

# ST. SIMON'S NEWS



## APRIL 2010

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

Vicar:  
Rev'd Matthew Holland  
023 9273 3068  
matthew758@btinternet.com  
Youth and Children's Worker:

Jo Borley  
023 9229 5739  
joanneborley@gmail.com  
Church Administrator:  
Rejenna Graham  
Church Office Hours:  
Mon – Fri : 10 am – 12 noon  
023 9282 9440

admin@stsimons-southsea.org.uk  
\*\*\*\*\*

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)

### St. George's Baghdad: Holy Week and Easter Collections

This Easter, our retiring collection will go to the ongoing work of Canon Andrew White's church, St. George's in Baghdad.

Andrew wrote on March 4th:

*'...news from Iraq is not good. Every day Christians are being killed in the lead up to Sunday's elections. In the past few days there have been several Christians killed in the Niniveh/Mosul area. Security has also diminished in Baghdad and things are now very bad.*

*The other major problem is our financial situation. As you know we have been in a bad financial situation before and the Lord has always helped us. After the recent bombing the help was incredible and we were able to restore the church and clinic so quickly and many of you helped us.*

*Maybe because of the high income at the end of last year, our income this year has seriously fallen. Each month we need to raise £55,000. Last week we only raised £1000. The fact is that we do not have the money to provide people with food or to run the clinic and church in the coming month.*

*We had to tell all the staff in Baghdad that there may not be enough to pay them this month. And we usually provide nearly 4000 people with food each week. So things are very very difficult at the moment and we really ask for your prayers. We do not like to ask for money, it is your prayer we need, but practical needs must also be considered.*

*At the moment we do not have the funds to bring over any of the young people from Iraq this Summer or even to fulfill our commitments in the US next month. So we ask for your prayers for the protection of the church and its members in the coming week and for our dire financial state.'*

Andrew has written more recently (March 20th) regarding the Iraqi election

*'Things remain very complex. Nobody knows what the final result will be. We need to pray, pray and pray that democracy will provide liberty in a still very broken Iraq.'*

Continues/...

<b>Sunday Worship at St. Simon's</b>		<b>Preacher</b>
<b>2nd April Good Friday</b>		
10.30 a.m.	Service at the Cross	Matthew Holland
2.00 p.m.	An Hour at the Cross	Michael Piper
<b>4th April Easter Day</b>		
10.30 a.m.	Family Holy Communion	Matthew Holland
<b>11th April</b>		
10.30 a.m.	Morning Praise	Matthew Holland
<b>18th April</b>		
10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Matthew Holland
<b>25th April</b>		
10.30 a.m.	Morning Praise	Rob Borley

### April Diary

#### Every Tuesday

Tuesday Time Together

#### Maundy Thursday

Passover Meal with Holy Communion

#### Easter Sunday

Breakfast at Mick and Dinah's

#### Wednesday 7th

Rendezvous

#### Sunday 11th

Sunday Lunch in the Church Centre

#### Thursday 15th

Singing Workshop for Pentecost

#### Saturday 17th

Church Work Day

Fundraising Dinner for Africa Mission

#### Wednesday 21st

Rendezvous

Traveling Library and Coffee Morning,  
10.30-12 in the Church Centre

#### Thursday 22nd

Singing Workshop for Pentecost

#### Saturday 24th

Table Tennis Tournament

"Portsmouth in the 1960s" talk

#### Wednesday 28th

Singing Workshop for Pentecost

#### Thursday 29th

PCC meeting

**Don't forget to check the Church website for up-to-date information!**

**The City Churches Prayer Meetings** take place every Wednesday at 6.30 a.m. In April the meetings take place at King's Church, Elm Grove.

\*\*\*\*\*

Continued

#### St.Simon's

As soon as our Treasurer returns from a well-deserved holiday, we will begin to issue regular monthly bulletins summarizing our general financial state and where things have got to with the Building Project, for prayer and action. Fiona Hudd, our Project Architect will begin work on the Feasibility study in mid-April. Please pray for her. We now have enough money in the start up fund to pay her initial fee, but not quite enough to pay for a Quantity Surveyor, who we need to involve at an early stage.

We face a big challenge, but our faith is in God, his Christ and the Holy Spirit! The great thing is to ask to be obedient in what he asks of each of us, *'in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you....'* as Paul puts it in Romans 12.

As I was reminded by one of you recently, God has showered all kinds of gifts on our congregation. In these anxious times, let us trust him that if we use these gifts in his service, fully, generously and joyfully, he will bless us abundantly, and many others through us. We will become a living sign of hope in the city.

*'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.'* Eph 3:20-21

May you be richly blessed as you follow our Jesus through this time of his passion and resurrection.

Matthew

#### 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 April** Major Mary Wolfe - the work of the Salvation Army

**21st April** Sandra Simmons - "Living under the veil" (*Living in Iran as an Iranian wife*)

Please contact Millie French on 9285 1490 for further information.

## Social

### Easter Day Breakfast

Dinah and Mick are offering a continental-style buffet breakfast from 8-10 a.m. at their home on Easter morning. Tickets are £5 and proceeds are for the Building Fund. If you would like to come, please buy your tickets by Friday 2nd April at the latest. Contact Dinah and Mick on 9281 4599.

### Sunday 11th April

The Churchwardens invite you to a Fundraising Lunch Sunday 11th April after church, in aid of the Building Project. Tickets need to be purchased in advance and are £7.00 for adults; 5-16 year olds, £3.50; under 5s free. Please see Julie, or Gail.

### Fundraising Dinner, 17th April

Chris Walters, currently a youth worker attached to churches in Whitstable, has been accepted as a volunteer on a missionary programme to go to a church near Johannesburg, South Africa. He needs to raise £4,000 and Mick and Dinah are holding a dinner to help him do this. It is in their home on 17th April and they are offering an evening of French cuisine - a three course buffet dinner, plus coffee and mints, for £15. Please contact them if you would like tickets for this event.

### Saturday 24th April

#### Table tennis tournament

Ofori and the Youth Cell are organising a Table Tennis Tournament in the Upper Church Centre, starting at 10 a.m. and going on until the competition is finished - depending on how many people enter. All ages and standards are welcome. It will cost £1 to enter, which will include coffee and croissants. There will be a sheet in the church centre for people to sign up. Spectators welcome!

### Fundraising event for the Building Project

New Beginnings Cell invite you to a talk and slide show of "Portsmouth in the 60s", to be given by Brian Patterson on Saturday 24th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Centre. Tickets are £5, which includes tea, coffee and cakes and are available from any member of the Cell (see Cell Noticeboard).

### Anyone for Nordic Walking?

Just wondered if anyone would like to join a small group for a taster session of Nordic Walking (essentially, walking seriously with poles)? The

cost is about £10 for an hour with a qualified instructor and poles are provided. Please let me know by 15th April if you are interested. Dinah

### Saturday 8th May: Victorian Musical Evening

The Gaiety Theatre, South Parade Pier, 7.30 p.m. Tickets £12.50 including Ploughman's Supper, Drinks available at the bar. Tickets from 023 9281 1407. This is a fund-raising event for Portsmouth Family Welfare Association which was founded in 1903 and aims to reach young couples and single mums with children by supplying clothing, furnishings, bedding, nursery items and food. It also aims to help combat poverty endured by people who may be disadvantaged by homelessness, low wages and/or unemployment, to relieve poverty in the City of Portsmouth and provide a contact point of last resort for those in need.

### Tuesday Time Together

This will be held every Tuesday, from 10 a.m. until approximately 11 a.m., in the South Room. It will be a time when we let the Spirit lead us into open worship, waiting on God and listening to Him. Also, we shall pray for any special requests given to us each week. Do hope you can join in - even if not every week - you will be welcomed whenever you are able to come.

Contact Kathy Richardson for more information.

### Maundy Thursday – Passover Meal

It is St Simon's turn to host Passover Meal on Maundy Thursday, 1st April this year. We will invite St Jude's church to join us as usual. Tickets are available from the church office, price £2, free for under 16's. The meal starts at 6 pm followed by optional communion at 7.30 .

### Deadline for the May Newsletter

9 p.m., Tuesday 20th April to Dinah Walters at [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.

