			
	Exodus 14, 10-31 and 15, 20-21	J Kendall	Jane Tyrer	Informal Service
	Acts 4, 32-35	N Chalk	David Lowe	
	John 20, 19-31	Celebrant	Celebrant	
	Evensong:			
	Psalm 143			
	Isaiah 26, 1-9 and 19	Louise Stallwood		
	Luke 24, 1-12	Susan Brice		
22d	3rd Sunday of Easter			
	Zephaniah 3, 14-20	J Dauncey	Edie Sadler	Tony Sackville
	Acts 3, 12-19	Alan Jaycock	L Stallwood	Jackie Sackville
	Luke 24, 36b-48	Celebrant		Celebrant
	<u>Psalm at 9 am: 4</u>			
	Evensong:			
	Psalm 142			
	Deuteronomy 7, 7-13	Lin Smit		
	Revelation 2, 1-11	Susan Brice		
29th	Fourth Sunday of Easter	MORNING SERVICES ONLY AT 0800 AND 1000.		
	Genesis 7, 1-5 and 11-18; and 8, 6-18; and 9, 8-13	Arthur Johnson		Helen Isaacs

Acts 4, 5-12	Alison Stacey		Helen Byrne
John 10, 11-18	Celebrant		Celebrant
Evensong Psalm 81 Exodus 16, 4-15 Revelation 2, 12-17	John Smit E Bailey		

Meetings and Organisations

House groups	Weekdays	See weekly notice sheet for details
CYFA (School Years 10 +)	8.00 p.m. alternate Sundays	Contact Mike Dean (463376) for details
D-CYFA (School Years 7 – 9)	Once per Half Term	Contact Anne Dean (463376) for details

May 2012 Issue of Outlook

Outlook is published on the 28th of each month, except July. The Editor for the April issue will be Tony Dodd. Items for inclusion should reach the Editor by email at

mag@hughendenparishchurch.org.uk

or hand-written articles should be delivered or posted to **Helen Byrne** at **67 Friars Gardens, Hughenden Valley**. All contributions to be by 15th April, please.

Who's Who at St Michael & All Angels

VICAR AND AREA DEAN OF WYCOMBE	The Rev'd Simon Cronk	563439
NON STIPENDIARY PRIEST	The Rev'd Fred Friend	563168
CURATE	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
CHURCHWARDENS	Brian Clark	562801
PARISH CLERK & VERGER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Lin Smit	462094
CHURCH NOTICES/WEBSITE	Ben Brice	445899
PCC LAY VICE CHAIRMAN	Derek Godfrey	565956
PCC SECRETARY	Penny Austin	529596
PCC ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Anne Dean	463376
PCC TREASURER	Mike Morgan	514252
PCC ASSISTANT TREASURER	David Cornwall	714718
PLANNED GIVING SECRETARIES	David & Joyce Cornwall	714718
TASK GROUP LEADERS: WORSHIP	The Rev'd Simon Cronk	563439
PASTORAL SUPPORT	Anne Dean	463376
YOUTH	Mike Dean	463376
MISSION	Christopher Tyrer	01844
OUTREACH & SOCIAL	Frank Hawkins	565050
ALPHA COURSE - ADMINISTRATOR	Diane Hawkins	565050
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	David Cornwall	714718
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Arthur Johnson	521471
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER	Neil Brice	445899
WORSHIP LEADER	Tony Sackville	446035
AV AND SOUND SYSTEM	Frank Hawkins	565050
SERVERS	Andrew Cole	442191
MOTHERS' UNION	Barbara Willson	713770
CAPTAIN OF BELLRINGERS	David Cornwall	714718
VALLEY WIVES	Jill Graves	563813
CRECHE ROTA	Jane Lomas	563629
CHRISTIANS IN THE COMMUNITY	Norma Clarke	563116
FRIENDSHIP MORNING	Judith Camplisson	565108
CHURCH HOUSE TEAS BOOKINGS	Lin Smit	462094
CHURCH COFFEE ROTA	Sylvia Clark	562801
CHURCH FLOWERS	Jean Godfrey	522198
CHURCH BOOKSTALL	Elaine Morley	562714
CHURCH HOUSE BOOKINGS	Parish Administrator	462094
HUGHENDEN VILLAGE HALL	Christine Powell	565942
NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL	Pam Smith	563364
OUTLOOK MAGAZINE EDITORS	Sylvia Clark	562801
MAGAZINE PRINTING	Norman Pulley & Team	563470
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	Hilary Farrar-Hockley	528236

St. Michael and All Angels Hughenden

Our Mission is

“To enable all to follow Jesus Christ”

We shall live out this mission by:

i) Leading lives centred on Jesus Christ –

- *That is steadfastly based on the Bible and prayer*
- *That is based on Jesus’ example*
- *By being ambassadors of Christ to our friends, families, neighbours and work and school colleagues.*

ii) Being seen and known in the wider Community by

- *Understanding the communities in which we live and seeking to be fully involved in those communities*
- *Building appropriate bridges between our Church and our community*
- *Taking every opportunity to share the Good news about Jesus Christ*

iii) Offering and receiving spiritual and practical support and development –

- *That is appropriate to wherever people are on their spiritual journey*
- *That is based on worship that is honouring to God and accessible and relevant to all*
- *And that is led by prayer that engages with the will of God and his purposes*