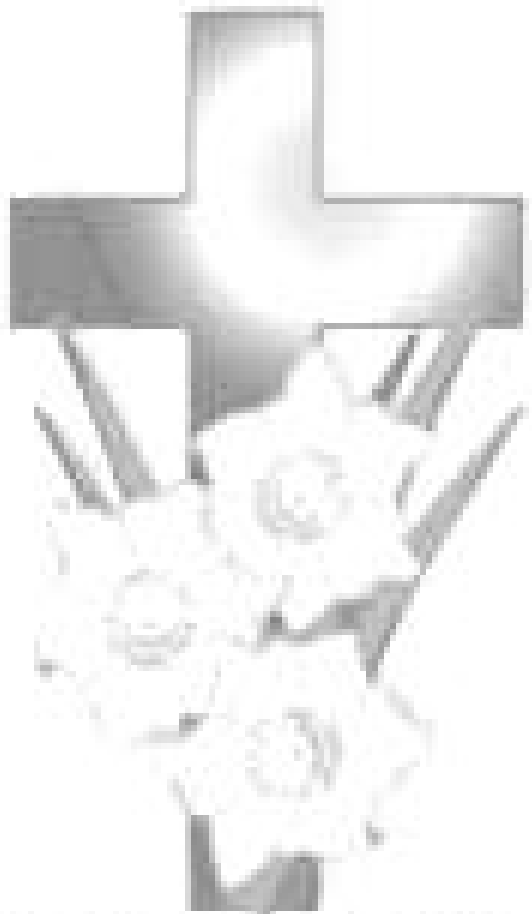




St. Michael & All Angels

CHURCH IN THE PARK | LIVING, LOVING, SERVING

Outlook



Season
of Lent

February 2016

Welcome to Your Church

The fact that you are reading these words suggests that you are a new reader of this magazine. Either you are a newcomer to this area or you are a visitor.

If you are a visitor, we hope that you have enjoyed your visit to our church; that you have found it interesting, instructive and conducive to prayer. If you are going to be here at one of our regular service times, we hope that you will join us in the worship of God and we ask that you take our greetings back to your own church.

If you are new to this Parish, we bid you welcome and invite you to join us and share in the fellowship of God's family in Hughenden. This magazine gives details of the regular times of worship here. We hope that you will find something to meet your spiritual needs. The printed word is cold and remote and we would like to make personal contact with you, so please leave your name and address in the box at the back of the church.

Whoever you are who reads these words, may God bless you, sustain you and protect you, your family and friends, now and always.

Grant us Lord, faith to believe and strength to do thy will

Outlook

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Christopher & Jane Tyrer

Printing

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Front cover picture

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Dear Readers,

With Easter falling early this year, Lent begins in the period covered by this edition. Melvyn, in his 'Not from the Vicarage' piece, explains the origin of the term and some Lenten customs. The variable time of Easter and the difference between Easter in the Western and Eastern Churches causes some difficulties, most immediately to many people being the variable timing of school terms and holidays. At the time of writing, the debate over fixing Easter has arisen again. Of course Easter can never be absolutely fixed on a **date**, if we are to commemorate Easter SUNDAY, and Good FRIDAY, but one reform, still on the Statute Book, but not implemented, is the *Easter Act 1928* which allowed the Easter date to be fixed as the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April.

The first Easter Day took place on a date representing the first Full Moon of Spring in the Jewish Calendar. Because of that, Easter Day is always the first Sunday after the first calculated Full Moon on or after March 21st. If the Full Moon is on a Sunday, Easter Day is on the next Sunday. For the past 1500 years, March 21st has been used to represent the date of the March equinox (the real equinox might be a day or two different). Western Christians use the Gregorian calendar to find the date of Easter.

However, some Orthodox churches celebrate Easter Day on a different day because they use the old Julian Calendar (which is 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar) and also a different moon phase to calculate from.

Would we be better with a less fluid and internationally consistent Easter? What do you think?

Jane and Christopher Tyrer, Editors

NOT From the Vicarage – February 2016

For each issue of Outlook during 'the Vacancy', we have asked members of the Church to write their own introduction to the magazine.

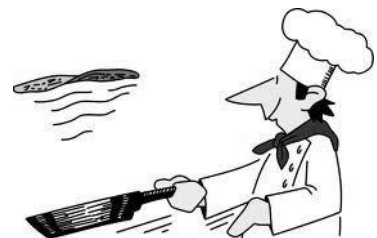
This month it is the turn of Reverend Melvyn Bleakley, who is a member of our congregation and is taking many of our services.

Pancakes and Penitence!

Did you know that until 1835 you could play football on the public highway - a number of towns have maintained this tradition on Shrove Tuesday, including Alnwick, Ashbourne, where the goals are 3 miles apart, and St Columb Major in Cornwall, where it is called "Hurling the Silver Ball".

Customer: Waiter, will my pancake be long?

Waiter: No sir, it will be flat and round like everyone else's.



In 1445 a housewife from Olney was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the church bells ringing for a service. She raced out of the house to the church still carrying her frying pan and pancake. This pancake race still happens in Olney, despite the Health and Safety Executive, and the traditional prize is a kiss from the verger. Traditionally, when men want to participate, they must dress up as a housewife (usually an apron and headscarf). The custom could be extended to Hughenden, but here men could be men and the prize could be updated perhaps to a photo in the Parish Magazine.

But why pancakes? The answer is so obvious. Pancakes are associated with the day before Lent because they were a way to use up rich foodstuffs such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of

the 40 days of Lent. Fasting emphasized eating plainer food and refraining from any food that would give pleasure. In many cultures, that meant no meat, dairy food, or eggs. Our observance of Lent sometimes continues this tradition of plain food. A fasting lunch in Lent could therefore be a contradiction in terms, as fasting could simply mean eating plain, simple food.

As night follows day, so Lent follows Shrove Tuesday, beginning of course with Ash Wednesday. If you come to the Eucharist on Ash Wednesday evening you will experience what we call the imposition of ashes - a wordy description of having a cross marked on your forehead with ash from the burnt palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday, possibly mixed with a little holy oil or holy water. This is a symbol of your intention to keep a good Lent, by going into the wilderness with Jesus, and sharing in his experiences through prayer and study.

Lent is the period of six weeks 40 days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. It is a time of preparation - as in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, so in Lent we prepare ourselves to celebrate His resurrection from the dead.

During these 40 days of Lent, Christians remember the time when Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray before beginning His work for God. During this time Jesus was tempted several times by Satan to betray his Father's trust in Him, but was able to resist.

You may perhaps wonder why, if it so important, the word "Lent" isn't in the Bible. That doesn't matter. Nor is "Christmas", "Easter" or the word "Bible" itself.



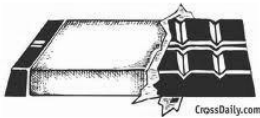
Originally, "Lent" was nothing more than the English name of the season between winter and summer, the season when the snow melts and the flowers bloom. German and Dutch have the same word, but with slightly different

spelling. In German, "Lentz" means "spring" in poetry. In Dutch, the word "Lente" never changed its meaning. It is still the name of the season between winter and summer, and it is still used in everyday life.

The church observance of Lent took place during this season of lent. In England, "Lent" came eventually to mean the observance rather than the season, leaving the season without a name. Instead of saying stupid things like "Lent happens during lent," English-speaking people invented the word "spring." Today, instead of calling the season winter, lent, summer and autumn, we call them winter, spring, summer and autumn. We use "Lent" instead of "spring" when we refer to the church season.

One last thought. Lent is very often observed by giving up something like chocolate or alcohol. I do not wish to discourage you from doing this - but have you ever thought of trying to take on something extra. It may be a regular act of prayer or devotion; it may be a resolution to read your bible more regularly; it could be to study one of the books of the New Testament more deeply; it could be a resolution to perform a regular act of service to help a neighbour in need. I cannot tell you what to do - I can only urge you to do something! Have a good Lent!

I'm giving up
Chocolate
this Lent



Melvyn Bleakley

Vacancy Update: Three

We have progressed since the last Update in the November magazine! We can see the way ahead with more clarity and definition and that includes the likely timeline.

- **The Parish Profile and Person Specification:** this task is now complete. The profile was approved by the PCC and is now with the Bishop's Office for advertising.
- **November 2015:** we held two successful meetings after the PCC received their final copies of the Profile for consideration. Both

were held on the 29th November. The first was for the whole parish to see the document that was to be considered at the meeting with the Bishop that afternoon. Comments were noted and taken forward. At the meeting with Bishop Alan, further comments were made and consequential changes to the text from both meetings were incorporated. These were again approved by the PCC and the final version was sent to the Bishop in December. A copy has been put on a series of noticeboards at the back of the Church and will remain there until the appointment is made.

- **Advertising:** advertising for the post of Vicar will be carried in the Church Times on the 12th and 19th February with a closing date for applications to the Bishop by the 29th February. We are currently crafting an advertisement that will stand out in the pages allocated these advertisements in that newspaper. We will be able to put the Profile and Person Specification on our website from the same date, with a note that applications have to be made to Bishop Alan. It is clear that the vacancy is widely known already and further inquiries and even visits [we have been visited once already, before Christmas, by a possible applicant and another has made a general inquiry] may take place.
- **The Interview process:** this will be in two stages. The first will take place on the 29th February at the Bishop's house for shortlisting. The Parish representatives are Julia Grant and Christopher Tyrer. Formal interviews will take place for those being offered interviews on the 10th March. The panel is expected to comprise Bishop Alan, the Rev'd Canon Rosie Harper [representing the Patron, the Diocesan Board of Patronage], the Rev'd Dave Bull [Area Dean of Wycombe], Graeme Slocombe, the Lay Chair of Wycombe Deanery Synod and, of course, the two Parish representatives. All being well, we may expect to offer the incumbency at the end of the process that day. **However** – and we emphasise however, - if the combined wisdom is that none

of the candidates interviewed is the right one, then we shall advertise again.

- **Arrival of our new Vicar: 1:** as we understand the position, the successful candidate has to give his/her existing parish three months' notice. Hopefully, we may expect to announce that we have offered the post fairly soon after the 10th March but there has to be time for reflection and prayer by the successful candidate and his/her formal acceptance. **The actual public announcement has to take place on the same Sunday in both parishes** – ours and the Parish being served currently by the appointed priest. There will be a time both before [obviously] and after the announcement when **communication between the incoming incumbent will have to be done only through the Churchwardens** to enable a smooth arrival and minimise the inevitable upheaval of moving.
- **Arrival of the new Vicar: 2:** theoretically and we emphasise theoretically, for the reasons above, we could have the new Vicar in post in June 2016, if all goes to plan. But if the process has to be repeated or the new Incumbent has family which includes school aged children, we may have to wait until September for the completion of the School Year and moving house. We will have to await events on that score and we will keep you informed.

In the meantime, please continue to pray for the smooth process of appointment and that GOD will guide the interviewing panel to His choice to be our Vicar. The Vacancy Prayer may help:

Gracious GOD, You give strength, patience and encouragement to those who seek You in Faith: give us the spirit of unity during this Vacancy, so that we may live in harmony as we follow JESUS CHRIST and as we seek Your Guidance and Your Will for this place. This we ask in JESUS' name, Amen.

Brian Clark and Christopher Tyrer, Churchwardens

URGENT BOOK NOW

Parish Weekend at High Leigh House Hoddesden Herts

14-16th October 2016

A weekend of Christian Companionship, Fun, Spiritual Talks and a chance to get to know each other and our Ministry Team better. **Everyone** in our church is invited.

Accommodation is all in excellent, ensuite, rooms and the standards are very high. All meals are included from dinner on Friday evening through to Afternoon Tea on Sunday afternoon. The Cost is £149 per adult with children 5 years old and under free and 6 – 16 yr olds at half price. If the cost is a problem please discuss on a confidential basis with the organiser as there are bursaries to assist available.

The Original Mansion was donated to the Christian Charity that now runs it by the former Mr Barclay who founded the Bank of the same name. **It is a really special Christian place.**



The weekend will start on Friday afternoon/evening 14th October and will finish after lunch on Sunday 16th October. **The House and Grounds are very family friendly with good facilities for children and teenagers** who effectively have a suite of rooms for their specific use. It is also relatively local, within an hours drive.

The format of the weekend encourages social interaction and fun in the evenings with a first class speaker on Saturday Morning who will lead us in some challenging and thought provoking talks.

The Speaker will be Canon David White - formerly Diocesan Missioner for Cornwall, and currently vicar of St Andrews, Chorleywood, but who is retiring this spring to focus on teaching & writing.

Simon Ponsonby, who many of us have heard either live at Spring Harvest or on his recorded DVD, says this about David White. "Might I recommend this dear friend and amazing preacher. He is the best preacher in Britain and a man who walks closer to God than any I know." There cannot be a finer recommendation than this.

Please make your reservation NOW and hold the date free.

A separate programme for children will be designed to suit the age groups that come. All meals from Friday dinner through to Sunday lunch are included and also a drinks reception on the Saturday evening.

Programme:

Friday 14th October

Arrive at House and register from 4pm onwards

Tour of House and Facilities: 6.00 pm Dinner at 7.00 pm.

Social Evening: 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm

Reflection and Prayers: 9.30 – 10.00 pm

House Bar: open from 9.15 pm – 10.45 pm Late Night Film: 10.00 pm – 11.30 pm approximately

Saturday Morning 15th October

7.45 am: Early Risers – Short walk with readings in the grounds

8.30 am: Breakfast

9.30 am: Conference sessions with other activities for younger people.

10.45 am: Coffee Break 11.15 am Conference resumes

1.00 pm: Lunch Saturday Afternoon - Free Time

We will be arranging some activities to include Croquet and possibly a quiz for those who would like to stay in the House and grounds. For those who would like a local trip, the Museum at St Albans about Roman Verulamium is really interesting. St Albans also has an excellent Abbey and some great antique shops.

Afternoon tea is served for those staying in the house between 3.30 pm and 4.00 pm. There will a get together at about 5.00 pm for a drink in the local pub prior to dinner which will be at 6.30 pm

7.45 pm: Hughenden at Play.....

9.30 pm: Reflection and prayer 10.00 pm Late night movie

Sunday 16th October

God's wonderful creation: Walk and pray: 7.45 am

Breakfast 8.30 am Morning Service: 10.00 am Final Conference

Session: 11.30 am Roast Sunday Lunch: 1pm.

Depart when you are ready in the afternoon.

Frank Hawkins.

frankwhawkins@aol.com

01494 565050 or 07850 150462

Booking Form for Parish Weekend at High Leigh House

Full Name(s)..... + Age if Under 18

.....
.....
.....

Address

Tel No Mobile Telephone Number

Email address if available

Any special dietary requirements.....

Please enclose £30 per adult and £15 per child deposit with your booking unless you wish to pay now in full. Final payment will be required by 31st August.

Cheques to be made payable please to "Hughenden PCC"

(Remember – There are Bursaries available on full confidential basis. If the only reason you cannot come is financial – please call me)

Please give or send the form to Frank Hawkins (telephone/email above)

Or send to 8, Brackenwood, Naphill HP14 4TD

Mothers' Union Report

On Tuesday December 1st, the Mothers' Union held our very special Advent Service very kindly led by Helen. Anyone is welcome to this service which is so peaceful and prepares us for Advent and the coming of our Lord.

We always have good number of folk and after we enjoy homemade mince pies kindly made for us by Joan Steel.

Our collection during the service goes towards gifts for people who may not be able to be with in our church life but are not forgotten sharing our love for others is what we have been asked to do by the Lord.

We also support with small gifts to the Women's Refuge.

We do not meet in January our next meeting is our AGM do please try and come, please **note change of date to Tuesday February 9th** instead of the 2nd as this date falls on Candlemass and there is a service in church, and it is a very special service.

Also we have on **Wednesday February 17th our Coffee Morning** with a Bring and Buy 10am -12 noon. Hope to see you there.

Sara Badrick

Message from South Bucks Hospice

South Bucks Hospice is a day hospice situated at Pusey House, 9a, Amersham Road in High Wycombe which specialises in offering the very best in palliative care to those suffering with life-limiting conditions. Having been established for 30 years, we offer a wide range of services, therapies and support groups for patients, their families and carers who live within the catchment areas of South Bucks and the Chilterns.

Alongside our day services' centre at Pusey House, we offer a range of complementary and creative therapies for patients and carers, which include: - massage, acupuncture, aromatherapy, psychotherapeutic counselling (one to one, family and group support) and art therapy. Complementary therapies offer a wide range of benefits and provide relief from symptoms commonly associated with an illness, such as pain, anxiety, depression and

stress.

We also offer care to Lymphoedema sufferers at our clinic situated in Hazlemere. Our Lymphoedema Clinic is the only one specialising in the treatment of this condition locally, and although this condition is not curable it can be effectively controlled by a combination of treatments and compression techniques.

After 30 years in the local area in our current location, we have begun our project to build a new Community Hospice that will allow for the much needed expansion of our services as we aim to serve to local community for generations to come.

This is a huge project but a much needed one as we currently operate across two separate sites. We are running at our full patient capacity at Pusey House and our Lymphoedema clinic in Hazlemere is always busy. In our new building we will be able to expand our service provision to help support the 18-25 years age group, a service which is lacking not only locally but nationally.

The total build cost is £3.66 million, of which a fantastic £2.1 million has already been raised, but we need to raise a further £1.5 million to fully fund our project. We have already laid the foundations for our new hospice and are on target for the grand opening to be in late spring 2017.

For more information on our Hospice services or the new build please contact our Professional Services and New Build Manager, Snow Knoester at Snow.knoester@sbhospice.org.uk.

It is important to highlight that we receive less than 6% of our funding from the NHS. This means that fundraising is all important and furthermore it is why our wonderful volunteers remain an integral part of our organisation. Quite simply, without their support we would not be able to continue to offer our services free of charge.

Volunteers help and assist in numerous roles across our three main departments: day services, fundraising and retail. A morning or afternoon per week spent helping really does make a difference to the lives of our patients.

Was volunteering one of your New Year's Resolutions? If it was, we are currently eager to expand our pool of volunteer drivers and help for our retail shops and would love to hear from anyone who is

interested. For more information on volunteering at South Bucks Hospice and how to apply please get in contact with our Community Volunteer Coordinator, Mary-Ann Leader at Mary-Ann.Leader@sbhopsice.org.uk or alternatively please call her on 01494 896 563. We are always on the look-out for great volunteers!

Finance Update



Thanks to everyone's continued generous giving, and a very tightly run budget, the Standing and Finance Team are pleased to confirm that we ended 2015 with a small surplus of income over expenditure. This compares very favourably with the last few years when we have usually experienced a shortfall in our finances. This means that we do not need to dip into our reserves this year, which is good news as they have become more than a little depleted over the last few years.

Therefore we owe a huge thank you to so many people – our regular givers, our one-off givers, our Gift Day responders (36 people who so kindly donated a total of £3,000), those folks who have kindly switched to Bankers Orders, floodlight sponsors and in particular our fantastic Church House Teas team! Thank you one and all!

This small surplus means that we were again able to donate our all additional Christmas Service collections to our 3 chosen local Charities and also fund the Mission Task Group so that they can continue to support their chosen causes. And the money raised by the Gift Day will be safely accrued in order to start our Children and Youth Worker fund so that we can take Bex on part-time from next September when she graduates. The 2016 costs for Bex will be approximately £4,000 so we are well advanced against that target

but if anyone else does feel that this is a cause that they can continue to provide additional financial support for we would be most grateful. Please contact Mike Dean, Helen Peters or the Church Wardens.

So we continue to be blessed with wonderfully generous givers and a very resourceful Treasurer! Thank you one and all.

Standing & Finance Team

Women's World Day of Prayer: Friday 4th March

'Receive children. Receive me.'

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical prayer movement that invites women from a different part of the world each year to prepare a worship service, through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the whole world in prayer.

On Friday 4 March an estimated 3 million people in over 170 countries and islands will gather to observe the day of prayer using an order of service written by Christian women in Cuba and translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the British Isles over 6,000 services will be held. The day begins at sunrise in the island Samoa and continues till it sets over American Samoa some 35 hours later. The theme: 'Receive Children. Receive me' reflects St Marks Gospel Ch.10 vv13-16 and is a reminder that everyone is a child of God worthy of love and respect.

This is not a day of prayer just for women-everyone is welcome to attend: local details below.

Hughenden Service

One of the local services this year is being held at St. Michael and All Angels at 1.30 pm on Friday, March 4th. Some members of the

Mothers' Union are organising the arrangements. We are very keen to involve participation from our wide Church Community. As well as people volunteering to read we would like some help with refreshments and running a crèche if required.

The service lasts for approximately one hour and is timed so that Mums, babies and toddlers are able to attend before the afternoon school pick up.

Please phone or email Barbara Willson tel. 01494 713770 email bafwillson@gmail.com or Alison Gieler tel. 01494 562473 email alisongieler@dslpipex.com. if you are able to help in anyway.

St. Michael's Prayer Breakfasts during vacancy

Enjoy breakfast followed by an opportunity to pray together for the life of St. Michael's during the vacancy.

Saturday 13th February 2016

8am - 9.15am Church House

Please let Helen know if you can be there, for catering purposes:

Tel: 01494 716772 helen.peters@peters-research.com

Communicants – November & December 2015

Sundays

1st 28 + 38 = 66
8th 19 + 75 = 94
15th 16 + 46 = 62
22nd 16 + 69 = 85
29th 21 + 69 =
6th 25 + 35 = 60
13th 22 + 75 = 97
20th 16 + 38 = 54
27th 45

Weekdays

1st MU Corporate: 32
25th: 69 + 25 + 44+ 115 = 253

HOUSE GROUP

WHY SHOULD I WANT TO BE IN A HOUSE GROUP?

Get to know others in the church very well
Get to know more about Jesus Christ
Make some good Christian Friends
Share your happiness with others
Or Share your concerns and doubts.
Try Praying with others- it is so rewarding
And sharing tea and coffee is so sociable

The difficult thing is to try it and to say
"Is there a group I can join to try it out?"
The answer is "YES" –

Call me now and ask that question
Frank on 07850 150462

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Hughenden Mothers Union



Coffee morning

Wednesday February 17th 10-noon

Church House, St Michael's and All Angels

Bring and Buy stall

in aid of M U Funds

All Welcome

Please come and join us

Floodlighting Dedications

Floodlighting dedications received too late for inclusion in the December/January magazine were for:

29 November – 5th

Sara Badrick is remembering with much love her husband John on his fourth anniversary on 29 November.

20 - 26 December

Ann Long & family are remembering Jim with much love and affection, particularly on 24 December, his first anniversary.

24 – 30 January

Janet Cook is remembering with much love and affection her late husband John Johnson who died on 24 January 2000

There are currently no dedications for February.

If you have special occasions to mark, why don't you dedicate the flood-lighting? Your dedication can be for anything within reason, remembering loved ones, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, new babies - or just for the joy of being alive!

Lin Smit

From the Parish Registers



The Departed:

Alan Tapping
Lesley Harding
Irene Bedford
Donald Bedford

MS Society

The High Wycombe and District Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society will be holding a Ploughman's Lunch on Wednesday 17th February at Hughenden Valley Village Hall.

Doors open at 12.00pm; lunch will be served at 12.30 pm. Tickets for the lunch are available on the door and the cost is £6.50.

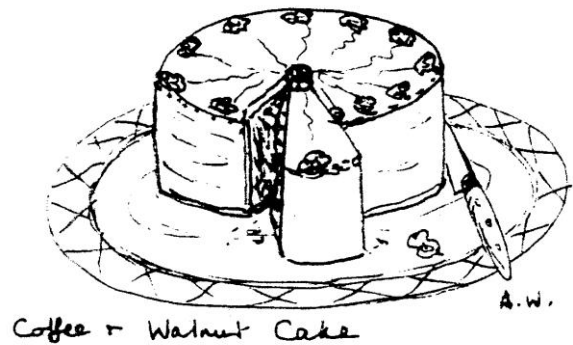
There will be a raffle and a Bring and Buy stall. All proceeds will be used to help people with MS in the area.

Belinda Peddle Secretary High Wycombe & District Branch
01494 443917

February Recipe – Coffee & Walnut Cake

Ingredients

6oz butter
6oz caster sugar
3 large eggs
8oz self-raising flour & pinch of salt
2 tsp coffee essence
3oz chopped walnuts
About 12 whole walnuts to decorate



American Frosting

2 egg whites
¼ pint water
1lb granulated sugar
(or you could use a packet of American frosting mix)

Method

Prepare a 7 inch cake tin by greasing and lining with greaseproof paper.

Sieve flour and salt and add the chopped walnuts. Cream the butter and sugar together until light and creamy. Then stir in each egg separately and beat hard. Adding a tsp of flour with each egg stops the mixture from curdling. Fold in the remaining flour and add the coffee essence. Blend well. Bake in a moderate oven 350F, 180c or gas mark 4 for about 1 ½ hours or until set when a finger is pressed lightly on the cake and leaves no depression.

When cold, decorate with the American frosting and walnuts.

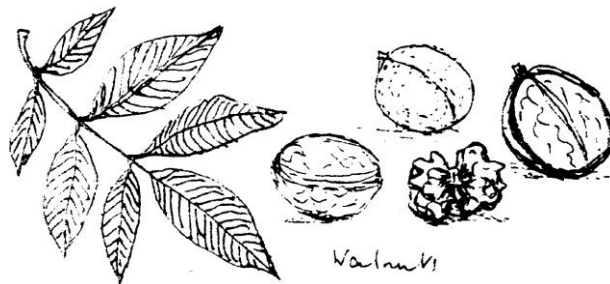
To make the frosting

Whisk the egg whites until stiff. Heat the water and sugar together to a temperature of 240F. Pour syrup in a thin stream on to the egg whites and whisk until the mixture thickens and is almost cold. Pour on to the cake and decorate with the walnuts.

Some years ago I was taking a course at Amersham College and was due to take our main practical exam. The day before this was to take place, a friend and I went for a picnic up in the Chiltern Hills. During our walk we came across a dell filled with walnut trees. The nuts were ripe and the ground was covered with the fallen cases. The area was partially fenced off and we wondered if we would be

trespassing if we should enter the dell but as we stared longingly at the masses of nuts we decided that it would be a shame to leave them to rot. A little 'scrumping' would surely do not harm? So we filled our pockets and bags with as many green peach-like shells as we could carry. That night I spent a long time shelling my share of the 'ill-gotten' bounty and was well pleased with the lovely pile of walnuts. I was soon to discover my 'come-uppance' – I had not realised that the juice from the cases was a very effective dye and now despite constant scrubbing and applications of lemon juice and even bleach, my hands were stained beyond repair and my nails were a disgusting black! You can imagine my embarrassment the following day at the start of the exam, trying to explain away the result of my walnut scrumping!

Ann Way



Valley Friends – December and January Report

In December we were treated to a humorous talk by Keith Baldwin entitled: "Christmas Greetings". During his working life Keith had experience in several different careers including the Armed Forces and the Police and had stories to tell of many amusing incidents that he had experienced. Keith related his tales with enthusiasm and drama in true story-teller style, keeping us amazed and amused. In addition Keith referred to the tales and observations of Christmas from works of Shakespeare, Dickens and Dylan Thomas, finally reading to us from "Under Milk Wood" by Dylan Thomas. Keith was warmly thanked for a most interesting and amusing evening.

In January we always commence the year with a fun evening when we play games. This year Jill arranged three games: a guessing game, a quiz and a beetle drive, with prize for the highest score. We always have a jolly time, whilst also catching up on news of the

Christmas Season and taking the chance to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Our next meeting is on 4th March when Chris Ward is giving a talk entitled "The Fantastic Farnes"

Joan Steel

Update on Parking and request for help!



We continue to work very closely with the National Trust regarding the car parking at Church. Rob Bandy and his team at the NT have been most helpful and we have an excellent relationship. This has really assisted us in managing the parking challenges that we

face but can't solve everything. This is because of a number of factors:

- Even if we have a completely empty car park to start with, a well attended 10.45 service will fill every space and mean that some folks still cannot park
- And two things typically prevent us having that completely empty car park to start with:
 - o The short time window between the 9.00am service finishing and coffee being taken, and the 10.45 service starting
 - o Local people parking to enjoy the parkland, especially dog walkers, joggers or cyclists

Lots has been done to dissuade the latter groups from parking in our car park before 11.00 on a Sunday morning (leaflets, signs, e-mails, articles in local magazines etc.) but unless we have attendants on duty deterring any non-Church goers from parking we still typically get a residue of 5 – 10 cars left parked between 10.00 & 11.00am.

So starting with 5 – 10 slots filled, having maybe another 5 -10 slots still occupied by folks enjoying their post 9.00 service coffee and our typical 10.45 attendance means that we will continue to have significant congestion and over flow most Sundays.

Therefore we do need to expand our small team of car parking attendants – if we can get 10 volunteers then we could have 4 teams of 2 people doing one Sunday per month each, with 2 reserves/5th Sunday folks. The reason for 2 in a team is that not everyone would feel comfortable being on the ‘front line’ (at the entrance) but would be happy assisting those who were admitted to park as efficiently as possible.

I must warn potential volunteers though – the shift is about 2 hours as unless you are manning the car park from about 8.30 you cannot ensure that the car park is as free of non-Church goers as possible by 10.00 am. And being on front line is not the most pleasant experience! But you do get a real opportunity to show God's grace and forgiveness!!

So please, if anyone is able to join the 4 or 5 good folks who have already said yes then please let me know ASAP as I will then organise a training event (probably in a local hostelry!)

Mike Dean

mike.dean960@gmail.com

07747 472666

Mission Promotion Group

It was an early start for Ann and I on Saturday, 14th November, as we caught the train from Wycombe to Birmingham to attend the **Open Doors Greatest Adventure** celebrating 60 years of God's faithfulness to the Persecuted Church. We made our way through the Christmas Market to the International Conference Centre where we became part of the approximately 2,300 people who had come to hear speakers sharing their experience of the Lord's faithfulness in their lives. The day began with prayer and worship before Johan Compañen, former president of Open Doors International, shared his memories of working alongside Brother Andrew for 35 years. It is clear that from an early age Andrew loved adventure, although whether he envisaged the sort of adventure he would be called into later in life when filling his car with bibles and transporting them ‘behind the Iron Curtain’ is uncertain: but he loved God, loved His word and Revelation 3:2 ‘awake and strengthen’ spoke to him as a wakeup call to the West to support the persecuted church. Andrew was not

interested in what was possible but the impossible excited him and he knew that for new believers a copy of the Bible was essential for them to progress in their faith and he wanted to make that possible. It was clear too that Andrew had a great deal of courage; Johan confessed that he was quite nervous about crossing the borders of some of the countries they travelled to together but they always prayed for the Lord's protection before and praised and thanked him when they had got through. Johan was a man of humour too and he spoke of his early days at the Birmingham Bible Institute, having to learn English at the same time and his struggle in understanding the Birmingham accent. He was, in short, a lovely man and we took to him right away.

Two brothers from China, one whose passion is providing mentoring and marriage enrichment courses for church leaders and support for Tibetan-background believers, and the other, who had been imprisoned for printing bibles, spoke about the growth of Christianity in their country. They talked about the five 'giants' of persecution that were being destroyed. The first giant was to ban Bibles by confiscating and burning them and punishing those who were found with them. In spite of this one million bibles were smuggled into China through Project Pearl (you can read all about this using your search engine and it is well worth the read) and Open Doors delivers huge quantities of literature to China today to strengthen the church. The second giant was to expel missionaries and international workers; but, despite this, it is estimated that there are 80 million Christians in China today. The third giant was to forbid training by harassing and arresting those engaged in it. There are now one million pastors nurturing those 80 million believers and Open Doors have trained 100,000 who now lead indigenous training programmes themselves. The fourth giant was to oppress, mistreat, neglect, alienate and deprive minorities; Tibetans and Muslims are among the most persecuted in China today. The fifth giant is selfishness and blindness in materialism, entitlement and self-serving. Three of these giants have been dealt with and there are just two to go. Religious restrictions on Chinese churches have been greatly relaxed compared to the time of the Cultural Revolution but we still hear of Christian human rights lawyers being arrested and imprisoned for years sometimes without any knowledge of exactly where and what conditions they are held in.

During our lunch break we had the opportunity to relax and take in the display for the Daily Discipleship Guide 'Live like a Refugee', which was set up outside the main auditorium and resembled a refugee camp. This guide contains over six weeks of daily devotions, prayers and stories from those who have fled their homes due to persecution and crucially asks if you could put yourself in their place – could you survive for a day on a refugee's rations, what does it feel like to suddenly have to pack your bags and leave home with hardly any notice. This resource can be used at any time of the year and is challenging. In next month's *Outlook* there will be news of North Korea, Iraq and Nigeria.

Yvonne Cook

*(Note: on 17th January, the 10.45 service was privileged to be addressed by the Reverend Roger Faulkner, from Open Doors, in a powerful and humbling presentation about persecuted Christians. To date over £600 has been donated as a result. We are sure that we were not the only ones present to wonder if we would be strong enough to risk worship in such circumstances: **Eds**)*

24/7 Prayer for Wycombe

As I write this, at the beginning of January, I realise that this is the first night of the Wycombe Homeless Connection's Night Shelter, which will run up to and including the 31st March and which is hosted by seven church venues in the Wycombe area. Most of the shifts are fully staffed but there are still some vacancies for the Saturday and Sunday night shifts. You may remember that the WHC organised a Big Sleep-out on Friday, 20th November, around All Saints' Church in High Wycombe. About 60 people took part in Wycombe and another 40 took part in Marlow and Beaconsfield. You will be astounded to hear that over £40,000 was raised by the stalwart participants on this very cold night with wintry showers and a wind chill factor just to round it all off. I am sure they were all pleased to get home to a warm shower and comfortable bed after their Tesco breakfast. The amazing sum raised will support WHC's vital work in

helping the homeless who have nowhere else to turn. Well done to all those who took part whether sleeping out or stewarding. There are always current prayer points on their website and one that I've picked out this month is to give thanks to our Lord for the hundreds WHC have helped resettle in the last eight years and to pray that they can find ways to expand the supply of housing open to their guests in the current climate.

The One Can Food Bank Trust are currently giving out around 300 food parcels a month, which feeds over 520 adults and children who have found themselves in a crisis situation. The Harvest was a very busy period for them with over 90 organisations donating and this, together with a successful food drive in partnership with Tesco and Fareshare, meant that they expected to be able to meet the anticipated increased number of requests in December and January and also give out some Christmas treats too. I spent a couple of hours with them at Tesco in Loudwater and was pleasantly surprised that in just two hours two large shopping trolleys were filled to the brim with groceries and it was great fun too.

The Dorcas Project had a very successful three day collection event at the Asda store where they collected over £1900 worth of items. They specifically requested toothbrushes and toothpaste and these went into Christmas parcels together with pyjamas and very probably a reading book. All these very special fund raising events have and will continue to make a huge difference to the most vulnerable families in our society.

Our Prayer Day this month is on Thursday, 11th February, from 8.00 am to Friday 8.00 am and the prayer space will be set up in Church House with all the usual facilities available; hot drinks available in the kitchen. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one hour, or a part of an hour if that's all you can manage, bringing the ministries taking place in Wycombe before God. The signup sheet and Prayer Points are available on the table at the back of the Church this weekend.

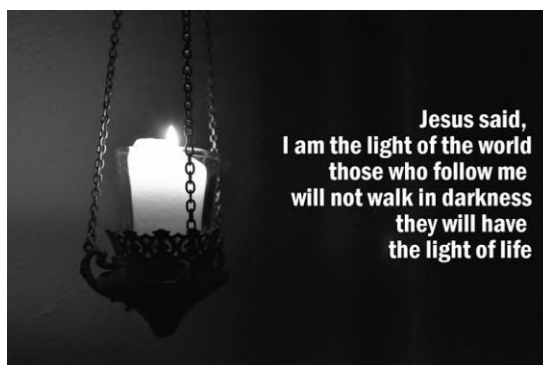
Yvonne Cook

February's Prayer Topics

<u>3rd Christians in the Community</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pray that an opportunity arises when we can offer something that reaches refugees or immigrants. - Pray that our small committee can continue to do big things!
<u>6th Schools - Pipers Corner School</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the staff and pupils at Pipers Corner School as they start a new term. - For the spiritual life of the school - For girls preparing for public examinations and for those who are to be confirmed in March
<u>7th Valley Friends</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That in the New Year the friendship of our members will bring comfort cheerfulness and peace to those who are suffering. - That in this troubled world we give thanks for being able to live in a beautiful area in safety and freedom.
<u>11th Church Winter Warmers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That it will be possible for a new Co-ordinator to be found, so that this outreach/fundraising activity can re-start soon
<u>18th Task Groups</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Social and Outreach</u> – That events planned for 2016 will receive support and attendance from as many people as possible to share our Christian love as widely as possible. - That all are encouraged to invite friends neighbours and relatives so that we may spread our outreach widely - <u>Youth</u> - Thanks for Children's and Youth leaders and the time they give up to lead our children/young people. - That our children and young people would continue to develop good friendships, such that they feel confident to bring friends along too. - <u>Mission</u> - That new members of the Mission Promotion Group will come forward and that someone will take on the leadership role. - Thanks for the Mission Promotion Group Third Sunday service held in the 17th January. - General prayer for the charities that we support – Ebenezer, Open Doors, MAF, Wycliffe and Child and Family Aid Pro Deo.
<u>20th Church Administrators</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the administration of the church throughout the interregnum/Vacancy
<u>Mission Prayer – MAF</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For someone with the right experience to serve the Chad lifeline as a pilot - Praise God for the 100 Turkana Bibles delivered to churches in Kenya
<u>Weekly Prayer Target - Bubbles on Thursdays</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanks for the wonderful leaders, their time, commitment and energy, and that we could add to the team so there are more people to share the Sundays - For more families to join the Church where they can be encouraged and welcomed

Calendar for February 2016

Tue	2		Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)
		7.30 pm	Sung Eucharist, followed by buffet supper in Church House
Wed	3	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter, Church House
Thur	4	9.30 am	Toddler Group, North Room
		10.30 am	Visiting Bellringers
Fri	5	10.30 am	Visiting Bellringers
Sun	7		Sunday next before Lent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
		9.00 am	Sung Communion
		10.45 am	All Age Family Service and Holy Baptisms
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Tue	9	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union AGM
Wed	10		Ash Wednesday
		7.30 pm	Holy Communion with hymns and imposition of Ashes
Thur	11	8.00 am	24 hours of prayer for High Wycombe
		9.30 am	Toddler Group, North Room
		10.30 am	Tiny Tots' Service: Church
		7.30 pm	Visiting Bellringers
Fri	12		Men's Pub Night at the Harrow
Sun	14		1st Sunday of Lent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (said)
		9.00 am	Matins (Book of Common Prayer)
		10.45 am	Family Communion with JC club
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Wed	17	10.30 am	Mothers' Union Coffee Morning, Church House
Thur	18		
		10.30 am	Friendship morning, Church House
Sun	21		2nd Sunday of Lent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (said)
		9.00 am	Sung Communion
		10.45 am	Informal Family Service with JC Club
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Wed	24	10.30 am	Visiting Bellringers
Thur	25	9.30 am	Toddler Group, North Room
		7.30 pm	Visiting Bellringers
Sun	28		3rd Sunday of Lent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (said)
		9.00 am	Matins (Book of Common Prayer)
		10.45am	Family Communion with JC club
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)



The Lectionary – February 2016

		Readers		
		8am/6pm	9 am	10 45am
7 th	Sunday next before Lent Exodus 34, 29 – 35 2 Corinthians 3, 12 – 4, 2 Luke 9, 28 – 36 (or – 43a) Evensong: Psalm 89, 1 – 19 Exodus 3, 1 – 6 John 12, 27 – 36a	J Holmes P Hynard Priest M Morgan L Smit/AJ	J Palmer B Doran Priest	Matt Dean
14 th	First Sunday of Lent Deuteronomy 26, 1 – 11 Romans 10, 8b – 13 Luke 4, 1 – 13 Psalm at 9am: 91 Evensong: Psalm 119, 73-88 Jonah 3 Luke 18, 9 – 14	J Wilson L Smit Priest L Stallwood E Bailey	E Sadler B Brice (check which lesson)	Rob Stone Maureen Stone
21 st	Second Sunday of Lent Genesis 15, 1 – 12 & 17 – 18 Philippians 3, 17 – 4, 1 Luke 13, 31 – 35 Evensong: Psalm 135 Jeremiah 22, 1-9 & 13-17 Luke 14, 27 - 33	C Carter J Dauncey Priest B Doran S Brice	D or H Lowe S Badrick Priest	Third Sunday Service led by Jane Tucker
28 th	Third Sunday of Lent Isaiah 55, 1 – 9 1 Corinthians 10, 1 – 13 Luke 13, 1 – 9 Psalm at 9am: 63, 1 – 9 Evensong: Psalms 12 & 13 Genesis 28, 10-19a John 1, 35 - 51	A Stacey J White Priest L Smit/AJ B Brice	A Moore R or A Gee (check which lesson)	Peter Joy Sue Devereux

Regular Meetings and Organisations

Friendship Morning

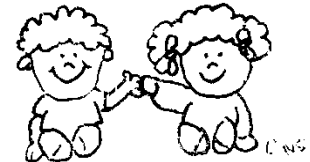
This is a get together in Church House on the 3rd Thursday each month at 10.30 a.m. It is primarily for those who are bereaved, who live on their own, and for those who are lonely. The emphasis is very much on companionship, and the atmosphere is light and cheerful. Please contact me if you think this is for you.



Penny Austin – 01494 529596

Babies & Toddlers @ St. Michael's

Babies and Toddlers @ St. Michael's meets every Thursday in term time from 0930 -1130 **in the North Room**. Come for chat, play, craft and refreshments.



Included, every **SECOND** Thursday of the month, will be 'Tiny Tots', a time of fun worship in Church.

For details contact Helen Peters – helen.peters@peters-research.com

House Groups

A variety of house groups meet throughout the week: for days and times, or for **further information contact Helen Byrne - helenbyrne67@googlemail.com or 01494 564342.**

Young People's Groups @ St Michael's

CYFA (School years 10+) Alternate Sunday evenings in term time.

FLASH (School years 7-9) Monthly Sunday evening in term time.

AWESOME AND ACTIVE

(AAA) (School years 4-6) Monthly Sunday: teatime in term time.

For dates of meetings for all groups and further details contact Rebecca Hawes - rebecca@wycombeyfc.org.uk

March 2016 Issue of Outlook

Outlook is published on the 28th of each month, except July and December. The Editors for the March edition are Jane and Bob Tucker. Items for inclusion should reach the Editors by email at: mag@hughendenparishchurch.org.uk

Hand-written articles should be delivered or posted to Helen Byrne at 67 Friars Gardens, Hughenden Valley.

PLEASE: ALL contributions to be received by 15th Feb. PLEASE

Who's Who at St Michael & All Angels

VICAR	Currently in Vacancy	
ASSOCIATE MINISTER	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
CHURCHWARDENS	Brian Clark Christopher Tyrer	562801 01844 344650
PARISH CLERK & VERGER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Lin Smit	462094
CHURCH NOTICES/WEBSITE	Ben Brice	445899
PCC LAY CHAIRMAN	Clare Godfrey	563296
PCC SECRETARY	Beryl Doran	711909
PCC ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Penny Austin	529596
PCC TREASURER	Ian Faulkner	451279
PCC ASSISTANT TREASURER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PLANNED GIVING SECRETARY	Arthur Johnson	521471
TASK GROUP LEADERS: COMMUNICATIONS	Jane Tyrer	01844 344650
PRAYER	Jane Tucker	534989
YOUTH	The Rev'd Helen Peters Helen Byrne (Co-ordinator)	716772 564342
MISSION	Christopher Tyrer	01844 344650
OUTREACH & SOCIAL	Frank Hawkins	565050
ALPHA COURSE - ADMINISTRATOR	Diane Hawkins	565050
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Arthur Johnson	521471
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Arthur Johnson Churchwardens	521471 See above
DIOCESAN SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE	Christopher Tyrer	01844 344650
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER	Neil Brice	445899
WORSHIP LEADER	Tony Sackville	446035
TINY TOTS FUN WORSHIP	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
AV AND SOUND SYSTEM	Frank Hawkins	565050
SERVERS	Andrew Cole	442191
MOTHERS' UNION PARISH LINK	Ann McCarthy	712004
CAPTAIN OF BELLRINGERS	David Cornwall	714718
VALLEY FRIENDS	Jill Graves	563813
CRECHE ROTA	Jane Lomas	563629
HUGHENDEN BABY AND TODDLER GROUP	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
CHRISTIANS IN THE COMMUNITY	Norma Clarke	563116
FRIENDSHIP MORNING	Penny Austin	529596
CHURCH HOUSE TEAS BOOKINGS	Julia Grant	711939
CHURCH COFFEE ROTA	Sylvia Clark	562801
CHURCH FLOWERS	Jean Godfrey	522198
CHURCH BOOKSTALL	Elaine Morley	562714
CHURCH HOUSE BOOKINGS	Parish Administrator	462094
HUGHENDEN VILLAGE HALL	Christine Powell	07815 163269
NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL	Norma Clarke	563116
OUTLOOK MAGAZINE EDITORS	Sylvia Clark Bob & Jane Tucker Christopher & Jane Tyrer	562801 534989 01844 344650
MAGAZINE PRINTING	Brian Clark & Team	562801
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	Hilary Farrar-Hockley	528236
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Jane Tucker	534989

Our Mission is

“To enable all to follow Jesus Christ”

We shall live out this mission through Prayer, Presence,

Persuasion and Proclamation by:

i) Leading lives centred on Jesus Christ –

- a. That is steadfastly based on the Bible and prayer*
- b. That is based on Jesus' example*
- c. By being ambassadors of Christ to our friends, families, neighbours and work and school colleagues.*

ii) Being seen and known in the wider Community by

- Understanding the communities in which we live and seeking to be fully involved in those communities*
- Building appropriate bridges between our Church and our community*
- Taking every opportunity to share the Good news about Jesus Christ*

iii) Offering and receiving spiritual and practical support and development –

- That is appropriate to wherever people are on their spiritual journey*
- That is based on worship that is honouring to God and accessible and relevant to all*
- And that is led by prayer that engages with the will of God and his purposes*

We reprint the vacancy prayer from last month:

May GOD, who gives patience and encouragement to those who seek Him in Faith, give us the spirit of unity during this Vacancy, so that we may live in harmony as we follow JESUS CHRIST and as we seek His guidance and His Will for this place, Amen.