

ST SIMON'S NEWS



MAY 2009

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

Vicar:

Rev'd Matthew Holland
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Youth and Children's Worker:

Jo Borley
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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

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

Do you know about Portsmouth Churches
own Website?

www.portsmouthchurches.co.uk

World Board

Please do look at the World Board which will feature two more organisations we at St. Simon's prayerfully and financially. These are Street Pastors and CMS (Church Missionary Society).

Street Pastors

These were pioneered in January 2003 by Rev. Les Isaace, Director of the Ascension Trust, and have seen some remarkable results, including drops in crime in areas where teams have been working. Each city project is set up by Ascension Trust and run by a local co-ordinator, with support from the Trust, local churches and community groups, in partnership with police, council and other statutory agencies. Elly Mulvany is our Portsmouth Co-ordinator. Several people in St. Simon's are on Street Pastor teams that go out on the streets on Friday and Saturday nights while others support them in prayer. Their vision is to change the 'climate' on the streets by offering 'God's first aid' – time and love, helping people in need who are often referred by the police or door staff.

On Saturday 28th March, 27 new Street Pastors had their launch event, having completed twelve sessions of training since January. Two of them were from St. Simon's – Sue Piper and Pat Jolly.

CMS (Church Mission Society)

This was founded in 1799 as the Church Mission Society. CMS is an international fellowship of Christians doing local mission around the world. CMS supports people in mission in thirty countries and has mission involvement in sixty countries. God's love is shared among people by mission partners filling ordinary roles in society. Tasks of caring are done with local people and in ways appropriate to them. Support and development is a two-way process involving exchange of prayer, people and money. Mission partners, people who work in different parts of the world, need our support in prayer. Our mission partners in St. Simon's are John and Rachel Waters, with their children Connie and William, and they work in the Middle East.

Ruth Warner and Anne Gibson

Sunday Worship at St. Simon's		Preacher
3rd May Easter 4		
09.30	KISS	Team
11:15	Holy Communion	Matthew Holland
10th May Easter 5		
10.30	Family Service	Michael Piper
17th May Easter 6		
10:30	Holy Communion	Matthew Holland
24th May Easter 7		
10:30	Holy Communion	Paul O'Gorman
31st May Pentecost		
10:30	Morning Praise	Matthew Holland

May Diary

Sunday 3rd May

Church Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 6th May

Rendezvous

Friday 8th May

Ladies' evening

Monday 11th May

Standing Committee meeting

Friday 15th May

Men's Night Out

Saturday 16th May

Jumble Sale

Tuesday 19th May

Fabric Committee meeting

Wednesday 20th May

Rendezvous

Travelling Library and Coffee Morning

Thursday 21st May

Prayer for Mayville School, 4.30 pm in the Church Lounge

The City Churches Prayer Meetings take place every Wednesday at 6.30 a.m. Meetings in May are at St. Simon's Church.

Sunday Prayer Meetings

Prayer Support for Sunday Suppers will continue at 6.15 to 6.30 pm each Sunday in the Church Lounge. However, the main Church Prayer Meeting will now be held only on the first Sunday of each month, from 6.30 to 7 p.m. Each time we will focus on someone we are supporting as a Church, as well as other important matters. Now that it takes place less often, do make the effort to join us.

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.

6th May: Stephen Rees - Victoria Park and the seafront gardens

20th May: Lynne Caine - BASICS (emergency medical treatment)

Please contact Millie French on 9285 1490 for further information.

Social

Friday 8th May – Ladies' Evening In

All the ladies of St. Simon's are invited to a social evening at the home of Dinah Walters, 7.30 for 8 p.m. All you need to do is to book a place, bring a plate of something to share, and something to drink and come prepared to have a good evening of fun and friendship! Please contact Dinah on 8281 4599 for further information.

Friday 15th May – Men's Night out

The menfolk of St. Simon's are invited to get together to play snooker and/or have a curry somewhere along Albert Road. The evening starts at 6 p.m. at the Craneswater Club. Please contact Steve Welfare on 9282 9904 for further information.

A full list of dates for Social Events appears as a separate paper – available from the Welcome Desk.

Youth Focus

What a lovely Easter!

The good Easter weather allowed us to get out over the holidays and enjoy the sunshine on the common. On the last Tuesday of the holidays Chris Walters and I met up with a bunch of teenage lads to play some football. Though I spent most of the time running up and down the pitch without touching ball, it was good exercise and I did get to work on my tan!

Chris and I are planning many more Saturday morning football meet ups over the next few months. If you know any young people who like to play football (boys and girls welcome) then do extend the invitation. More information will appear on the Youth Notice Board very soon. The next game will be on the common, meeting outside the skate park (opposite the pyramid centre) on Saturday 2nd May at 10:30am.

During the holidays we had 12 lads turn up for football. On the Wednesday we had a BBQ which had 18 young people come along to. We ate burgers, marshmallows and played rounders. I've always done BBQs for the young people during holidays, but normally at my house. This is no longer practically possible as the number of young people turning up is too many for my house. Fantastic! And the house stays nice and tidy!

Four of our teenagers are now signed up for The Rock CYFA venture camp. The Rock runs from the 9th to the 16th August and is for those aged between 14 and 18. We also have a group of Helpers on camp, so if you know anyone older than 18 who might like to attend please let me know. There is still plenty of room for more young people on camp, please pray that we'll get many more young people sign up. On Saturday the 18th April we had our leaders training day, we have a fantastic group of leaders lined up for the summer and an action packed programme of games, sport, worship, craft, Bible study, beach trip, activity trip, last night party and much, much more.

Pastoral Team

This month we have been looking at Rapha and its role in our lives, both as individuals and as a church. Since the first workshops almost two years ago, run by Susan Williams and Peter Holmes from Deal, there have been a number of further workshops, based on videos. Throughout St Simon's people have got together in small

groups of 2 or 3 ('Troikas') to journey together. We have looked at the positive things to come out of Rapha, the way it could/should work practically and also some of the limitations that can arise. Through our discussions we have all affirmed Rapha as something for everyone, a means of learning more about ourselves as we journey with God and an opportunity to build community in the church. You will also notice that the 'cell' notice board has now become the 'groups and activities' board in the church centre. This is in line with what is on the website and there is clear information as to how to find out more. Please note the smiling faces of the Pastoral Team!

Anne Gibson

Love In Action at St Simon's

We now have a prayer/visiting diary which will be on the Welcome Table each Sunday. If you are aware of somebody who needs prayer and/or a visit, and you have got their permission, please could you speak to whoever, is on the Welcome Table and ask them to write the information in the diary. I shall check the diary once a week and we will pray for the need and or arrange a visit if necessary.

Sometimes members of the Church have been unwell or have some other difficulties and it is only some time after the event that the Prayer Ministry Team find out about it. We would really love the opportunity to know at the time when we can try to help as much as we can.

If you or somebody you know has a difficulty that needs to be dealt with more discreetly than by using the Prayer Diary, please do feel free to contact me on 07714 762012 or via the Church Office.

Alison Fox

Message from Thelma Winchester

Thelma and her family would like to express sincere thanks to all their friends at St. Simon's who have showered them with beautiful cards, letters, fruit, flowers and messages of condolence on the death of her husband Tim and have upheld them in their prayers at a very difficult time. Thank you, too, to all who contributed towards making Tim's Thanksgiving Service such a memorable occasion,

Marriage course - puddings needed.

The Marriage course starts on 5th May at Kings Church for 7 weeks excluding half term. Time 7.30pm. St Simon's will be responsible for producing puddings for 5th May & 9th June, and all three churches will produce them for the last one on the 23rd June. If anyone is willing to make one for any of these evenings, please speak to Sue Piper or let Rejenna know. If anyone is able to help serve and wash up, we should also be grateful.

Chantmarle Church Weekend Away

There are now more than 40 members of St. Simon's who will be taking the opportunity of a weekend together in the Dorset countryside. You still have time to book a place if you would like to join us – please see Rejenna. The invoices are on their way to those who have already signed up. The suggested programme will be up on the board in the Church Centre and there is still time to tweak it a bit and incorporate any suggestions or special requests – please speak to Amy! She will also be delighted to receive any offers of help.

Bible Study – Exodus

Coming soon! More bible study! No experience necessary! Amy, Rob and Peter are working on a six week study of Exodus that will run on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00 starting on 18th June. It will not be at such a hectic pace as the God's Book course and will provide more opportunity for discussion and participation. If you would like to be part of this please give your name to Amy, Rob or Gail. More details next month.

Peter Gibson

Jumble Sale

There will be a Jumble Sale in the Church Centre from 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. On Saturday 16th May. Proceeds will go to the Chantmarle fund and to the Habitat for Humanity Project. Please would you look out anything which we might sell (in good condition). Items can be brought to church on the two preceding Sundays (3rd and 10th May) and left in the space behind the pews on the north side of church.

Also – we would be very grateful of offers to set up the evening before, from 6 p.m., to man the stalls, and provide teas, coffees and cakes. For more information, please speak to Dinah Walters or Gail Chipperfield.

And finally – please invite your friends to come – not only do we need stuff to sell, but we need the punters in droves!

Thank you ...

To everyone who bought cakes at the Bring and Buy Cake sale on Easter Day. We raised £55 for the Chantmarle support fund.

Habitat for Humanity Africa Project

A massive thank you to everyone who turned out for our leg wax event on Southsea seafront. Though the weather was disappointing we went ahead with the pain and are still suffering now. We raised around £800 in sponsorship and we will never say no to any donation, no matter how big or small! Please pray for our mission to help make it a huge success and change the lives of one family for ever!

For further details and a photo, see Page 2 of the new edition of Pompey Chimes.

Chris Walters

Travelling Library and Coffee Morning

Come along to the Church Centre between 10.30 and 12.00 for coffee, biscuits, fellowship and an opportunity to browse through the selection of books, CDs, DVDs in the library. It is a free service, though there is a box for contributions. They also carry a wide range of birthday, anniversary and special occasion cards for very reasonable prices. It is open to any interested person, and is an opportunity to meet members of other churches and make new friends.

70th Birthday Lunch - Invitation from Ted Pratt

To celebrate my 70th birthday I have invited those at St. Simon's who remember Jo and me to come over to Swanage on Saturday 20 June.

I hope the party from Southsea will arrive in Studland at about 11.30 to see the Norman church there (where I sometimes take services and where Jonathan and Eli were married); then move on to a buffet lunch at All Saints, Swanage (where we are members and help in a few ways); then have a choice of a swim or a short guided wildflower walk, led by me, at Durlston Country Park, which should conclude at about 4pm.

If you are free and would like to come you will be most welcome - please let us know as soon as possible. Then I will send directions. If you wish to stay in the area try www.swanage.gov.uk which is the official town site, or put Swanage tourist into Google and you will get plenty of choice! (including one site claiming to be official which is not! and that site starts by giving you details of hotels some miles and a ferry away in Bournemouth!)

Yours hopefully
Ted

Sunday Suppers

We are running short of plastic carrier bags, probably due to the new arrangements in supermarkets. If you have any used ones, please bring them to church. Thanks to all who so faithfully give food. These goods are much appreciated.

Sue Piper

Deadline for the June Newsletter

9 p.m., Tuesday 26th May to Dinah Walters on 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.

