

HIGHWORTH LINK MAGAZINE EDITOR

Current Link editor, Adrian Young, is bowing out in the autumn, having edited the magazine since 2005. We are looking for someone who would be in sympathy with the ethos of the local churches, have a passion for community affairs and good editing skills, to take the helm of this thriving and popular community magazine. Once established, the role takes about 15-20 hours a month. The handover is planned to begin about mid August. If you are interested please call, in the first instance, The Highworth Link office on 01793 861690 preferably between 12noon and 3pm, leave a message on our ansaphone or write c/o The Lighthouse Bookshop. Deadline for applicants is 14th July 2010.

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in Bute Close, Bydemill Gardens, Cherry Orchard, Church View, Cobbett Court and Copper Beeches

PRAYER

Lord, we pray that out of your glorious riches you may strengthen us with power through your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that, being rooted and established in love, we may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to you be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!

Amen

(from Ephesians 3:14-21)

WEDDINGS

Two weddings take place next Saturday 10th July in Blunsdon: Laura Hillier and Nicholas Port at 11.30am, and Emma Hortop Richard Loveday at 3.00pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled, praying especially for Joan Burton, Val Cox, Hilary Fortnam, Zac Hobbs, Carole Richmond, Betty Taber, Beryl Ransome, Jane Underwood, Charlotte Vockins

...all those who are recently bereaved, praying especially for those who love and miss Lawrence Allanson and Irene Dixon

...all those involved in mission, praying especially for Pauline, Alan and Simon Ashmore, Lindy Hope, Nicky Leonard, Ruth Clarke

...all those in our town affected by the imminent closure of Northview School, especially the children preparing to go to new schools, and those staff still without jobs to go to.

Parish of Highworth with Sevenhampton & Inglesham - who to contact

All Ministry Enquiries - Rev Geoff Sowden (day off Friday) telephone 01793-765554

Church Office (Administration/General Enquiries) - Rosie Castle, tel 01793-762702 or email to stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk

www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk



Week beginning Sunday 4th July 2010

'The power and the Glory' Ephesians 3:20-21

St Paul concludes his letter of prayer with an 'ascription' - a tribute to God. But this one is rather special as it includes several vital points about God, the Church and the Believers.

First it tells us that the power of God is 'at work within us'. The plural 'us' is significant, underlining the unique role of the Church for God's purposes. God's power is at work among His people and through that power, He is able to accomplish 'abundantly far more' than anything we can ask or imagine. Wow - that's some promise!

'Abundantly far more' is a phrase that piles superlative on superlative, yet that says Paul is the extent to which God is able to exceed all our expectations. Of course we pray, but we set ourselves small goals, within what we would term as reasonable. But God's power is unreasonable exceeding all rational expectations.

It is this power of God which brings Him glory, but again that glory is associated with the Church and with Christ whose Body the Church is. For many people, the Christian people that they know - their local Christian community - is the only gospel they will ever encounter. That is why the Church is such a vital element in God's purpose in the world.

Perhaps sometimes we should choose to focus our prayers on the Church not as an organization for getting things done, but as a body for bringing blessing to the world and to the Glory of God.

For Reflection

1. Does our Church look like a place where God is glorified. How can we help here?
2. May divisions never divide this church. What can we do to heal breaches?
3. Is the power of God 'at work within us'?

Hilary Fortnam

Our readings today are:

Ephesians 3:1-21 (pew bible page 1174)

Matthew 15:21-28 (pew bible page 982)

Please join us for refreshments after our 10am and 4pm services today

If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion

SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 4th July 2010, Trinity 5

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion CW, Allan Bucknall
	9.00am	Parish Breakfast, church room, all are welcome
	10.00am	Morning Praise & children's activities, Hilary Fortnam/Lesley Page
	4.00pm	T-time all age communion, Geoff Sowden/Bella Fasham
	6.00pm	ICC Songs of Praise, Highworth Methodist Church
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Ruth Clarke/Julie Whitfield
Sevenhampton	9.00am	Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
Hannington	10.30am	Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
Blunsdon	10.00am	Family Communion, John Rees

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 11th July 2010, Trinity 6

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
	10.00am	Family Communion & children's activities, Geoff Sowden/Hilary Fortnam
	4.00pm	T-time service with children's groups, Geoff Sowden/Stephen Fasham
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Hannington	10.30am	Morning Praise, John Godfree
Blunsdon	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage
	10.00am	Family Worship, Jane Ockwell
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong, Peter Demmen
Grove Hill	7.30pm	Evening Service, Hilary Fortnam

PARISH BREAKFAST

Please join us for parish breakfast in the church room today from about 9.00am. Stay on from 8.00am service, come early for 10.00am service, or just come along. We take a break in August so the next Breakfast will be on Sunday 5th September when the Rev Alan Hawker will be with us for all our services.

PARISH GOODBYE TO ALAN HAWKER

We have invited Alan Hawker to speak at all our services on the 5th September and the PCC's of the three parishes are making a collection of thanks for all his help over the years. Anybody who would like to contribute to this, please do so via Rosie. **Geoff**

CREAM TEAS - TODAY

Come and join us for cream teas in Geoff's lovely garden (10 Stonefield Drive) TODAY **SUNDAY 4th JULY** from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Scone, jam & cream, cake and a drink £3.50

STOP PRESS! Coffee, cakes, raffle!

When? 10th July

Where? Church Room

Why? To help ensure all our teenagers have the opportunity to go to Soul Survivor in August. See July Parish News for more exciting details! Look forward to seeing you there! **Pam and Julia**

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 5 th	9.30am	Prayers in church - all welcome, please join us
	10.00am	Ministry team meeting, Church Office
Tue 6 th	9.30am	Pilates in the Church Room
	9.30am	Tuesday morning fellowship, 'My Home' S Marston (Lynn 763197)
	10.00am	Holy Communion at Middi Haines Court
	8.00pm	ICC Prayers at The Bridge led by the Community Church
Wed 7 th	9.30am	Music Bugs in the Church Room
	9.30am	Little Fishes in Church
	10.00am	Holy Communion at St Leonard's, Blunsdon
	2.15pm	Funeral of Irene Dixon in church
	3.15pm	Holy Communion at Grove Hill
	7.00pm	Baptism in St Michael's of Karen, Reece-Tyler and Kyle
	7.00pm	Pilates in the Church Room
	8.00pm	Wednesday Fellowship, 4 Stonefield Drive
Thu 8 th	11.00am	'One Only' coffee morning in the Church Room
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, bell tower
Sat 10 th	10.00am	Coffee morning & bulletin folding, Church Room

THE BIG BOOK CAFÉ - HOLIDAY CLUB 2010

16th-20th August 10:00am-12:30pm for ages 5-11,

18th August 7:00pm-9:00pm for ages 12-16

All leaders and helpers - please try to make it to the meeting on Thursday 15th July, 7.30pm in the Bridge. It will be a chance for us to meet, get to know each other, find out more about the theme and daily programme and also pray together about Holiday Club. If you haven't yet volunteered for anything it's not too late!

Please continue to collect any take-away tubs with lids, and also yoghurt pots.

Please contact Sarah Heppenstall for more information - tel 703371, email sarah@bigbookcafe.co.uk

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

ST MICHAEL'S TOGETHER WEEKEND
8th-10th OCTOBER 2010

Please keep this weekend free in your diary for the whole Church Family to share time together.

PRAYING FOR ALPHA

The churches in Highworth are running a joint Alpha course in the autumn. In preparation for this we are planning for 4 weeks of continuous prayer from midnight on Sunday 8th August to midnight on Sunday 5th September. Sign up sheets and prayer pointers will be available from Sunday 11th July. Please pray for Alpha and about how you can support in prayer.

PRAYERS AT BRISTOL CATHEDRAL

The Benefice of Highworth with Sevenhampton and Inglesham is to be included in prayers at Bristol Cathedral on Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th at their 12.30pm Holy Communion and at 5.15pm during Choral Evensong. See poster in the porch for details and let Rosie know if you are interested in going. **Geoff**

WEEKLY/MONTHLY ENVELOPE GIVERS

Thank you for your regular giving to St Michael's - your annual statement is in a box on the oak chest - please take your letter.

Please send items and inserts for the Weekly Bulletin to Lesley Uzzell by **6pm Thursdays**: tel. 765050, email weeklybulletin@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk