

## **PARISH PICNIC on 11<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Didn't we have a lovely day, the day we went to  
Manor Farm Country Park**



**There was green space, sunshine and lots of different people from St Columba and Holy Trinity congregations. Better still, we were joined by friends and family who we don't usually see, so it was a perfect opportunity to enjoy a friendly and fun time.**

**A kiosk nearby provided ice creams and cups of tea to supplement our picnic feasts, and a short walk away was the shoreline of the river Hamble. Quite idyllic.**

**The games of boules and more robust rounders, were entertaining to watch and everyone was welcome to join in the friendly rivalry.**

**A big thank you to Jim Palmer for instigating the day. Perhaps we can make this a regular way to celebrate the Patronal festivals of St Columba and Holy Trinity.....**



# LYCiG Update



Our Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCiG) team - Revs. Sally & Garry, Jim Palmer and Sue Craft, see the need to focus at the moment on St Columba as we consider mission opportunities, development of building options and the experience and gifts of a potential new Team Vicar.

Three special LYCiG events at St Columba on Sunday mornings, began in June and continue in July. The varied programmes for each morning provide the congregation with a lot of opportunity to share small-group discussions, feedback and worship. All followed by a 'bring your own' lunch with cake and refreshments. In order to enable as many to contribute as possible, the children will be lead by Holy Trinity children workers during these special Sunday sessions. The LYCiG team are grateful for parents and carers at Holy Trinity who are therefore without formal Children's Church on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2<sup>nd</sup> July & 16<sup>th</sup> July.

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## OpenDoors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians



**Open Doors** is a charity our 2 churches have been supporting for the last 2 years.

Katie Savage, from Living Word Church, Fareham, has recently been to Lebanon to see the work of Open Doors there. She will be coming to speak to us about what she discovered on two Sundays:



**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July:** 9.30am Holy Trinity

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August:** 10am at St Columba

## Transcript of a homily given by David Inns

at 8am service, St Columba, 18th June.

The Gospel reading was Mathew 9:38-10:8.

“We have had harrowing news in recent months, the attacks and loss of life in Manchester and London and then this week the horrific fire at Grenfell Tower Block in West London. These events came right into our living rooms and perhaps it is fair to say that we felt a sense of helplessness but, without trying to minimise these events in any way; we have seen, amongst the grief, anger and horror of so many people, a great amount of love, care and sharing within multi faith and multi race communities. Some light in the darkness, a darkness that comes from losing families, friends and homes.

Where did that impetus for love and care come from? Well compassion



must have been there. We know what compassion is but I felt moved to have a look at the definition, because a definition can illuminate our understanding sometimes.

*‘Compassion: a feeling of distress and pity for the suffering or misfortune of another, often including a desire to alleviate it’.*

This morning’s reading tells us that when Jesus saw the crowds he had compassion for them ***(in other words he was distressed and felt pity for them and wanted to alleviate it)*** because they were harassed, and helpless like sheep without a shepherd.

Those who managed to escape from Grenfell Tower were harassed and helpless and had a great need for compassion, not to mention the distress and pity that the whole country/world must have felt and still be feeling, for those who were unable to escape.

At our 10.00 o'clock meeting today one of the things to be considered is, 'what sort of church do we want to be' and 'what are we offering to the community'. Also in this morning's reading from Matthew, we hear Jesus saying, 'the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest'.

Therein lies the challenge.

Our community is our harvest and to a large extent, the people of our community are harassed and like sheep without a shepherd. We have to reach them because their spiritual future is at stake, their relationship with God is at stake. It's not about us and it's not about 'bums on seats'. Bums on seats may be one result of our efforts, but our motivation has to be **to show God's love in Jesus to our community in such a way that they want God in their lives.**

We are two weeks on from Pentecost, that time when the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to take the Gospel to the world. To do God's work in our community we need that same Spirit within us. To be filled and refilled with the Holy Spirit is something we have to pray for, so that we can be shown the right way forward in employing our God given gifts for the sake of others."

**David Inns**

## PCC BUSINESS – 17<sup>th</sup> May.

### Correction from last Bulletin –

The replacement external notice boards outside the front of Holy Trinity will be paid by 50% from the General Fund and 50% from the Holy Trinity Refurbishment Fund - not as previously reported from the Dr Margaret Collins Fund. Apologies for error.



### Charitable giving -

In Jan 2015, the PCC voted to change the way we give to charity. Prior to that, 20 or so charities benefited from small one-off payments, usually between £250 and £500.

To encourage a greater engagement, it was agreed to reduce the number of charities and provide church members with information updates to help us support the charities in our prayers. A further change was that donations should be made for two consecutive years, thereby helping charities with their forward planning. The new process was to be trialled for two years. For the first season (2015 to 2017), eight charities were chosen, nominated by church members.

In addition to the new arrangement, we continue to support other charities at certain times of year: for example, the Basics Bank (Harvest), Christian Aid Week, Samaritans, Crisis (Christmas) and the Disasters Emergency Committee with 'red bucket' appeals when needed. Also, we still support Fair Trade with a monthly stall selling their produce.

The two-year trial period has now ended. PCC members voted in favour of continuing with the current arrangement. Church members will soon be asked to nominate charities for the next two-year period.

### Time & Talents -



The Stewardship Committee has now completed a review of all returned questionnaires and responses are being processed.

Thank you.

# Fun at St Columba Fair

The rain held off and it was warm enough for a paddle (well, for some at least!)

We were delighted to welcome people from the community who popped in to have a browse,



or buy some delicious homemade scones and cakes and have a natter over a cuppa.



After that it was time for a bit of exercise – knocking those skittles down – and then running to pick them up again. Good game good game!



Or Giant Jenga!



Then it was time for more browsing,  
and another cuppa!



We were pleased to have a number of groups  
from the community selling a variety of lovely  
things which they had made.

GREAT TO SEE YOU TODAY!

Did you enjoy the event at St Columba?

😊 😐 😞

Would you like to see St Columba  
doing more activities in the community?

Yes  No

What would you like to see?

Would you like to help make it happen?  
If yes, please put your email or mobile number below

THANK YOU

[www.htscf.org.uk](http://www.htscf.org.uk)

We took the opportunity to ask those who  
came along some questions.

They were given a postcard to fill in  
and when they handed it in, we gave them  
a chocolate to say thank you!

This is really going to help us with our  
research into how we can engage in new  
ways with those around us.

It's made us hungry for more!

Time for a bacon butty!



***Thank you everyone for giving us a  
lovely day!***

# LUNCHTIME CONCERTS IN HOLY TRINITY

Athanasian Consort 12.30pm to 1.15pm Tue 25<sup>th</sup> July

We continue to host a lunchtime concert at Holy Trinity on the last Tuesday of each month. We welcome office workers as they sit and eat their packed lunches, shoppers who are taking a welcome break from their list of tasks and many who make a particular point of coming into



town, specifically for the music and the Holy Trinity welcome.

This month, on 25<sup>th</sup> July, we look forward to hearing a group of (8-10) singers led by Philip Drew. They will perform a mixed programme of sacred and secular music from across the centuries.

Why not come along and share this enjoyable experience with friends?

## Future programme for 2017 :-

29<sup>th</sup> August Baroque Ad Hoc

Music for harpsichord and recorders

26<sup>th</sup> September Hazel Ricketts

Piano classics

31<sup>st</sup> October Fumi Otsuki

Violin

28<sup>th</sup> November Battle of the organs

Our parish organists play two organs

There is no charge for these concerts but there will be a retiring collection in aid of our Church Refurbishment Fund.



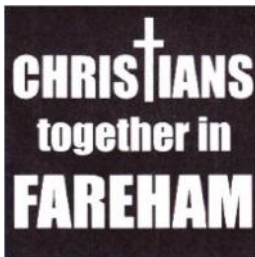


## *Our Ladies Group*

Calling all the women of the Parish.  
Come and join our Ladies Group for a cream tea in  
the Parish Centre.

Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 10am

For more dates and details, contact Becky on 07783 034995 or email  
[becky200383@hotmail.com](mailto:becky200383@hotmail.com)



Back by popular demand, a  
week of activities for Primary  
and Junior school children.....



14<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> August, 10am to 1pm.

Hosted by three Fareham churches:

Holy Trinity, Methodist and United Reformed Church

There is a team of volunteers plus event organisers led by the energetic  
and talented Phil Crathorne (back by popular demand from 2016).

### *What do we need now???*

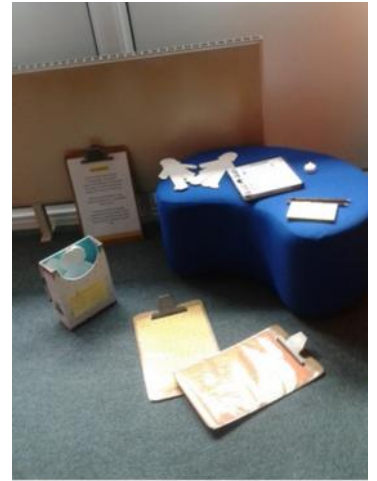
- ) Some more volunteers to help with the practical and the hands-on  
children stuff
- ) Prayers that all the planning goes well
- ) Lots of parents/grandparents/carers to apply for places.

To apply, email names of child(ren), dates of birth and mobile contact  
number to: [ctifholidayclub@gmail.com](mailto:ctifholidayclub@gmail.com)

# St Columba Academy

## Prayer Spaces

The Principle of the St Columba Academy (Jane Hoggarth-Allen) came back from the 'Fruit of The Spirit' Conference, inspired by the idea to "enable children to explore their faith and spirituality by providing them with an opportunity for an encounter with God".

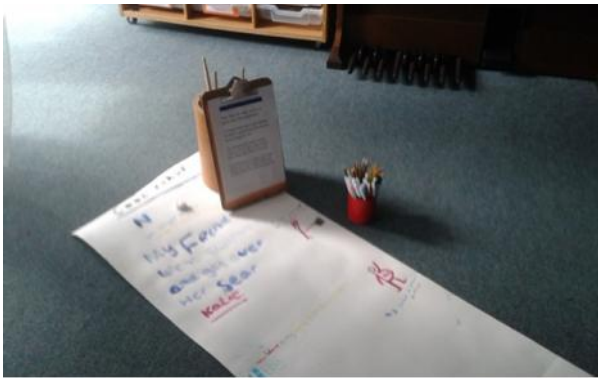


So, with input from Revs Sally, Ruth & Garry, since January this year there are spaces in the school which contain practical activities to support focus and prayer. They have been updated this term with additional spaces, with different activities (e.g. colouring people templates, writing and drawing prayers, plaiting, Lego, play dough and making pasta bracelets).

The first space is Stepping Stones which take children on a thinking journey, with carpet stepping stones, asking a question on each step, like "What would you like to thank God for?" or "Is there someone you would like to pray for?"

The second space focuses on Thank You, asking children to thank someone working in the school or local community.

The other spaces focus on affirming their self image, building on friendships and saying sorry. These spaces have been going well, with the children requesting more prayer space time!



Sydney in Yr 6 said “I really liked it; it was fun because the activities made you think about stuff.”

“You can reflect on things, not just bad things but also good things.” said Elissa, Year 6. Aiden, Yr 5 said “I think it is nice and calm and relaxing, so that you can

think about what is wrong and how you can change it” and classmate Ian said “It’s nice & quiet where you can think about God.” “It’s nice to sit down and think about people in your family who have died” added Grace (Yr 5).

We felt that it was important that in order for these spaces to be successful, they needed to be part and parcel of the RE curriculum where both the clergy and staff could support the spaces on a regular basis, making sure that the children and staff have regular access.



At present, they are available at break-time but could also be available as part of their class time-table.

The **Prayer Spaces** have made a real impact on the children. They ‘de-stress’ and pray about their friendships, family and what is going on in the world. The children talk about their concerns and know they are listened to.

We can’t emphasize just how important these spaces have been for this busy school (their impact has the possibility of being global). The children and staff can chill, think and have space - and know they are cared for by the church, each other and of course God. This in turn gives them the confidence to access their learning more confidently and feel valued in what is unfortunately a pressurised setting these days. They have provided a precedent of contributing to a successful school, where

all are loved and valued as individuals, with a true sense of community, centred on God.

I know that Prayer Spaces are not a new thing some will have read about the benefits but it is good to be reminded about the successes of prayer spaces and their knock-on effect on a greater scale.

**Sally Dewberry, Community Worker.**



[July Parish Charity](#)  
[Portsmouth Downs Syndrome Association](#)

This local organisation provides:

- ) Information and training days for parents and related professionals
- ) Up to date information and advice about all aspects of Downs Syndrome
- ) Access to our information lending library
- ) A very warm welcome and guidance for new parents
- ) Social opportunities for our families to come together, to make friends and share experiences
- ) A wide range of specialist educational services including Communication Therapy, early Intervention Group, a School Outreach Service and drama groups for members.