



LINK-UP

'Keeping in Touch'

www.godalmingchurches.org

May 2016

From the Chair of Churches Together in Godalming and District, Michael Stubbs:-

One of the major festivals of the Church year is Ascension Day (**5th May**) and there will be **TWO United Services-**

8am at Pepperpot – 20 mins Led by Rev Mervyn Roberts followed by bacon butties (or something else)in the Octagon!

7.30pm St Johns Farncombe – led by Rev James Rattue, Short Service followed by a light supper . All welcome . You can attend the service and then stay for the shared supper if you can.

**Do attend one of these and worship with other Christians in the Town.
Let's Act and Pray Together !**

Report on EASTER CHURCHES TOGETHER EVENTS

DRAMA on Good Friday Walk!

The Churches Together Good Friday Walk was led by Rev Simon Taylor from Busbridge Church and started from The Wharf and went via Crown Court to the Pepperpot where there was a short service and there was then hot cross buns and drinks at Godalming Baptist Church. There were many members of the churches from Godalming and District as well as Ladywell and TTT.

The cross was carried in turn by two people from the Catholic Church and the banner carried by two from Busbridge Church as were the four stewards. It was a time to mingle with people from other churches in a united act and two hundred crosses were handed out to passersby. The worship at Crown Court was led by Chris Jagger and there was a very powerful drama by children, young people and adults from Manna Ministeries (Manna Ministeries is a registered charity based in Guildford Surrey. They have a huge heart to communicate the gospel through various areas ministry. They have 4 thriving Christian performing Arts academies in Guildford ,Reigate, Eastbourne and Rwanda with a heart to see more all over the nation.) More details can be found on the Churches Together website - Godalmingchurches.org)

SUN RISE SERVICE*

The Annual Sunrise Service, arranged by Churches Together , led by Rev Mervyn Roberts from SS Peter and Paul took place at the Shrine at Minster Field in very heavy rain and started just as the sun came up, well actually we couldn't see it 'cos of the rain, but that did not dampen the unique nature of the event and to be able to share it with people from so many churches in the area is always quite special. Worship was led by Roger Matthews from Hambledon Church and

the band was from Busbridge Church. After the service the Sisters of Ladywell invited us for refreshments and biscuits which were very well received. **It is Easter!*

Church Warden Blows Bubbles -Easter day – Godalming High Street – heavy down pours of rain and Bubbles! This was all part of the Churches Together Easter Celebration Walk led by Rev James Rattue of St Johns Church Farncombe from the Pepperpot to Phillips Cloisters with walkers from many different churches blowing bubbles including Dudley Hilton - Church Warden of Busbridge Church! (see the CT website for photos)

The Human Dimension of Refugee Crisis is no longer in the Media ..BUT it has not finished.. There are two articles on the CT website about a Visit to the Jungle and a Visit to the CalAid Warehouse.. do read them . Also dont forget the Item in last months Link Up (it can be accessed on the CT website) about helping the Diane Peters of the Diocese to find accommodation for people coming to this area or provide items. Do get in touch if you want to know more or get involved.

We will put more info on the CT website as we get it.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES AND ORGANISATIONS

The ARCHBISOPS OF CANTERBURY and YORK have deemed the week 8th-15 May a week of prayer for Evangelism

Their hope is to see a wave of prayer across the land between Ascension and Pentecost this year (**8th – 15th May**): -For all Christians to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ - For all of us to have confidence to share the Gospel- For all to respond to the call of Jesus Christ to follow Him as disciples, to live out the Gospel and to seek God's Kingdom from day to day. Bishop Andrew has also given this initiative his encouragement

Tuesday 10th May - evening - Busbridge Church – *Details will be on CT website*

Wednesday 11th May at 7.30pm SS Peter and Paul will be holding a special bible study evening on the letter of Paul to the Philippians. Please support this if you are free.

Thursday 12th May – Thy Kingdom Come – A Day of prayer in Busbridge Church from 10 am to 10 pm There will be: led sessions(varying between 10-30 minutes) - extended times of quiet for personal prayer - prayer activities to use to scaffold your thoughts and time - resources to aid in creative prayer. You are welcome to both drop in for a short time, or stay for longer.

Programme to follow, .*see the CT website for details*

Friday 13th – A time of Prayer at Friends Meeting House – *details will be on CT website*

Sunday 15th May – The Beacon event nearest to us is at Winchester Cathedral at 7pm on Pentecost. Matt Redman will lead the worship. We have been told that it will be aimed at young people, so it may be worth a youth group outing! See <http://thykingdom.co.uk/beacon-events> to apply for tickets – they are free.

Christian Aid Week Commissioning Service Sunday 15th May –

This will be held at the Parish Church of St Peter and Paul, Church Street, at 6.30 pm. The speaker expected is Andy Croggon, Head of the Latin American and Caribbean Division at Christian Aid. Please come and support this service to launch the Week.

Collections in Crown Court

Tuesday, 17th, Thursday, 19th, and Friday, 20th May - We will be repeating the on-street collections in Crown Court , for which a Licence has been granted. A church in the District has offered to cover the Tuesday, but we need volunteers to help cover our point from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm on each of the other days. If you would be willing to help with this, for one hour on either of the days, please let John Dunning know on 01483 417112 or email dunning.john04@btinternet.com. Last year a good time of fellowship was enjoyed by the

collectors and, if a minimum of two people could be present during the hours indicated, that would be very helpful. Thank you in advance! **John Dunning**

Quakers will have an **11 o'clock brunch on Saturday 21 May for Christian Aid.**

Hambledon will provide envelopes via their Parish Magazine, and in the Village shop and Church.

St John's Farncombe

St John's had a very successful Annual Meeting on Sunday April 17th, if brevity is any index of success, and five people have volunteered to join the Church Council which is very pleasing. We are praying for good weather on Spring Fair day (**Saturday April 30th**) and have a sudden rush of christenings over the next couple of months which give a welcome possibility of talking about the Christian faith to a wide variety of people. We hope to finalise our Mission Plan draft very soon ready for its presentation to the church as a whole. We're looking forward to hosting our brothers and sisters from the other congregations of Godalming for the Ascension Day mass and supper from 7.30pm on 5th May.

As ever

James Rattue Rector, St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

The Cellar Café

CT Breakfast at the Cellar Saturday 28th May 8.30 all welcome!

Trinity Trust Team

We are delighted to welcome Matt Smith into the team for the summer term and are working with the PCC at St Mary's Chiddingfold as they seek a new full time Youth & Children's worker. We are also looking to appoint a new full time youth worker to be in post by September, so recruitment is a key focus this spring in addition to our planning for schools' summer workshops/retreat days and our summer activities week. Please pray for:-

- Our plans to recruit into the team and for St Mary's PCC
- Students of CU's in Rodborough and Broadwater as they show increasing signs of wanting to deepen/display their faith
- Christian Aid week and the involvement of local young people
- Our Friday Night outreach programme, re-launched in partnership with the Surrey Community Youth Service

(We organised for Grace from the Christian Aid Collective to visit and to come into schools to talk to the students who attend our Christian Union at Broadwater about the work of the charity and the initiatives planned for the Christian Aid week in particular. The students are keen, with our support, to run a Big Brekkie event)

We continue to thank all those who play a part in and support the youth ministry of the Trinity Trust Team. Our thanks and blessing all.

Andy Poulson, Director, TTT 01483 420206/07876 142197

SS Peter and Paul and St Marks

Sunday 1st May We will welcome in May with the coming together of our Town Council and Morris dancers. They will lead us in procession as we beat the bounds of our Parish to mark the ancient festival of Rogation. Traditionally a time to pray for our crops and preparations to ensure a good harvest. One of our prayer book requirements is to pray for rain – but I promise we will ask (rogare) for sunshine as well. That service will be in the parish church at **10am** and all are welcome. There will not be a service at St Mark's on that day as we will come together as a single parish and worship together.

Tuesday 3rd May The Archdeacon will visit us to preach and commission churchwardens across our wider area. This will be an evening service - *time to be confirmed.*

One of the major festivals of the Church year is Ascension Day (**Thurs 5th May**) and there will be a short service celebrating Ascension Day at the Pepperpot. This will be part of our witness to the whole community ahead of special week of evangelism and prayer. The service will be at 8am and will only last around 15-20 minutes. We can offer bacon butties or something equally substantial following the service, in the octagon.

On Wednesday 11th May at 7.30pm we will be holding a special bible study evening on the letter of Paul to the Philippians. Please support this if you are free.

On **Saturday 14th** from 11-3pm there will be a community day held at St Mark's. Plenty of activities will be on offer for children and adults will have the chance to see what is happening in the St Mark's area of our town including the Ockford Housing Plan.

Sunday 15th May - Pentecost will include the opportunity to share in a service of Choral Matins at SSP&P and a Holy Communion at St Mark's. Both services will be at 10am.

IN the evening we will be hosting the **Christian Aid service** when representatives from CTiG&D will be commissioned. That takes place at **6.30pm**

God Bless *Mervyn*

Godalming Baptist Church

On **Saturday 7th May** at Godalming Baptist Church we have a Life Issue event-'Losses, Disappointments, Shattered Dreams and Dashed Hopes'. This will be led by Chris ledger with Fiona Nation-both inspiring speakers. Coffee and Registration is from 9.30am and the first session begins at 10.00am and the final session ends at 4.00pm. This promises to be such a worthwhile day focussing on the impact of life's Disappointments, and Losses -the thoughts, feelings and struggles that may be experienced and then acceptance, healing and new hope. Cost is £12 per person to include all refreshments and speakers fees and expenses. To book a place please contact Janet fry- janetfry1@gmail.com or the Church Office-01483-422105, Mon, Weds or Friday mornings BY Friday 22nd April. **Sally Pollard**

Read My Lips! Part of the Diocese of Guildford..Hear Here! Project

THERE ARE STILL SPACES ON THIS COURSE --Lip-reading is a vital communication skill for people who are deaf or hard of hearing that can help tackle isolation. Classes are very informal and friendly and are taught by a qualified teacher. You can go at your own pace and your teacher will encourage you to have a laugh and relax. They will demonstrate the different shapes that sounds make on the lips so that you can identify them, explain how to fill in the gaps of speech that you can't hear, how to use clues from the context of the conversation and the best place to position yourself in a group.

When. Thursday afternoons, 2-4pm: until 23rd June (half term 2nd June) and 22nd September – 1st December (half term 27th October) **Where.** The Octagon, St Peter & St Paul's Church, Borough Road, Godalming, **Cost** Classes are £5 per session, payable termly in advance. **The first class is a taster session and will be free.** Classes are limited to 10 people, completion of a booking form is required. **Contact** Tracey Wade, Sensory Inclusion Adviser Phone **01483 790327** Email tracey.wade@cofeguildford.org.uk

Please send items for the June Link Up to Matt Farrow - taking over as Editor.. His email is farrow.matt@gmail.com by Monday 23rd May for issue on 25th May