



St Columba Church  
changing lives

# ST. COLUMBA INFORMER

August 2014

## ***Bishop welcomes 'yes' vote on women bishops***

Bishop Christopher was among those who voted in favour of legislation that will pave the way for women bishops. The legislation was passed by all three of the General Synod's houses – the House of Bishops, House of Clergy & House of Laity – by the required two-thirds majority.

He said: "I welcome the vote that women as well as men can be called to be bishops in the Church of England. This decision is later than many had hoped, but it is made now with substantial support across the church and with trust and understanding of the differences that there have been. It opens all ministry to everyone and will enable all God's gifts to his people and church to be used in the service of the Gospel. The Diocese of Portsmouth is well served by lay and ordained Christians, among them both men and women priests, bringing compassion, insight and creativity to their work in communities, parishes and chaplaincies. As we look forward I am committed to all of us, whatever our view on the principle of this decision, being respected partners in witness & service to the people of this area."



The voting results of the General Synod, meeting in York, were as follows:  
House of Bishops: Yes 37 No 2 Abstentions 1  
House of Clergy: Yes 162 No 25 Abstentions 4  
House of Laity: Yes 152 No 45 Abstentions 5

This means the first woman bishop could potentially be appointed by the end of the year. The vote comes just 18 months after the proposal was

last voted upon in November 2012, when it failed to achieve the required two-thirds majority in the House of Laity.

Commenting on the day of the vote, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "Today is the completion of what was begun over 20 years ago with the ordination of women as priests. I am delighted with today's result. Today marks the start of a great adventure of seeking mutual flourishing while still, in some cases disagreeing. The challenge for us will be for the church to model good disagreement and to continue to demonstrate love for those who disagree on theological grounds. Very few institutions achieve this, but if we manage this we will be living our more fully the call of Jesus Christ to love one another. As delighted as I am for the outcome of this vote I am also mindful of those within the Church for whom the result will be difficult and a cause of sorrow.

"My aim, and I believe the aim of the whole church, should be to be able to offer a place of welcome and growth for all. Today is a time of blessing and gift from God and thus of generosity. It is not winner take all, but in love a time for the family to move on together."

Dr John Sentamu, said: "This is a momentous day. Generations of women have served the Lord faithfully in the Church of England for centuries. It is a moment of joy today: the office of Bishop is open to them.

"To those who ask 'what took you so long?' my answer is that every decision has a cost & there will be those within our body who will be hurting as a result of this decision. Our answer to the hurting should not be 'get over it' but rather 'we will not let go until you have blessed us.' We move slowly because we move together. In moving together we achieve not only what is just but also model what is right. As the African Proverb says: 'Whoever walks fast, travels alone. Whoever walks far, walks in the company of others'."

Following the vote, the measure moves to the Legislative Committee of General Synod and then to the Ecclesiastical Committee of the Houses of Parliament where the legislation will be considered. Subject to Parliamentary approval, the measure will return to the General Synod in November of this year where it will come into force after it has been formally announced.

*Extract from Portsmouth Diocese website.*

Speranza presents

# Musical Stories



Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
Grove Room, St John's Church,  
Locks Heath @ 7.30pm

Kath Sugden (flute), Charles Sugden (cello),  
Peter Gilks (piano)

perform works by Schumann, Rzewski and Gaubert

Entry free with retiring donations

## St Columba Academy News

**The Summer Fair** – On 11<sup>th</sup> July, St Columba Academy held their annual Summer Fair and I am pleased to say they raised £555, of which, half will go to charity and the other half into school funds.



Friends of St Columba Academy (FoSCA) had a plant stall at the Fair and raised £16.65 which will help fund future events. A huge “Thank You” to Jane Whiteley who provided the plants and helped to man the stall.

*Rosemary Brewerton*



### **Saying ‘Goodbye’**

July 23<sup>rd</sup> saw St Columba church hosting the annual Leavers’ Service for the Academy – which is always a really emotional event as we celebrate all that the children have achieved during their time at the school.

At the service Catherine Brewerton received a special award for having achieved 100% attendance for the past six years! **Congratulations Catherine from all at St Columba Church!**

# Messy Church Great Outdoors!

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 1-4pm at Fairthorne Manor Near Botley.



Outdoor activities including fire making, den building, camp fire cooking and food. £10 / family – bring coats and wellies. Book through [Clare.jones@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:Clare.jones@portsmouth.anglican.org) or [pete.maidment@winchester.anglican.org](mailto:pete.maidment@winchester.anglican.org)

## Ministry to (and for) Men



Keith Wickert writes....

“I met recently with Rev Stephen Girling who has a responsibility for supporting Men's Ministry in the Deanery. My aim was to understand how Men's Groups are active in other Parishes with a view to explore whether this would be an activity that is of value within our Parish. The Men's Groups in other Churches encompass a wide range of activities including Community Projects, Breakfast talks, Dad's and Children's play time and many others.

Many of these activities are also good at attracting non Church goers If there is enough interest Stephen is willing to come and talk to us about the different possibilities so if you are interested please can you e mail me at [wickertkeith@gmail.com](mailto:wickertkeith@gmail.com). “



Find us on facebook!  
[StColumbaChurchFareham.facebook](https://www.facebook.com/StColumbaChurchFareham)



## Aspects of Faith Explored

Our short course running from June to July was well attended by people from across six churches of different denominations within our own deanery, as well as one or two visitors from a little further afield.

The topics ranged quite widely, encompassing subjects that were age old, or that you as a congregation had inspired us to tackle (a number of you had said you'd like to ask God about them), whilst others were new ways of looking at the world that we hadn't considered before. All were approached (we hope) with fresh vision, and those participating were able to bring their own experiences to bear on the discussions – we all learned from one another, and perhaps went away with some fresh perspectives on accounting for the 'hope that is within us' (1Peter 3:15).

If anyone would like to borrow the transcripts for any of the evenings, please contact Rachel Abbey. We looked at:

- The image of God in the light of evolution
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century concepts of heaven
- The question of suffering
- The Gospel and issues of social justice

Please keep an eye out for two of the sessions which we hope to run in the Autumn over a Sunday lunchtime / early afternoon (lunch included) – it's good to give your brain a 'faith workout' every now and then, and everyone's experiences have the potential to help others in their journey of faith. Further details to follow.

**Oasis Tea and Chat** - Our friendly and informal bereavement team work to support those who have suffered from the effects of losing a loved one. 'The Oasis' Tea and Chat Club has been formed to help with this support and next meets on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September** between 2- 4pm at the Highlands Hub, Highlands Road Shopping Precinct. Come and join us for a cup of tea, homemade cake and a chat, we would love to see you, with or without a friend. Contact June Hays on 01329 231449 if you would like to know more.

## Sharing the Joys ....



We've shared some really happy occasions at St Columba during July: firstly the tea party which saw the church full of guests enjoying fabulous music from Allen, and an equally fabulous spread of delectable goodies courtesy of our skilled catering team. Mary Berry - eat your heart out! Many thanks indeed to all who helped in any way.

Our second lovely celebration was Ruth and John Schofield's silver wedding anniversary – marked by a barn dance and hog roast. Congratulations to you both!



## Year's Mind for August

1 <sup>st</sup>	William Field, Fred Fielder, Doris Gard, Ethel Helliwell, Eileen Hillier, Peter King, Dorothy Webb
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Doris Dimmer, Eddie Wrixon
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Albert Roberts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jimmy Saunders, Philip Webster
5 <sup>th</sup>	Eileen Ware
6 <sup>th</sup>	
7 <sup>th</sup>	Ruby White, Winifred Wright
8 <sup>th</sup>	Phyllis Viney
9 <sup>th</sup>	Harry Dillon-Shallard, Jim Johns, Janet Reed
10 <sup>th</sup>	Florence Revill
11 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Ellis, George Williams
12 <sup>th</sup>	Gary Parr
13 <sup>th</sup>	
14 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Hoad, Vera Watts
15 <sup>th</sup>	Freda Flux
16 <sup>th</sup>	
17 <sup>th</sup>	Alec Jempson, Hilda Worley
18 <sup>th</sup>	Patricia Bevis, William Linter, Doris Smith
19 <sup>th</sup>	Phillipa Ripley, Maurice Watts
20 <sup>th</sup>	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mavis Allaway, Ellen Jeffery, Wendy Miller
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mary Hall, Bill Sparks
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Joyce Dale, Robert Hamilton, Ruby Phillips
24 <sup>th</sup>	Frank Hillier
25 <sup>th</sup>	Irene Jackson
26 <sup>th</sup>	
27 <sup>th</sup>	Trish Macdougall
28 <sup>th</sup>	Gerry Coombes, Florence Garrett, Peter Herbert
29 <sup>th</sup>	Dann Sygrove, Barry Young
30 <sup>th</sup>	Dorothy Batten, Henry Carter, Kathleen Ceeney, Raymond Dickinson, Leonard Knight



31 <sup>st</sup>	Tessa Glynne-Howell, Tim Wills, Violet Wrixon
<b>September</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Brian Bushell, Phyllis Tidd
2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Simmons, Thomas Wrad
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Emma Sygrove
4 <sup>th</sup>	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Barrett
6 <sup>th</sup>	Anthony Bird, Crystal Masters
7 <sup>th</sup>	Marjorie Evans, John Hazell

## *Services at St Columba during August*

**Prayer during the week** – Tues & Thurs at the Hub – 9.15am

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Aug – Trinity 7**

- 8am - Said Communion;
- 10am - All Age Morning Worship
- 6.30pm - Iona service

### **10<sup>th</sup> Aug – Trinity 8**

- 8am - Said Communion
- 10am - Family Communion

### **17<sup>th</sup> Aug – Trinity 9**

- 8am - Said Communion
- 10am – Morning Worship
- 6.30pm – Summer Evensong



### **24<sup>th</sup> Aug – Bartholomew the Apostle / Int Slave Trade Abolition**

- 8am - Said Communion
- 10am – Family Communion with Christening

### **31<sup>st</sup> Aug – Trinity 11**

- 8am - Said Communion
- 10am – Family Communion

## Spotlight on World Concerns:

In late August, 1791, an uprising began in Santo Domingo (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that would have a major effect on abolishing the transatlantic slave trade.



The slave rebellion in the area weakened the Caribbean colonial system, sparking an uprising that led to the abolition of slavery and the island gaining its independence. It marked the beginning of the destruction of the slavery system, the slave trade and colonialism.

The United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is observed on 23<sup>rd</sup> August to remind people of the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade. It gives people a chance to



think about the historic causes, the methods and the consequences of the slave trade. The date also pays tribute to those who worked hard to abolish slave trade and slavery throughout the world.

The International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave

Trade and its Abolition was first celebrated in 1998, & since then the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has encouraged its observance on a wider basis within the international community.

Sadly, we are all too aware from reports in the media that whilst slavery has been abolished, it is not dead – even in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain. Last year there were 1,746 cases of slavery reported in the UK with men, women and children trapped in exploitative situations, especially through child trafficking, forced labour/debt bondage, sexual exploitation and domestic servitude. We pray for God's blessing on all those who continue to fight for human rights to be fully respected in this aspect of life.

# Around the Diocese

## Want to develop your skills to support others in distress?

If you'd like to develop your skills in communicating with those who are worried or distressed, the Sage and Thyme foundation level workshop might be for you. Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1.30-4.30 at the Rowans Hospice, Purbrook. Contact [grace.ellert@rowanhospice.co.uk](mailto:grace.ellert@rowanhospice.co.uk) Tel 023 9223 8535. Cost £35/person



## Archdeaconry Consultations on Ministry and Mission:

An evening event for our Archdeaconry is being held on Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Sept at St. John's, Shedfield from 7-9pm, at which The Bishop, Archdeacon and Diocesan Secretary will be present to discuss our ministry and mission in future years, how it is being planned for and how it will be funded. All are very welcome to attend.



## 'Exploring Christianity'

Would you like to deepen your understanding of Christian beliefs and practices? Then the 'Exploring Christianity' course might be for you. It starts on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at All Saints' Denmead, and lasts for two years. Information leaflets / application forms for this very worthwhile course are in the foyer.

## Exploring Christian Healing – foundations and practice

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. 9.30-3.30pm at Portsmouth Cathedral. This day is open to all who are interested in exploring the principles and practice of Christian healing. No previous experience necessary. Poster and booking forms are in the foyer.





(See Matthew 14:14-21)

03-13-2009

**YES I COULD MAKE FIVE THOUSAND OF THOSE,  
 BUT A FEW FISH AND SOME BREAD MIGHT BE A  
 BETTER OPTION**

### *St. Columba Leadership Team*

Area of Oversight	Member's Name	Contact Tel. Number
Worship & Prayer	} Revd Ruth Schofield {	01329 842300 / 07738 858909
Discipleship		
Pastoral Care	Mike King	01329 238194
Fabric & Finance	Jane Whiteley	01329 668388
Fellowship	Margaret Handley	01329 608817
Outreach	Jim Palmer	01329 289568
Administration	Rachel Abbey	01329 318690

**Thank you to our contributors this month. We love to hear from you – want to reply? Want to share something that's struck you, or tell us about something you're involved in? Articles for the next edition of the Informer (available 7<sup>th</sup> Sept) are very welcome – 500 words or less. Please forward them to Rachel Abbey - hard copy deadline Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Sept, electronic copy deadline Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept to [rachel.abbey@ntlworld.com](mailto:rachel.abbey@ntlworld.com) - Thank you.**