

The LINK

30p

July 2018



**The Parish Church of
St Michael Braintree
www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk**



5-11s



SMASH CLUB 2018



23 - 27 JULY

10am - 12noon

£5 per child for

the week

Application enquiries:
smash.club.info@gmail.com

For more info. contact:
Andy - 01376 321248



Hello Everyone,

SMASH Club 23rd July to 27th July plus our Family Service and BBQ on Sunday 29th July will soon be here. There is always a great deal of behind the scenes preparation to be done before the busy week of SMASH Club begins.

Saint Michael's Alternative Summer Holiday Club is a great outreach opportunity. It is a positive time of being in God's word through songs, Bible teaching, drama, crafts and games.

This year we are looking into the book of Acts and seeing real people of faith: Peter, Paul, Lydia, Timothy, Stephen, and Philip. We'll see how the Holy Spirit changes them, discover how they then lived for Jesus, and also see their impact on the lives of those they met.

Each of these people could be seen as having weaknesses yet those weaknesses didn't prevent them from serving Jesus. For example:-

- Peter, never too many mistakes to serve
- Paul, never too bad to serve
- Lydia, never too unlikely to serve
- Timothy, never too young to serve
- Stephen, never too ordinary to serve
- Philip, never too near or far away to serve God

Their so-called weaknesses are of tremendous encouragement to me, because despite them, they are all role models and gospel movers of their time.

SMASH Club enables people from St Michael's of all ages and with various skills and abilities to come together - like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle - to work and to serve our community. It's one opportunity to introduce young people to Jesus and help develop their understanding of him. SMASH Club is built and relies upon positive teamwork which shines throughout the week.

Thank you to everyone who supports SMASH Club through prayers, financial giving and through selflessly giving of their time.

God's Blessings
Andy Carter

MISSION OF THE MONTH ACTS MINISTRY-BURKINA FASO

Acts works among the most vulnerable people in one of the poorest countries in the world - Burkina Faso. Village widows and orphans are the forgotten ones. They are considered outcasts due to the fear of AIDS. Widows have no opportunity for education and no hope of gaining the skills necessary to support a family. With no financial means, no education, health care and no one to help, widows and orphans are hopelessly caught in a cycle of poverty, sickness and ignorance.

Over 90% of the population live off agriculture and animal husbandry. 45% live on less than 1 dollar a day. The UN Human Development Index ranked Burkina Faso at 175 out of 177 countries. Life expectancy is 45.7 years. Primary school enrolment in 2002 was 35% and Secondary school enrolment was 8%.

Acts is dedicated to bringing education and basic skills to women and children through:

Children at Risk

This comprehensive project provides education for development, sustenance, immediate medical care, life skills training to AIDS orphans and children at risk. The statistics for children in Burkina Faso are tragic: 1 infant in 5 will die before their 5th birthday. 37% of children up to the age of 5 are underweight for their age. 65% of children do not attend school.

Empowerment of Women

Acts Ministry believes that sustainable development cannot be realized in countries like Burkina Faso when women do not have access to basic necessities of life nor education. Only 16% of women over 15 years of age are literate. The population of 16 million and electricity supplies only 1.5 million.

Acts empowers women through literacy, income generation and micro-enterprise, immediate medical care, practical life skill training and education and promotion of human rights.

Acts vision is “to bring the love of Christ to hurting people through education, literacy, publishing, Social economic empowering programmes which bring life changes and gives hope to the poor”

Terry Clark

TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE

Why not join in a trip to visit the site of the WHITE HORSE TAVERN in CAMBRIDGE?

It is on SATURDAY 14 JULY.

A coach will leave St Michael's at 9.30am.

Here are the options:

- A guided tour around KING'S COLLEGE and chapel costing £7.00 per person
- Lunch at the 'Grad-Pad'
- Punting
- Walking tour around Cambridge
- Shopping

Look out for the sign-up sheet in church.

THY KINGDOM COME

St. Michael's held it's contribution to the "Thy Kingdom Come" incentive on the 19th of May. In spite of a certain wedding and football match a number of people came to pray and meditate their way through The Lord's Prayer. The feedback I have had indicates that the day was beneficial.

I would like to thank those who helped on the day, those who came and "manned" the church, but especially Jennifer, Lin and Dave.

Helen Kemp

Verse of the Year 2018

*Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.*

Isaiah 55.6

WALK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Our next walk may suit those who would prefer either a shorter or longer distance than our customary five miles. The route follows a figure of eight with two three-mile loops having a teashop conveniently placed at the centre!



The walk is planned for Saturday 7th July and is on and around the towpath of the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation. We will meet from 1.45pm to set off at 2pm from outside the tearoom at Paper Mill Lock (CM3 4BS). Our first 3-mile walk heads off in the Chelmsford direction before returning to Paper Mill Lock. After enjoying a cuppa you may wish to sit and watch the comings-and-goings at the lockside, return home or join us for the second 3-mile loop taking us in the Heybridge Basin direction.

If you have any questions or you wish to share transport (parking spaces could be limited), just have a word with us.

We are excited by the prospect of this riverside walk.... we hope you are too! You are very welcome to join us.

Terry and Miriam Clark

SAMUEL WORDSEARCH

O T W Y F T T B L O Y N U J O I Y S V S
N M I Q E R J J R D K R W O V M A L X H
T N Q S J X M U O Y H M U E P F H G S Z
J F A T D D Z F D X Q I D L Q C W T I R
U C P Z S X R H B G C M E B K G E B X M
I L X V A A C Z S I E H L X P Y H P G B
G L H T R R M L X D B D M G R P U N W P
O C F A C A I U J B X L Q I O X Y L X H
U G W S N U M T E I R Q E N P K W R A I
E Z T Y Q N I A E L S J X Y H K I K J L
S N V W G I A Z H O U N L S E S E I J I
F D M N E M G H K X V N E B T Q X N H S
P I Z W Q Q G B V I I S I V F I A G T T
O X I S R A E L I T E H Y V C S B D E I
X V T M U X L A L W A I I K A E I A Y N
P K H L E V I J J G I L J P P P J V Q E
S W P Q P M Q A O P R O C L K N A I W S
J P U U D Q K Q Q G V H C A F S H D M Y
D X S A U L Q F K N G E L I L V F W M E
S I U U H H E B R E W S O K L U Y T X H

ABIJAH
JUDGE
KING DAVID
NAZARITE
HANNAH
PROPHET

SHILOH
PHILISTINES
SAMUEL
JOEL
BIBLE
RAMAH

ISRAELITE
YAHWEH
ELI
HEBREWS
LEVI
SAUL

WORK PARTY ACHEIVEMENTS

This month sees not one work party but two and a number of odd days helping.

Thanks to over 30 members of the congregation and scout leaders/senior scouts that helped to achieve the following list of things over the work party weekends and during the preparation for this. Here's an idea of what we did: (note the small font to fit on page!)

- Church House office – Walls/Doors/Frames repaired and painted. This included removing ivy, dealing with damp and cracked/failing plaster.
- Behind organ in church - cleared and tidied
- 5 gazebos test assembled – 4 are good, 1 needs a few parts. New bags needed – a **volunteer** to make some would be appreciated. see me if interested.
- Some old wood/windows/windows frames/rubble/plaster disposed
- 4 Church and church house kettles de-limescaled
- Muniments room – partially cleared including boxes for AV/old candles/carpet and some of the candle stands. Lots of papers removed for checking.
- Ivy cut back across most of the garden and over public facing walls and fences.
- Lime trees cut back by car park
- Flower bed by office cut back
- Elder throughout garden cut back
- Car park strimmed and lawn cut
- Raised beds by front door of Church house removed. (one in progress)
- Lots of material chipped for mulch, 27 chipper baskets full from the first day alone. The second day looks at least double that.
- Two bags of plant material to recycle centre. (many more remain in the grounds)
- Walk way to front door cleared
- Benches washed, cleaned, and treated for green growth.
- Cleared the top part of Church House garden resulting in a mountain of plant to be chipped/composted/recycled. Including 3 bags of rubbish, two buckets of bottles, and a lot of ivy!
- Lots of good spirit, shared fellowship, and lunch in the garden!

Will you be there next time?

Dave Marriott

JULY DIARY

1 Sunday	5th after Trinity
8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Church Family Worship – Small Things – Great Treasure
6.30pm	Evening Worship – Disobedience and foolishness
7.30pm	Focus
2 Monday	
12.15pm	Spotlight
5.30pm	4th Braintree Beavers
7.30pm	Bell Ringing
8.00pm	Badminton
8.00pm	White Horse Tavern – Church House
3 Tuesday	
1.15pm	Tiddlywinks
7.30pm	Men@StMichaels – Ten Pin Bowling evening
4 Wednesday	
9.45am	Meeting Point Bible Study
6.30pm	4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.45pm	Bible Reading Group – Church House
5 Thursday	
3.30pm	ASK
6 Friday	
5.30pm	4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
7 Saturday	
1.45pm	Walk in the countryside (see P8)
8 Sunday	6th after Trinity
8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Morning Worship – The Great Commission with Christian Youth Outreach (CYO)
6.30pm	Holy Communion – The rejected king
7.30pm	Focus

9 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 8.00pm Badminton

10 Tuesday AUGUST LINK SUBMISSION DUE

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks
- 8.00pm First Priority – Church House

11 Wednesday

- 9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 10.00am Holy Communion
- 6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

12 Thursday

- 3.30pm ASK

13 Friday

- 2.00pm Bradbury House Service
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

14 Saturday

- 9.30am White Horse Tavern trip to Cambridge

15 Sunday 3rd after Trinity

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Holy Communion - God at Work 3:
Work in the light of the gospel
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – Looking at the heart
- 7.30pm Focus

16 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 8.00pm Badminton
- 8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

17 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

18 Wednesday

6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

19 Thursday

3.30pm ASK

20 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

22 Sunday 4th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship - God at Work 4:
Ambassadors for Christ

6.30pm Evening Worship – The God of the unexpected

7.30pm Focus

23 Monday

10.00am SMASH Club

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm Badminton

24 Tuesday

10.00am SMASH Club

25 Wednesday

10.00am SMASH Club

7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

26 Thursday

10.00am SMASH Club

27 Friday

10.00am SMASH Club with Bring Your Own picnic

7.30pm Flower Club

29 Sunday 4th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am SMASH Club service

12.00pm SMASH Club BBQ – Church House

6.30pm United Service at Our Lady Roman Catholic Church

7.30pm Focus

30 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm Badminton

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

- 22 Apr - George Irons
- 29 Apr - Adam & Evelyn Conduit
- 29 Apr - Jason Martin
- 16 May - Ella Solomon

WELCOME TO COMMUNION

- 13 May - Chinyere Umeh

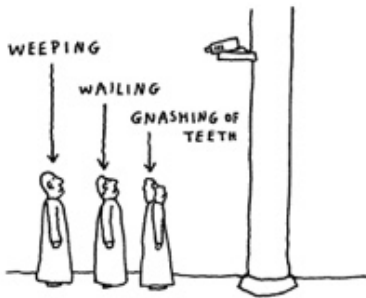
CONFIRMATION

- 16 May - Ella Solomon
- 16 May - Jason Martin

A LITTLE HUMOUR

THE PROJECTOR

A SACRED OFFICE: THE CHANGING OF THE BULB



IT IS DISCOVERED THAT THE BULB HAS EXPIRED



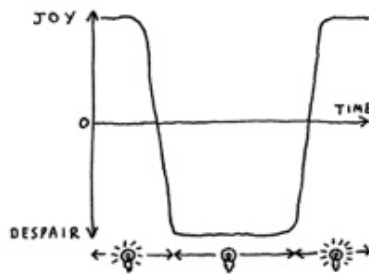
THE BOX IS CAREFULLY PROCESSED DOWN THE AISLE



WORDS FROM THE INSTRUCTION BOOK ARE RECITED



THE LAMP IS BLESSED AS IT IS SWITCHED ON FOR THE FIRST TIME



THE MINISTERS DEPART, REJOICING



THE OFFICE IS REPEATED AFTER ANOTHER 1250 HOURS OF USE

CartoonChurch.com

DIARY OF A NEW CHURCH WARDEN

25th April

I was elected church warden alongside Lesley.

21st May

That evening saw the visitation of the Arch-Deacon and the service of over 200 wardens and clergy. There Lesley and I met some very interesting people and learnt a few things we hope to apply in the coming months.

5th June

I came across a collection of bibles and service books dating back to George II in the muniments room. It was a treasure to behold. The next challenge is to find a safe and suitable environment for storing them.

8th June

The week of the work party has been intense. The preparation of the office with Jeff and Ed took a lot of time. We kept finding more and more things wrong in the room. We found everything from damp rot, failing plaster, burnt out sockets and even ivy grown behind the wallpaper. The office should be complete by the time you read this with new furniture, decorated walls and repaired electrics.

As I was leaving, I heard a strange noise from upstairs in Church House. I went to explore and what did I find, a baby crow in the sofa room. Ed and I had great fun in catching it and evicting it out of the windows. The following Monday I was exploring a phone fault with my BT mate and what do I hear again. This time my mate had caught the baby crow from the pool table room and carried it out the front door. It flew off happy.

Dave Marriott

BELFRY BULLETIN

Our apologies for not ringing on Sunday 3rd June as we were on our annual weekend away. This year we were in Bedfordshire staying at Clive's Cottage, Ollie's Lodge, Colmworth Golf Club. We all arrived in good time on Friday evening. Unfortunately, we were two short as Laura Childs was in hospital so she and David could not join us. Thankfully Laura is making progress and the prognosis is good. We got settled in and enjoyed Lin's delicious curry which we ate in the garden overlooking the lake.

We were in no rush on Saturday as our ringing did not start until 12.30pm. After a leisurely Brunch Gareth Davies, Ellie Gray, David Learmonth, Lin and Richard Ould and Ellis Whitehouse left to ring at 3 towers, the 1st was Tempsford's difficult 6 where they acquitted themselves very well, the heavy 6 at Sandy were next then onto the pretty 6 at Potton where Gareth conducted Call Changes for the 1st time.

Whilst this was going on Tom Childs, Bradley Hill, Debbie Hill and Peter Smith made their way to Biggleswade to join Peter's Brother Anthony and his Wife Charlotte, Russell Brown and Phillip George to ring a Peal, 5056 changes of Plain Bob Major in 2hrs 54mins. The footnote reads:- To celebrate the 65th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Coronation also Peter's coming 80th birthday.

We all met back at the Golf Club for Tea and Cake in Coffee Cup Cafe before ringing on St. Deny's Colmworth's nice bells to finish an enjoyable days ringing.

After a wash and change it was time for our Traditional Cheese and Port evening which we also had in the garden. We were joined by Anthony, Charlotte; Sue and Simon Melville two of Peter's Bedfordshire friends who were amazed at the spread and the fun that ensued. Towards the end of the evening a cake ablaze with candles appeared, put out in the usual manner. We had had an enjoyable and successful day.

Up in good time in Sunday to be ready to ring for services. We split up into groups to ring on the 10 at Biggleswade, the 8' at Henlow and Clifton and the very heavy 6 at Northill. Gareth says he has rung on a bell that has not been made yet, the inscription on the bell reads:- Cast in 16113.

Then to the Cock at Broom for lunch. Peter was guided to a room decorated with happy birthday banners and balloons and party poppers. We all enjoyed an excellent meal with friendly service. It was now time to say our thank-yous. To Debbie for finding and booking the Cottage, Lin for the curry, Lin and Richard for the shopping, Richard for the tea and cake and Peter for the Itinerary. Peter thanked everyone for making the weekend so unforgettable for him.

Then off to our last 2 towers of the weekend, the 6 at Meppershall, rung from the Chancel and the 6 at Arlesey. A note for the future "do not put your car keys in your mum's bag and let her go off in another car"

This was another weekend full of Christian Love, enjoyable and successful ringing, fun and friendship.

Here's to the next one.

Peter Smith