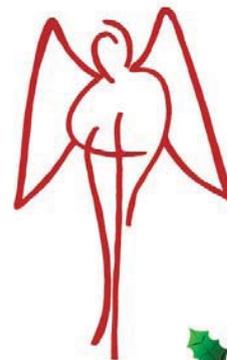


the guardian angel

your community's news & views



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

Summertown to London A new route!

The new Oxford Parkway service to London Marylebone, via Bicester Village, runs 2 trains an hour, starting at 5.42am on weekdays with the first off peak train at 9.22am.



The last trains leave London Monday to Saturday at 11.10pm and Sundays at 11.15pm. Journey times are just over the hour. The station sits adjacent to Water Eaton Park & Ride. There is a café with snacks and newspapers, open 5.30am-7pm, and a good platform lift, (if you can't manage the stairs).

The 500 bus to and from Oxford via Summertown meets all trains seven days a week, running every 15-20 minutes during the day; and now for the first time, this service extends to Oxford station. The stops are Harefields, Squithey Lane and South Parade shops; the fare is £1.80 single and £2.60 return and up to 3 children under 16 are free with an adult. Car parking at the station, with spaces for over 800 cars, is only £2 for 11 hours and £4 for 24 hours - but beware traffic holdups getting there at peak times.

If you're cycling, there is constant traffic on and north of the Banbury Road roundabout and a cycle lane which merges with the pedestrian path well before the right turn into Parkway Station. A petition has been raised by Layla Moran for safer cycling lanes to the station. Walking enthusiasts should estimate around 35 minutes from Summertown shops, and 20 minutes or less for those living near the roundabout. In Spring 2016, the track from Parkway to Oxford Station will be connected. Future plans are to link the new mainline at Bicester Village with Milton Keynes, and who knows, the old Varsity line through to Cambridge might eventually run again!

www.parkandride.oxfordbus.co.uk

www.laylamoran.com/better_provision_for_cyclists

www.chilternrailways.co.uk

Seeking Safety: Asylum Seekers in Oxford

An asylum seeker is a person who has fled their home country because of persecution or fear of persecution. They are entitled to basic accommodation and minimum maintenance payments. The wait for their case to be considered could take a few weeks or many years. If they are considered to be a genuine asylum seeker, then they will be granted refugee status and the right to remain here. Then they will be eligible to work (asylum seekers aren't) but will lose their basic accommodation.

Refused asylum seekers have the right to appeal, and many such people are lodged in Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre in Kidlington. If their appeal is refused they may be returned home, but many refused asylum seekers end up living rough, outside the system and reliant on charities and friends for help.

Asylum Welcome provide a range of services to



Food bank delivery

help clients cope with life in Oxfordshire. They run a food bank that had over 1,000 visits last year, and have volunteers to teach people English. There is also a team of volunteers who visit detainees in Campsfield House. They run a popular youth club, and a drop in centre for all ages where tea, coffee, books, toys, food and clothes are all available.

Kate Smart, Director of Asylum Welcome says "It

can take years for people to feel that they have regained a "normal" life. But in my experience refugees are the last people to complain – they are overwhelmingly grateful to the UK for giving them a home and appreciate being somewhere safe". Kate Smart explains how local people can help: "Keep informed, ask politicians to support a fairer asylum system, become a member or supporter of Asylum Welcome, fundraise for us!"

www.asylum-welcome.org

Please email comments or contributions for the next edition of Guardian Angel to guardianangel.newsletter@gmail.com or write to Summertown Church Hall, Portland Rd, OX2 7EZ.

The deadline date for the next edition is Feb 7th (2016); we look forward to hearing from you.

Dec 2015





Summertown and the Superconductor



1962 - lowering the caravan over the arch

Martin and Audrey Wood started their electromagnet company, Oxford Instruments, in 1959 using their garden shed in Northmoor Road, but by 1961 there was an urgent need for bigger premises. After cycling around Summertown and looking over walls, they found the outbuildings and courtyard of the old slaughter house of No.3 Middleway. Mr John Lindsey, son of the original Summertown butcher,

owned the buildings and his house flanked one side of the yard. The stable block was cleared of stalls and butchers bikes, old straw burnt, the roof repaired, and the meat hooks left in the walls for hanging equipment. Until now, engineer Martin's private company work, endorsed by his regular employer at the Clarendon Laboratories, was in development of high powered, copper wired electric magnets, but these needed bulky, water cooling systems. After hearing a lecture in America about a superconductor material with no resistance to electricity at low temperature, he set to work in the slaughterhouse to build Europe's first superconducting wired magnet, requiring no cooling system.

The company went on to produce the world's first commercially viable supermagnets for major industrial and research establishments. By 1962 with limited production space and a growing business, a caravan for an office room had to be carefully lowered by crane into the yard over its arched entrance. By 1965 the company employed 25 people and with high demand for supermagnets the company needed to move to a larger unit in Osney Mead. There it pioneered the development of magnetic resonance scanners providing the first superconducting magnets for this application. The first commercial MRI whole body scanner was manufactured there in 1980. Oxford Instruments was Oxford University's first engineering spin-out company and in 1986 Sir Martin received a knighthood from the Queen.

New Oxford Free School



The Cherwell School Academy Trust has approval to open a new community comprehensive school, The Swan School, opens in September 2017, offering 120 places a year. It will work in close partnership with The Cherwell School and have strong links to other city schools to draw on combined strengths and experience. This new Free School will offer an excellent education in the future for increasing demand on places in Oxford's secondary schools. The school site has yet to be confirmed, and more details on this and other aspects of the school will be on The Cherwell's website as soon as these become available. With the admission application deadline in the Autumn of 2016, parents have yet another option to consider.

Yours truly... Tracy Verhoeven

North Oxford Police Community Support Officer



Tracy has been our support officer for 7 years and is well known locally for her friendliness and infectious laugh in her public work! She had previously worked for a publishing company in Kidlington for 10 years, but wanted a new challenge and she wasn't disappointed. Her duties range from street patrols to court appearances, from dealing with criminal damage issues such as graffiti and bike thefts to road traffic collisions, from intelligence gathering within the community, to street assistance for the police at a crime scene. Support officers have no power of arrest and 80% of her patrolling is single crewed, but if required a radio call always brings her immediate backup. Each day's work is unpredictable, part of the excitement that Tracey loves in the job. It can, however, be extremely stressful at times, but says Tracy, "I and my team love our community and are committed to keeping you all safe and reassured". After a shift Tracey enjoys time with Jess, her Labrador, Dave, her Westie terrier, and to really relax, it's with Wilson, her tortoise! **Tracy (number C9301) can be contacted by phoning 101.**

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Can you drive a minibus? Do you like organising travel groups and trips? Are you good at helping passengers board with a range of disabilities? If you have any of these skills, you are in demand! CWW Community Transport www.cwwcommunitytransport.weebly.com is a concept of community travel neighbourhoods to meet the needs of those without cars and who find it difficult to use public transport. The Cutteslowe Wolvercote Wytham, Community Transport Scheme with a 16-seater bus, serves seniors, juniors, families without their own transport and all ages with disabilities. If we can find volunteer drivers, we can create a new community transport team for Summertown and St Margaret's neighbourhood, when next year a brand new, Government funded 16-seater minibus with wheelchair access arrives. Please can you help? Full training and induction is provided. Contact **Christopher Gowers: 01865 512047** cwwbuscaptain@yahoo.co.uk

Restaurants Fear High Rents

Pizzeria Mamma Mia has been a Summertown institution for 35 years. When Jon Ellse's company bought it 15 years ago, they kept the inclusive, family orientated atmosphere. "We are proud that children who came to Mamma Mia many years ago now bring their own children along." Portabello opened 12 years ago and shares many customers with Mamma Mia. Jon explains "Portabello works on many levels, and this is an exciting time as Head Chef, Jamie King, has just joined the team." The restaurant business is in Jon's blood. His father ran The Turf Tavern for 40 years and his mother opened one of the first destination dining pubs in the 70s, the King's Head in Bledington. Rent increases are a cause for concern. John says "As rental prices in the Summertown area rise, the amount of independent restaurants and retailers will fall and this would be a great shame." www.mammamiapizzeria.co.uk www.portabellorestaurant.co.uk



Jamie with lunch

Cool for School

Cutteslowe Primary School celebration day!

On 16th October, pupils cut the ribbon to officially open the £2.5 million extension to their school. This provides a new library, cooking areas, computer rooms, a drama studio, gender-specific changing rooms, new classrooms, and better facilities for pupils with special needs. All the interior is bright and modern. The extension will double the school's capacity from about 250 to 520 pupils.



Northern House displays at the National Gallery!



This Artsmark Gold school this year had the honour to have a picture displayed by the National Gallery in its *Take One Picture* project. Children in years 5 and 6 were inspired by a painting

from 1468 called Saint Michael Triumphs over the Devil by Bartolome Bermejo. Guided by digital artist Jason Wilshire Mills, the children explored the painting and used I pads to create their own digital images. These were then compiled by Jason into a montage (2 images shown above) of heroes, villains, dragons, ghosts, demons and gods and printed on canvas.

St Edward's School - watch this cricketer!

Harrison Ward has been awarded a two-year place on the Sussex Cricket Academy, an individual programme for highly talented young players with potential to play first class cricket. The programme, to be delivered in Oxfordshire, will focus on five key areas: technical, tactical and physical development, alongside development of mental skills and personal lifestyle management. Fifth Former Harrison is in his school 1st XI and made his debut for the Oxfordshire senior team this summer.





Friday 4th December at 5 pm Summertown
The Christmas Lights go on
Brass group and children's Carol Singing!



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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 am Eucharist. **We have a Godly Play session on the 4th Sunday of every month.** On the **1st Sunday of the month** the children participate in the All-age Eucharist.

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

3.30 pm 3rd Sunday of month: Messy Church
Cutteslowe Community Centre, Wren Road, OX2 7SX

Weekdays

9.30 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am—12 noon Tuesdays: Baby & Toddler Group

Drop-in play for children and chat for grown-ups!
Contact Juliet Field on 01865 552640

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 Thursday of the month.

5.30 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

Less is more in Advent



St Michael's is offering a different way to prepare for Christmas – doing less not more! It might seem odd but this was the original purpose of the season of Advent. Samantha Stayte, curate at St Michael's explains, "In order to fully appreciate the wonder of the Christmas celebration, we need to reclaim the importance of preparing for the great mystery to come." Samantha is inviting the people of the parish to share this "less is more" approach. One way to join in is to come to **the Contemplative Communion services at 8pm on Tuesdays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December.** Silence will be the central focus.

The Christmas menu

The parish church on Lonsdale Road will cater for all tastes this Christmas. Come and sample our fare:

Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

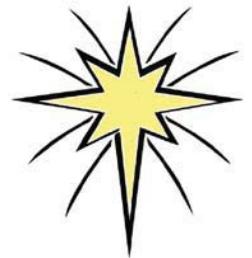
Sunday 13th December 6.30pm

Christmas Eve Crib Service at 4pm

Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

Christmas Day All Age Eucharist at 10am

The original Christmas story ended in the holy family seeking asylum in Egypt. With your help we can help those fleeing from tyranny in the Middle East today. All collections from these Christmas services will be donated to a local charity helping with a global crisis: **Asylum Welcome, Oxford.**



Contact Details

The Revd Gavin Knight (vicar)

The Vicarage, 33 Lonsdale Road, Summertown
01865 556079 / 07833 251939

Parish Office: office@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk

"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

Email: summertownchurchhall@tiscali.co.uk

Threshold Fun and Fundraising



Two events to put in your diary for the new year:

Beat the Blues - 6pm Weds 13th January 2016. A wine-tasting evening in church.

Threshold Fashion Show - Saturday 12th March 2016. The local community, businesses and organisations are all

involved in building a place of welcome at St Michael's. The Threshold Project is about opening up the church for the local community to enjoy its space and potential. We are asking for your help to realise this vision. Can you think of any fun ideas which may help our fundraising effort? Email Gavin with your suggestions:

vicar@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk