

# ST. SIMON'S NEWS

## OCTOBER 2009



St. Simon's Church, Waverley Road,  
Southsea. PO5 2PW

**Vicar:**

Rev'd Matthew Holland  
023 9273 3068  
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**Youth and Children's Worker:**

Jo Borley  
023 9229 5739  
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**Church Administrator:**

Rejenna Graham

**Church Office Hours:**

Mon – Fri : 10 am – 12 noon  
023 9282 9440  
admin@stsimons-southsea.org.uk

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**Children and Youth**

We have children's groups at all  
10.30 services.

**KISS** at 9.30 on 1st Sunday every month  
is specially for kids.

We have Youth Cells

There's also Football Club every other  
Thursday at St. Luke's Sports Centre.

Contact Graham Farr on 9282 0418 if  
you are interested.

Contact the Office or see website for  
further information.

**Community**

Parents & Toddlers Mondays: 9.30-11 am  
School term times only

Rendezvous (over 50s) at 2.30 pm on 1st  
and 3rd Wednesdays of the month  
Sunday Supper. Free.

Every Sunday at 6.30 pm

To find out about  
Cell Church and other things we do,  
visit:

[www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk](http://www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk)

Do you know about Portsmouth Churches  
own Website?

[www.portsmouthchurches.co.uk](http://www.portsmouthchurches.co.uk)

### Building Project

Some may be wondering what has happened to the Building Project. Has it disappeared? Certainly not. The PCC on July 13th agreed a 'Shopping List' for a renovated church building. This can be viewed on the St. Simon's website. We are very grateful to the Coffee Tavern Trust for paying for the work on the east end, to Michael for steering this work through, and to Derek Clark and his men for doing a really good job for us. We are in the process of looking for a new architect who we will ask to produce an initial sketch of a scheme, or possibly several alternative schemes for the major work based on the Shopping List and on the satellite Children's Centre requirements. We are consulting with our Diocesan Registrar over the lease and service provision agreements with Portsmouth City Council for the Children's Centre facilities. So, a lot to pray for!

### Visions

Several people have been sharing with me some amazing visions they have had lately of the presence of Christ among his people, and some assurances of the reality of his Kingdom which is to come. This gives us hope for the future, and faith to live courageously and generously for Christ in the present.

### Christmas Singing for All!

Maybe it's being a quarter Welsh that does it, but there is something about unaccompanied singing that moves me deeply, especially when offered to God. This Christmas we are trying something new. I am really thrilled that Janet Ayers, known to many of us from her 'natural voice' workshops, has agreed to collaborate with our own Paul to put on a series of workshops to prepare for 'Carols by Candlelight' this year, (and for devout insomniacs... Midnight Communion as well) They are choosing a mixture of traditional carols sung in fresh ways, and other music from around the world to help us to worship our Christ together. You need no technical knowledge whatsoever to join in. You don't even need to think that you can sing.

Workshops will be on Weds 11th, 18th and 25th Nov, and Thurs 3rd, 10th, and 17th Nov, all from 7.30 to 9, initially in the Church Centre and then in the Church. Carols by Candlelight will be at 7.30 on Dec 20th and Midnight Communion on Dec 24th at 11.30 p.m. But you don't have to commit to the latter to join in. We will be charging a fee of £5 per workshop on Janet's behalf. But please have a quiet word with Paul or me if you can't afford this, or indeed if you could give a little more to help pay for someone else to join in.

Blessings Matthew

<b>Sunday Worship at St. Simon's</b>		<b>Preacher</b>
<b>4th October Trinity 17</b>		
09.30	KISS	Team
11:15	Holy Communion	Matthew Holland
<b>11th October Trinity 18</b>		
10.30	Morning Praise	Matthew Holland
<b>18th October Trinity 19</b>		
10:30	Holy Communion	Colin Noyce
<b>25th October Last after Trinity</b>		
10:30	Morning Praise	Matthew Holland

### **October Diary**

#### **Every Wednesday evening**

Beer and Bible

#### **Thursday 1st October**

Prayer for Mayville School, 4.30 p.m. In the Church Lounge

PCC Meeting, 7.30 in the Church Centre

Grub Club, 7.30 p.m., Le Polka

#### **Tuesday 6th October**

XCell Coffee Morning, 9.30-11.30 at Dinah's

#### **Wednesday 7th October**

Rendezvous

7 p.m. Children's Team meeting

#### **Saturday 10th October**

Church Work Day

#### **Sunday 11th October**

Caring for Life Presentation

Harvest Lunch

#### **Tuesday 13th October**

7.30 p.m. Fabric Committee meeting

#### **Wednesday 21st October**

Travelling Library and Coffee Morning

Rendezvous

#### **Saturday 31st October**

Ceilidh at Southsea Tennis Club

**The City Churches Prayer Meetings** take place every Wednesday at 6.30 a.m. Meetings in October are at Langstone Church, Shore Avenue.

### **Rendezvous**

Rendezvous is an open meeting and all are welcome. Meetings start at 2.30 p.m. In the Church centre. Talks are followed by light refreshments and the opportunity to socialise.

**7th October:** Talk on Street Pastors

**21st October:** AGM followed by "Precious Things" - members bring along items of value (sentimental or other) and talk about what makes them special

Please contact Millie French on 9285 1490 for further information.

### **Social**

**Thursday 1st October:** Grub Club is going to Eastern Europe – a little piece of Poland on Albert Road. It's Le Polka, a little Polish Restaurant next door to Nemrut, by the crossroads. Tables are booked for 7.30 for 8 p.m. The menu has starters from £2.30 and main courses from £4.90. They are not licensed so you can bring your own drink. Please contact Dinah to book a place (9281 4599). Grub Club is simply a group of us who like a good meal, in good company and at a reasonable price!

#### **XCell Coffee Morning**

Come and join members of XCell for coffee and calories at the home of Dinah Walters, from 9.30-11.30 a.m. - no need to book, simply come along.

#### **Sunday 11th October**

We are celebrating Harvest Festival with a light lunch in the Church Centre, immediately following the service. Tickets need to be bought **in advance** (last sales on Thursday 8th October) and cost £5 from Rejenna in the Office, Dinah Walters and Gail Chipperfield. Proceeds will go towards the Church Building Fund.

#### **Saturday 31st October**

Ceilidh at Southsea Tennis Club pavilion – dancing to the Red Hot Reeds. Tickets are £8 and you can bring your own drinks. Please see Dinah for more information.

## **Letter from Bishop Kenneth and Good News Library**

### **Sarah**

Dear friends,

This is just a line to thank everyone for the warm generosity expressed in the cheque handed to me after the Farewell Eucharist in the Cathedral on Saturday. Both farewell services, at Newport and in Portsmouth, will remain with us for a long time to come. I know it must have involved a great deal of organisation, at a time when many people are hard-pressed. So thank you from the bottom of my heart.

This diocese has been a wonderful place to be these past fourteen years, and we shall take many memories of you all with us into retirement. The gifts were beautiful, flowers for Sarah, and the photo-album carefully put together. Right now, we're not sure what to spend the rest of the money on, but the first instalment – garden furniture – is going to look great in our new environment.

Much love from us both and God bless you all.

+ Kenneth and Sarah

If you have wondered exactly what is the Good News Library, I will explain. It is a marvellous resource that visits St Simon's on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (excepting May, August and December) from 10.30 - 12.00hrs.

It has a wide range of Christian books, in various categories - biographies, autobiographies, personal testimonies, living the Christian life, excellent fiction, and much more, all available to borrow for a small voluntary contribution. A wonderful way of increasing your understanding of what goes on outside this parish and country. If you are not a great reader, there are DVDs, videos, worship CDs and audiotapes - in fact something for everyone. On top of that, they carry a wonderful range of greetings cards, calendars, and diaries, all at very reasonable prices. You get all this and coffee and biscuits too, and a chance to socialise with people from other churches

Why not give it a try? - I'd love to see you there.

Millie

## **Hello from Ofori**

My name is Ofori Oteng. My family name is Ofori and my given name is Oteng.

I come from Ghana, in West Africa and was born in Accra. There are six in my family - five guys and a girl who is the last born. My parents live and work in Accra.

I became a Christian at the age of 14 and joined the Scripture Union during my senior secondary school education where I got to know the Lord at a deeper level and began serving Him and living for Him.

I gained my University degree in Mathematics from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana from 2003 -2007. Before coming to work with St Simon's as a voluntary youth worker, I did voluntary youth work with Elmfield Church in North Harrow, London from September 2008 to July 2009, after I was seconded by Careforce to the Church.

I am interested in soccer, table tennis, athletics and I support Chelsea football club.

## **Shoe Box Launch 2009**

On Sunday 11th October (Harvest Sunday) we will be launching the 2009 Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Collection. A short DVD will be shown and leaflets and shoe boxes will be available from that date. The retiring collection will be given to Samaritan's Purse.

On Saturday 7th November from 2-5 p.m. we will be having a Shoe Box Social in the Church Centre. Put the date in your diary now, and come along to help wrap and pack shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse to go to disadvantaged children around the world. Free tea and cakes provided! Donations of items to go in the boxes are welcome – please see a leaflet for ideas.

For more information, see Ruth Taylor (023 9283 3318), any member of Trinity Cell, or look online at [www.samaritanspurse.uk.com](http://www.samaritanspurse.uk.com)

## **Harvest Distribution**

Every year during Harvest season we take a small gift to the housebound as a gesture of our love in return of what we have received from God. Would you like to take part by picking up a gift bag together with flowers at Church and taking to one of the elderly in our parish? The distribution may be on 11th October, Harvest Sunday after the Service or on the following Monday (to be confirmed). Please let Rejenna or the pastoral team know if you would like to offer your services.

## **Harvest Donation....**

We invite you to / encourage people (family and children) to give food and bring it in to Church on Sundays up to Harvest Sunday. Items such as ea bags, ringpull tins of food such as beans, hot dogs, meat or fruit, pot noodles, pot rice, pot pasta, packet soup would all be gratefully received.

## **Mayville Harvest**

On Wednesday 7th October, Mayville school will be having their Harvest service in St Simon's and will be donating gifts of produce etc. to the church for Sunday Suppers. We should be most grateful if anyone could spend a little time from 11.30am on the 7th, helping sort tins by dates. Please let Rejenna/Sue know or put your name on the 'Sign up' sheet if you could help or just turn up. Anyone is welcome to go to the service which starts around 9.30am.

## **Beer and Bible**

Beer and Bible is an informal time to have a drink and discuss the Bible. All are welcome. We meet every Wednesday evening, 8-10 p.m. at the Northcote Hotel, Francis Avenue, Southsea.

## **Caring for Life Presentation**

Members of St. Simon's are invited to a service at Netley Christian Fellowship, Abbey Hall, Victoria Road, Netley on Sunday 11th October at 4 pm. Peter Parkinson, founder of Caring for Life, will be speaking about the ministry and showing a short DVD. This is one of the organisations we support and is where George Hardisty, our former youth and community worker, now works. Gail Chipperfield can offer lifts and anyone interested in going should contact her.

## **Table Top Sale, 14th November**

We are hoping to hold a table top sale from 10a.m. - 12 noon on 14th November in the Church Centre. Are you able to help on this day in any way - e.g. putting up and taking down of tables, helping to serve refreshments from the kitchen, helping behind one of the tables, or even contributing any items for sale? These would need to be nearly new or in good condition. Any proceeds from the Church Tables will be given towards the heating of the Church during the winter months.

You may like to have a table at £5 per table.

For any contribution, please bring it from Sunday 8th November and leave at the back pews on the North side with a note on it.

Please let the Church Office know by the second week of October – Many thanks

## **Deadline for the November Newsletter**

9 p.m., Tuesday 20th October to Dinah Walters on [dinahwalters@gmail.com](mailto:dinahwalters@gmail.com) or telephone 9281 4599.

### **Sunday Suppers**

Every Sunday night

Soup, sandwiches, cake and fruit.

Prayer and friendship

6 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

Food served from 6.30.

#### **Prayer**

There will be prayer for Sunday Suppers from 6.15 to 6.30 p.m. each Sunday in the Church Lounge.

All very welcome.

