

The Bulletin

Winter 2017



On Sunday 19th November we celebrated June Hays's 8 year service to our Parish as a Lay Reader. She has decided that now is the right time to



stand-down from this role. June will be maintaining her active involvement in our church life though, so this was certainly not a goodbye.

However, we will be saying a sad good bye to

Garry, Nicky, Caitlin, Joshua & Meghan

Garry's final service at 10am in St Columba is on 3rd December & his last in the Parish will be as a **joint service** at 9:30am in Holy Trinity on 10th December, followed by coffee & cake. Then Garry, Nicky and their great family will leave us to settle into their new home. The Licensing in Chandlers Ford will take place on Monday 8th January to which everyone is invited (*please add your name to lists in both our churches, so Garry's new church know we coming!*)



PCC Business from Sept. & Nov. 2017



- **Safeguarding**

There is an ongoing issue with the compulsory Diocesan training being in inconvenient locations and too scarce. After our PCC raised this, the Diocese is trying to find a solution.

- **Parish Vacancy**

The PCC have had wide-ranging discussions on what sort of role will be advertised, and the fact that both churches will enjoy sharing our Parish Rector and Parish Vicar.

- **Finance**



In September it looked like 2017 would end with a hole in the budget of £18,500. Then the two Gift Days happened in October. The response was amazing - £12,000 raised (including Gift Aid). Thanks to all who worked hard to organise these two Gift Days and to the many who felt able to respond. With some St Columba repairs having to be scheduled within 2018, this year will end on a positive balance – but the fact remains that regular income is insufficient to meet our costs. There will be a Stewardship campaign in early 2018 and we are all asked to respond prayerfully.

- **Data Protection**

New regulations in 2018 will necessitate some changes to the way we use email across the Parish. Both electronic and



paper correspondence need to be treated confidentially and stored correctly. Jim Palmer is working hard on this area, ready for the changes.

Holy Trinity Church Committee

- Sally Martin is now HTCC secretary.
- LYCIG - Further discussion took place around 'welcome' and the sort of services that non-church goers might appreciate.
- A defibrillator for use at Holy Trinity is being funded (mostly) by a legacy from Nigel Dean. Total cost is expected to be around £1,200.
- A new-look notice board is planned for the Link, reflecting the broad life of our church family.



St Columba Church Committee



- Maggie Francis is SCCC secretary.
- A LYCiG 'away day' looked at how we can progress the growth of St Columba church life. Several short-term ideas were planned and others which will need more work.
- A Fabric Committee is to be set up, with volunteers already coming forward.
- Replacement church heaters are being considered.
- Grass cutting may be undertaken by a local charity.
- A prayer space is to be created in place of choir chairs.
- An initiative was discussed to integrate young people into the sidespeople and offertory teams.

Update From Sally Dewberry



During the Autumn, Sally joined 1st Catisfield Beavers for a hike around Portchester Castle which was great and the children even found a trail of decorative stones around the castle, left by unknown persons.

The Lego Day at Highlands Hub in October half term was shared with school and church families. Lego is a regular Saturday morning Hub activity and then on 25th Nov. there was a great session making Christmas floral decorations.



At Saint Columba Academy, Rev Garry and Sally introduced 4 new prayer spaces. One encourages children to say something nice to someone they've had difficulty with. In another, children place lights on a world map where there is war, hunger, refugees. There is also a Tree of Peace for prayers to be hung.

We've now launched our 'Pray, Read and Bake' project. Cakes are made and volunteers read with the children.

'Open The Book' assemblies continue to go well, with the children taking a bigger part with dialogue and helping out with props. We aim to get the whole of the school involved. Feedback from the school is really positive, with the children always asking to take part. This Community role is working well and the volunteer support is really encouraging.



Fareham Fairtrade Borough Group – 2017

Fareham's Fairtrade status was renewed in November 2016, with some very encouraging comments from the FT Foundation about Fareham Fairtrade Borough Group.

The Group's action plan shows that they are still having an impact, and raising the awareness of FT, in many areas of life in Fareham, including:-

1. Building upon the successes with national and local independent retailers, keeping up pressure on Sainsburys as they move away from FT certified tea, and asking local people to keep commenting when a coffee shop does/doesn't use FT sugar or greengrocers do/don't stock FT bananas.
2. Engagement with the community and development of links with other organisations has been a big part of the Group's busy year. They supported Christian Aid week by providing 'Divine' FT chocolate bars for collectors to give out. Group members ran the annual FT fortnight events. They also joined other organisations when they were running an event, to ensure a FT presence – and offered FT prizes, which went down very well.
3. The Group continued to offer activities and events for young people in schools and uniformed organisations across the borough, particularly Fareham Academy.



If you'd like to know more, or perhaps become a member of the friendly & active Fareham Fair Trade Group, talk to Jenny Hellyer or Maggi Francis. Or visit www.fft.org.uk

Christmas Cards 2017

Would you like to send an alternative Christmas card message to members of either of our church congregations this year? In December another giant Christmas card will be displayed on a notice board in both St Columba & Holy Trinity. Add your greeting, then drop a donation into one of the envelopes provided. Filled envelopes can go into the donations box at the back of church (or into the collection plate or through the parish office). Your donations will help support the vital work of 'Crisis at Christmas'. Thank you.



On 17th December, we would like as many people as possible to wear a Christmas jumper at both churches. We will provide a bucket for the jumper-wearers (indeed everyone) to add a donation, in aid of Save the Children. Thank you.



Christmas Lunch

St Columba Church are hosting the annual festive lunch on

Sunday 10th December

Serving drinks from 12:30pm with lunch at 1pm.

Tickets from Margaret Handley & Sarah Bourner from 19th Nov.



Adults £12 Children £6



2018 *for your new diaries:-*

Sunday 14th January at 3pm

in United Reformed Church, Osborn Rd South.

Shared choir of URC, Methodist and Holy Trinity churches singing sacred and secular music – come along and join in as a singer, or as a member of the ‘audience’.

Free entry with retiring collection to help support refugees and asylum seeking families.



Christmas Services in our Parish

Please see weekly news sheets for further details

St Columba

Sun. 24th Dec

8am Holy Communion

(N.B. no 10am service)

4pm Christingle

7pm Carols by Candlelight

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Mon 25th Dec

9.30am *(N.B. not 10am)* Family Communion



Holy Trinity

Sun. 10th Dec

6pm Scout-organised Christingle

Sun. 24th Dec

8am Holy Communion

(N.B. no 9:30am service)

3pm Crib service

7pm Carols by Candlelight

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Mon 25th Dec

9.30am Family Communion

Please note that there will be no Holy Communion service at 10.30am on Wednesday 27th December.