

Parish Info + Diary



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Osbert Tun Pe (450891)

Wardens: Angela Hird (456294)
Stuart McAinsh (459394)

Treasurer: Heather Stringer (454864)

Parish of All Saints, Langton Long

Wardens: John Hellewell (450455)
Colin Miles (452010)

Treasurer: Charles Culshaw (453042)

Please note that Tim and Martin's day off is Friday.
They are usually unavailable between
5.00 and 7.00pm each evening.

For all other contact details, please phone
the parish office or see the web site.

Our usual Weekly Events @ BFPC ...

Thursdays at 9.30am BCP Holy Communion
Fridays at 10.00am Teddy Bear Club
Saturday Morning Coffee House



Sun 1st	10.00am Holy Communion at BFPC 11.00am Morning Prayer at LL
Wed 4th	Staff Meeting at Wetherbury Close
Wed 4th	Focus Groups "The Letter to Smyrna"
Thu 5th	7.30pm Music Group Practice at BFPC
Sat 7th	6.30pm Harvest Supper at URC
Sun 8th	8.00am Holy Communion at BFPC 10.00am All Age Harvest Celebration at BFPC with Ken Reynolds from BYT 11.00am Holy Communion at LL
Wed 11th	Focus Groups Social Action Evening
Wed 11th	Confirmation Group meets at Rectory
Sun 15th	10.00am Morning Prayer at BFPC 11.00am BCP Holy Communion at LL 6.30pm BCP Evensong at BFPC
Wed 17th	Focus Groups "The Letter to Pergamum"
Wed 18th	Confirmation Group meets at Rectory
Thu 19th	7.30pm BFPC PCC meet at Rectory
Sun 22nd	10.00am Holy Communion at BFPC 11.00am All Age Worship at LL
Wed 18th	Focus Groups "The Letter to Thyatira"
Sun 29th	10.00am All Age Celebration at BFPC 11.00am Holy Communion at LL
Mon 30th	8pm Prayer Ministry Team at Rectory
Tue 31st	Light Party
Tue 31st	Prayer@BFPC Day

Baptism:

September 10 (at BFPC)
- Gus William Gumery
- Grace Megan Smurthwaite
September 24
- Dolcie Layla Burton (at LL)



Outlook

News from Blandford Forum and Langton Long - October 2006

"Just Keep Going...!"

Do you remember these verses ... ?

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2

These were our verses for last year ... verses which reminded us to persevere and to keep our eyes fixed on the Vision which God has given us.

Many families have phrases which everyone knows and joins in with - the Storey family have a quote from the film "Finding Nemo", where a fish with a notoriously bad memory, reminds herself what to do by repeating the words "Just keep swimming, just keep swimming" When one of the Storeys is tempted to give in, there is often a chorus of "Just keep trying, just keep trying ..." or something similar !

They say that the memory of a goldfish means that by the time it has swum once round the bowl, it is surprised to see the castle that was there last time it passed it ... remembering what we have promised to do for God is often tough and we need to remember to keep striving and working at our faith. The Bible writers often liken this ongoing battle to stay focussed to being in a race - it is vital to keep one eye on the finish line,

if only to remind oneself why the person is racing in the first place !

There are all sorts of things which can take our eyes off of the finish line - work distractions, people distractions, health distractions ... God says to us "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus".



North Dorset planners have given us a temporary thumbs down on the hall - but God seems to be saying "Just keep going" ... plans for the Holiday Club and a Family Time course have been postponed - but God seems to be saying "Just keep going" ...

But then there are the positives ... a large group of people interested in Baptism and Confirmation ... the heating problems being dealt with ... answers to prayer ... God says "Just keep going" ...

Those who have completed the London Marathon (don't look at me !) have often said that the single most important factor in finishing was the encouragement of the crowd - the thousands saying "Just keep running" ! It is very easy to become discouraged, tired and despondent in the Christian life, when all sorts of obstacles get in the way of our faith and the growth of the Church. When those times happen (and they certainly do), God says "Just keep going" ... and above all "Just keep Praying"

Tim Storey

"Outlook" is Monthly News from Parishes of Blandford Forum and Langton Long in Dorset.

Mission Statement: "To Discover and Nurture Relationships in Jesus Christ."

Blandford Vision Statement: "To see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God."

Langton Vision Statement: "To build a joyful Fellowship of Healing and Wholeness."

The parish office is open 9.30-12noon each weekday morning.

Parish Office: 01258 456260 Email: office@bfpc.org.uk Web Site: www.bfpc.org.uk



Come to the fantastic, gigantic, awesome...

Light Party and Light Burst
Tuesday 31st October 2006

4.00-5.30pm - Blandford Evangelical Church - Reception to Year 3

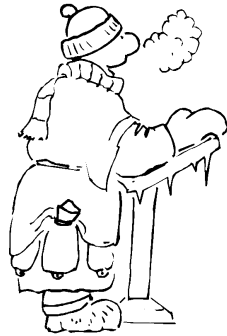
6.30-8.00pm - The Corn Exchange, Market Square - Years 4 to 6

Entry by ticket (£2.00) from The Parish Office



"You Don't Mean Heat in BFPC ?!?!"

During October, a considerable amount of work is going to be undertaken in BFPC to rectify the heating problems which have plagued the church for many years. In simple terms, the problems have stemmed from an ancient (well, 19th century!) set of pipe work where the equally ancient joints have given way on a regular basis. After the problems of last winter, the PCC have spent a lot of time over the summer addressing the problem and have now approved expenditure of around £30,000 to replace all of the pipe work and for it all to be above floor level, to optimise the heat output and minimise problems. We are confident that we shall now enjoy a nice warm Church this Christmas !



St James Church had a reputation for being cold

Christmas Choir

Once again, we are inviting all previous Choir members and others with some musical experience to get together as we begin to prepare for this year's Carol Services. If you are interested, please contact Jackie in the Office or Tony to let them know of your interest. Rehearsals will be held after morning service in church. The preparation this year will be a team effort ! Tony, Gerry, Jackie and Louisa.



Hall Update

You will probably know that North Dorset Planners rejected our application to demolish the hall at the meeting on September 12th because no specific plans were offered for a replacement - but many people agreed that demolition is the best way forward. As a result, we are looking at revised designs for the hall and will be re-presenting the revised application as soon as we can ! Just Keep Praying !

Wanted !

A Foundation Governor is needed for Milldown Primary School. Interested ? Please see Jackie or Tim as soon as possible !!

News From Langton Long



Langton has had a quiet month. Members of the congregation have been returning from holidays and getting into the swing of things again, starting with a good 'spring' (or rather autumn) clean of the church. It was more fun, and certainly quicker, working in a group of eight than in twos and threes! We might even add music next time!

September 7th saw a good number of cyclists visit the church on their Historic Church Cycle Ride. Our Langton Long cyclist managed to visit 13 churches and collected £ 100 sponsor money, so a big 'Thank You' to all sponsors!

The highlight of the month was certainly our harvest festival on September 24th which was doubly marked by having a baptism as well. Martin took the service and got a number of people trying exotic fruits blindfold. The church looked beautiful with its flower, fruit and vegetable displays. A variety of foods and toiletries were collected and displayed in baskets around a bale of straw before being taken to TREADS, Blandford Youth Advice & Information Centre, in Salisbury Street. The morning was rounded off with a delicious 'bring and share' lunch.

Some of us are hoping to join the BFPC choir when practices begin for the Christmas carol services.

At the PCC meeting on September 14th we heard that the Langton Long building application has been approved by North Dorset County Council. The next step is for the Synod to give their approval. Our prayers continue for smooth progress.

Annette Orton

Prayer Does Work!

Last month, we heard about the work of the Prayer Chain. It is tempting to think God, doesn't listen and rarely responds ... Tina Stanley sent this story:

I was recently sent from my pen-pal (or more appropriately e-pal these days). Tammy is 38 and lives in Malaysia. We have been pen-pals for over 25 years. Five years ago she was diagnosed with cancer, but rejected any treatment because of her complete faith God would heal her - and He did! She has since had 2 children. Recently she has faced another test of her Faith, as she explains:

"As for me, 2006 has indeed been an interesting year so far. Late last year, my routine blood test revealed that my cancer is back. My whole world came crashing down. But I just thank God for sustaining me and encouraging me all the way. He spoke to me thru his Word and when I was down, He sent people to pray and talk to me. The doctors wanted me to go for radioactive treatment (chemo) immediately - the very same treatment which I didn't want to take 5 years ago because of the side effects. Then God spoke to my heart - trust in me again (for healing). And over time, he showed me thru the bible, that this is a war that the evil one cannot prevail. All I must do is believe and trust God for a miracle. Oh Tina, it was so extremely difficult to do. But I thank God for the many friends who kept me in their prayers, I did believe for a miracle and took another blood test a month later. It was negative - no cancer. Praise God! It was a miracle! I totally believe in God's power! Hallelujah!"

Sometimes God says "No" and sometimes "Wait" - but we should keep praying in faith in the knowledge that sometimes he does say "Yes"!

SET FAIR 4 TRADE CELEBRATES ITS 1ST ANNIVERSARY



On October 3rd 2005 Set Fair 4 Trade opened at 22 Salisbury Street. As novice shopkeepers it was a scary step to take, but one which seemed to have the Lord's hand upon it. In the past year, the shop has been well supported by local people, both as shoppers and voluntary helpers. The range of fair trade food and crafts has increased and Christian books for adults and children have found their way onto the shelves. Books were part of our vision for the shop and one which will grow - space permitting!

There have been highs and lows over the past year, but most definitely the highs have won and we do not regret taking on the responsibility of retail trade which brings more fair trade products to a wider market. Perhaps it has been easier for us than for most retail outlets, as we are run on a non-profit making basis. As long as bills and overheads are paid, then we are satisfied.

Our passion for fair trade, which goes back over 20 years and our faith have been the driving forces in this enterprise. Isaiah 58 v 6-11 sums this up: - *"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of the injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?"* Fair trade sets out to deal with trade justice and means a better way of life for farmers and artisans in the world's poorest communities. This is a message we have promoted through the shop. During fair trade fortnight pupils from Blandford School sampled healthy snacks (as well as chocolate) and were featured in the local press. Jennie has spoken at a Bryanston school assembly as well as at numerous local groups and the message of fair trade has made an impact on young and old alike.

Many who read this are already giving encouragement through volunteering in the shop or as customers. If you are new to Blandford or haven't yet come to browse, I would encourage you to give us a try. Prices are not wildly expensive. In fact a lady who was browsing not long after we opened, asked *"Are these introductory prices?"* The answer, of course, was no. She had imagined that fair trade meant paying a huge price and was pleased to discover that it was not so.

We aim to have something for everyone, whether it's a beautiful piece of silver jewellery, a wooden puzzle or game, handmade paper or leather purse -and you can be sure that a fair price has been paid. You can buy Christmas cards and advent calendars as well as a very wide range of food. But most of all, we see Set Fair 4 Trade as a Christian presence in Blandford, where faith has been put into action in a very practical way.

Jennie and David Rake

**BFPC and LL Church Weekend
13-15 July 2007
Monkton Combe School, Bath**



**Put the dates in
your diary now!!**