



This publication is produced by a team at St. Michael & All Angels Parish Church, belonging to the Summertown-Wolvercote Church Partnership.

Join in Helping Renovate Summertown Library!

A £400,000 fund-raising campaign has been launched to make Summertown Library fit for the 21st century. Spearheading the drive are the Friends of Summertown Library, formed two years ago to fight successfully against closure of the Library. "The Council have told us they will have no money to finance any improvements



for at least the next 10 years," says Marcus Ferrar, Chairman of the Friends. "If we do nothing, despite the best efforts of its staff, the Library will fall into neglect and no longer meet modern needs."

The Friends and the Council's Library Services have together drafted a plan to upgrade it, if the fund raising target can be met. There will be wifi, and new bookshelves that can be wheeled aside to create meeting spaces. The whole layout will be more friendly for children and parents. The décor will be spruced up, and the anonymous entrance made more welcoming; the whole library will be transformed.

Shouldn't the Council be doing this? "Yes, they should, but it won't happen," says Marcus. "It's a novel idea for Friends and the Council to collaborate on a Library. But it's common practice elsewhere. The Ashmolean Museum, for example, has a Friends Association which



supplements the Museum's own funding." However, in our case, the Council will continue to operate the library: the Friends will fund the improvements. The Friends are looking for donations large and small and any ideas for fund raising are welcomed. "Our Library can become a place we are proud of. Nobody in our community wants it to languish into dreariness. We have an enticing vision and a costed plan. Let's now realise it!" says Marcus.

Contact marcus@ferrar.org.uk or see: www.friendsofsummertownlibrary.org. Or write to: 'Friends of Summertown Library', 7 Capel Close, OX27LA.

Summertown War Memorial Service November 10th 11am

On a bracing and bright morning, a wreath was laid in honour and remembrance of those from Summertown, who lost their lives in the armed forces in both World Wars and in conflicts since.



The vicar of Summertown, the Revd Gavin Knight, led a moving service, which was attended by the choir and congregation of St Michael's Parish Church. From the highest step of the Memorial Hall, a trumpeter played 'The Last Post'. Following two minutes of silent remembrance, 'The Reveille' was then played.

The Memorial Cross was erected three years after the end of World War I in 1921, four years before the Memorial Hall, which stands immediately behind it, was built.



The inscription on the West side of the cross reads; ***In Proud and Grateful Remembrance of the Men of Summertown who nobly gave their lives for King and Country and Righteousness in the Great War 1914-1918.*** Added below later: ***1939-1945.*** On the East side is inscribed a proverb, ***'In the way of righteousness is life and in the pathway thereof there is no death.'***

The Cross was unveiled in the autumn of 1921 by General Sir Arthur Phayre, K.C.B. and dedicated by the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt-Revd Edward Shaw. The Memorial was designed to be seen from the Banbury Road, although it is at present partially hidden by a high beech hedge. Entry to view the Memorial can be made via a gate in Summertown Church Hall garden in Portland Road.



Join the Crew at 106 JACKfm



Trev, Caroline and Work Experience Rich

JACKfm offers a spicy blend of rock music, imaginative jingles and exciting news bulletins; its fan base of more than 100,000 Oxfordshire listeners is fast increasing. Broadcasting from the last six years from The Dumpy Building, 270 Woodstock Road (yes, their official address!) it's the most awarded local commercial station in the UK. Apart from musical entertainment, the Jack team has a special concern in broadcasting events from RAF Brize Norton, in particular, repatriations. On three occasions staff have been out to Kandahar in Afghanistan, radio linking troops with families here at home. This more 'glamorous' role of broadcasting is only one of many in the radio business. JACKfm work experience offers time in all departments; news, content and sales with programmes of one, two, or three weeks (sometimes longer), throughout the year. There are both general and journalism placements; you must be over 16 and you can apply directly yourself online, or go through your school or college. No special qualifications are required, but they say it helps if you can demonstrate you are creative and imaginative! The staff at JACK have varied qualifications and experience and will give you much encouragement. www.jackfmoxfordshire.co.uk

Family, Friendly and Fine Meat

If you fancy a bit of banter with your beef, Alcock's Family Butchers on the corner of Banbury Road and Rogers Street could be for you. There has been a butcher's shop on this site for over 100 years, though when Tony Alcock took over in 1986 there were nine other butchers in the area. In 2005 Tony's daughter Lee England and her husband Paul bought the business, and soon their children Lana, Harrison and Ava were getting involved. In 2007 they expanded to include a fishmongers. Alcock's is now the only independent butcher in Summertown. Lee and Paul explained that although it is hard to compete on price with the supermarkets, Alcock's can offer a more varied selection of good quality meats as well as a personal service. All the meat is reared locally and humanely. They sell local game, homemade sausages and flat iron steaks. To find out more about their fantastic range of meat and other products, why not call in to see them and discuss your own particular meat choices, or phone them on Oxford 515658.



Ladies Who Lunch, Gentlemen Too!

Lunch clubs offer enjoyable company, keep you up to date with local events, and provide an affordable, delicious meal. In fact, for those who don't know them, these clubs are one of a community's best kept secrets. *Don't be shy - give them a try*; you'll find them a real tonic through this winter. Check if you need to book, and contact the organiser if transport is a problem.

Monday 12.30-2pm Baptist Chapel Hall, Godstow Road, Wolvercote Contact Sarah on Oxford 552471 or Lorna Oxford 556486 .

Tuesday 12-2pm Dewdrop Pub, Banbury Road, Summertown. Contact Ella: 07827 235407

Wednesday 10.30 - 12md Summertown URC Open Door coffee morning with scones (*just short of a lunch 'do'!*) in the small hall round the side of the church.

Wednesday bi-monthly NOA, Diamond Place, Summertown. *For those with dementia and carers.* Contact Ruth Swift: 07827 235407.

Thursday 3rd of the month 12.30pm NOA, Diamond Place, Summertown. Oxford 552295.

Thursday 4th of the month 12.30 pm Jan & Feb 2014 NOA - during building works at St Andrew's Church *Mainly retired folk.* Oxford 311212.

Friday 2nd of the month 12.15-1.30pm Cutteslowe Community Centre, 31 Wren Road. *For everyone* Contact Allie: Oxford 311172.

yours truly... Santa

This year Father Christmas is taking a particular interest in the children of Cutteslowe Primary School to make sure they've been good for the great day on 25th December. So far he's been very pleased with them! An experienced **headteacher** of nine years, **Jon Gray's** exciting and enriching curriculum aims to allow every child to develop their talents fully. His classroom outreach includes projects with museums, the university, industry and the community. There's a Forest School, (in November pupils planted trees in Cutteslowe Park), a wonderful choir, and clubs galore from chess club to Jon's firm favourite, Film Club. The school's progress in the 3 Rs for 7-11 year olds is well above national average too! A Yorkshireman, Jon's great hobby is walking in The Dales - good training for all the chimney climbing he's about to do!!



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Global Outreach from Summertown

A local resident who has devoted most of her working life to the rights of refugees worldwide is actively continuing this in retirement. Following research in West Africa, Barbara Harrell-Bond established and directed the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford between 1982 and 1996. She went on to set up refugee law projects in Uganda and Kenya, and in Cairo to establish AMERA-Egypt, an NGO promoting legal aid for refugees. This vital programme has now



Rwandan women in Ugandan refugee camps
Credit: Refugee Law Project

been established in many countries throughout the world. Now in Summertown she directs the Fahamu's Refugee Programme. Refugees live without rights or hope, if they have no legal refugee status. Without legal aid they will get nowhere towards acquiring this, and few countries provide such aid. Supported by a team of experienced experts and interns, Barbara is developing the Fahamu website: www.refugeelawaidinformation.org. This promotes the legal protection of refugees globally with a database of where any free legal aid can be found in over 230 countries. Few law schools worldwide offer courses in refugee law and lawyers frequently work in isolation. They can access this site, which centralises resources, offers remote tutoring, self study courses and a monthly newsletter and forum. This enormous and voluntary enterprise (there is no core funding) is of immense value to refugees all over the world.

Hoorah!
Santa's in Summertown.
Santa is looking forward to greeting you all, outside Lloyd's Bank, on 7th and 14th December!



The Rotary Club of North Oxford will be collecting for ROSY, Respite nursing for Oxfordshire's Sick Youngsters, whose nurses look after terminally, acutely or chronically sick children in their homes. www.rosy.org.uk

Cool for School



The Dragon and St Edward's Schools
Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, the legendary World War II hero, attended the **Dragon School** as a boy. Runners from his RAF 617

'Dambusters' Squadron passed through Summertown in October, on their '700 mile in 7 days' fund-raising run for Leonard Cheshire Disability. 150 Dragon boys went out in the dusk to cheer them on to their destination of Lossiemouth, Scotland. **St Edward's School** is also supporting Leonard Cheshire Disability; their CCF were out in force too. The school's premier running team, the Harriers, accompanied the runners as they departed.

Cotteslowe Primary School



In an exciting workshop, pupils made these superb lanterns to take illuminated to the great **lantern parade**, on November 22nd, the opening night of Oxford's Christmas Light Festival.

Northern House School

Children learnt the art of drawing water up from a low level, with a simple lever system made themselves in their DT class. This demonstrated how in Egypt, using little human effort, a shaduf system lifts heavy amounts of water from the Nile onto the land, to water crops.



Summertown/St Margaret's Neighbourhood Forum

The new steering committee met on 14 November to suggest priorities, and will continue to work with the city planning department on the Ewert House/Diamond Place development. There is still a great deal of support for the proposed new health centre and work continues to see how this might be progressed.

Answers to last edition's quiz

1. 3-4 Middle Way, Summertown
2. Sequoia (redwood) tree, 330 Banbury Rd, age probably 120-140years
3. On the Memorial Cross in the Church Hall garden, Banbury Rd, opposite Grove St
4. 34 Aldrich Rd, Cotteslowe
5. Just inside the corner of Rogers St and Banbury Rd.

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OXFORD AERIALS



St Michael & All Angels Church
All are welcome!

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Eucharist - a short service.
10.00 am Parish Eucharist - with choir and hymns.
Have a coffee and a chat afterwards.

Children's Church - Meets in the church during 10.00 am Eucharist. **We have a Godly Play session every 4th Sunday.** On the 1st Sunday of the month the children participate in the All-age Eucharist.

6.30 pm Taizé Worship - A short candlelit service which includes chants and silent prayer.

3.30 pm 3rd Sunday of month: Messy Church
Cutteslowe Community Centre, Wren Road.

Weekdays

9.30 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am Tuesdays: Baby & Toddler Group
Play for children and chat for grown-ups!
Contact Juliet Field (see below for details)

8.00 pm Tuesdays: 20s/30s (Twerties Group)
For fellowship, fun and learning.
Contact Daisy and Yin at yinyaodong@yahoo.co.uk

10.00 am Thursdays: Holy Eucharist
Ministry of healing on the 1st Thurs of the month.

5.20 pm Thursdays: St Michael's Choristers age 3+:
Term-time only. Contact Alice on 07791 328108

6.30 - 7.45 pm Thursdays: Adult Choir Practice
Contact Stephen on 07717 852020

9.00 am Saturdays: Men's Breakfast
An informal social on 1st Saturday of the month.
Contact Steve on 01865 552475

Contact Details

Revd Gavin Knight (vicar)
01865 556079 / 07833 251939



"No matter where you are on the journey of faith, you are always welcome at St Michael & All Angels!" Find us just off the Banbury Road opposite BBC Oxford.



The upper and lower Church Halls (with kitchens) are available for hire. We advise early booking.

Contact **Juliet Field**
01865 311762 or email:
summertownchurchhall@tiscali.co.uk

Christmas at St Michael's

We try to enjoy Advent, the season of waiting, for as long as possible in order to prepare well for Christmas. This waiting is helped by various services and events. See what you would like to come to with your family, if appropriate:



Sunday 15th December 3.30pm at Cutteslowe Community Centre -

Messy Church, Christingle Service for all ages, followed by refreshments for all and games for the children;

6.30pm Candlelit Service of Lessons and Carols

Tuesday 17th December 10am—12pm Baby and Toddler Christmas Party

Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service for children; we welcome the Holy Family to church; **11.30pm** Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 8am Holy Eucharist (traditional language); **10am** Holy Eucharist of Christmas Day for all the family.

Taizé Services



Founded by Brother Roger in 1944, the Taizé Community in France is a place where hundreds of thousands of young adults from every continent come to pray, and to prepare themselves to work for peace, reconciliation and trust in the world. Taizé also welcomes families and older adults; some of us from our churches in North Oxford have been there and have been inspired to share something of the Taizé experience within our community. The weekly Taizé service in the Lady Chapel of St Michael's Offers space for quiet reflection through readings, prayer and a time of silence. The Chapel is candlelit and simple Taizé chants are sung. Icons, cloth and flowers are often used to help us move into this special time with God. The service is 25 minutes; music, service sheets and candles are available, people arrive and leave quietly. All are welcome, people of faith or no faith, church or non-church, babies, children and all ages are amongst those who have joined us since this weekly service began three years ago. For more about Taizé go to www.taize.fr/en.

Welcome, Charlotte, to Project Summertown!



The Revd Charlotte Bannister-Parker has joined the team at St Michael's and brings with her a wide range of experience. She is UK Chair and President of the Children's Radio Foundation. Here in Oxford, she founded the annual inter-faith "Friendship Walk," the annual seminar, "One Earth, Many Faiths," and is now the Bishop's Advisor for Special Projects. Charlotte had previously lived abroad with her family, and co-founded a charity which funds schools and education projects in India and Pakistan. In Kimberley, S.Africa, she helped develop HIV/Aids educational projects. Now in Summertown, Charlotte is keen to see how charitable projects are developing where we live, or how she might be involved in perhaps starting one. Let us know your thoughts, dreams and visions for our community!