

## Coming up at St Michael's

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September

- 10.30am Family Holy Communion
- 6.30pm Evensong

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.30am 'BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY' SERVICE

*No evening service*

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

- 10.30am 'Young at Heart' Communion

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October

- 10.30am Family Holy Communion
- 6.30pm Evening Praise

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Thanksgiving

- 10.30am Family Worship + Parade
- 6.30pm Holy Communion

## Back to Church Sunday

This is now only 2 weeks away, 28<sup>th</sup> September.

It's an opportunity to invite your friends along to church – especially (as the name suggests) those who have been churchgoers in the past but who, for some reason, have felt unable to return. There will be a party atmosphere with refreshments at the door and a warm welcome!

### Who should you be inviting?

## The Alpha Course

**What am I doing here?** *If God did exist what would you ask?* Welcome to The *Alpha* Course!

It's a well proven, cringe-free, introduction to the Christian faith. ([www.alpha.org](http://www.alpha.org))

St Michael's will be holding their next one this autumn, starting with a Supper at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, which will take place at The Unicorn Pub on Chase Meadow.

If you are interested, fill out an application form.

## Knot just Knitting

Gill Frigerio writes: "After our first session in June, 'Knot just Knitting' returns!"

If you are a craft enthusiast and would like the chance to knit, stitch and natter with like-minded people once in a while, then come to the Open Door café, Slade Hill, Hampton Magna.

Bring your own project to work on, and see what other folk have got on the go."

Next session:

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2.00pm to 4.00pm.**

£2 donation to cover our costs.

Tea and biscuits available.

To find out more call Gill on 07970 433068

## Enjoy getting lost in a good book?

And would you like the chance to talk to other people about what you've been reading?

If you do and would, Ruth Grinbergs is exploring the possibility of starting a Book Club. This would meet once a month, probably on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon (depending on what suited people best) to discuss a book that the whole group has been reading over the previous month.

Ruth writes: "I envisage this as a group to which members of the church family could also bring along non-church friends. If you think you might be interested or know someone who could be, would you please speak to me, drop me an e-mail on [ruth.grinbergs@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.grinbergs@btinternet.com) or telephone 01926 403138 and, if there are a few people interested, I'll organise an initial meeting to discuss how we want to take it forward (and what sort of books we want to read!), probably some time in early October."

## Calling all you budding artists...

The popular 'Art Class' has now restarted. The next one takes place on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September and fortnightly thereafter. Why not give it a try?

Where? St Michael's Church Centre  
 When? 2.00pm to 4.00pm  
 Who? Everybody welcome, especially beginners (and bring a friend!!)  
 How much? £2 (including tea, biscuits and painting material).

## Ladies and Gents Quiz & Curry Evening

A final reminder...

No longer a male preserve, the next Q & C night will be open to all. It takes place at the Church Centre on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. [*Remember to bring your own drinks.*]

Tickets, £6 each, are available from Jim Hall.

## A new Mothers' Union Branch?

Val Brant writes: "There will be an exploratory meeting of people interested in establishing a possible new Mothers' Union (MU) branch at The Open Door on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm.

The aims of the MU include supporting marriage, parenting, and family life in all its forms. It is a worldwide organisation, undergirded by prayer, and membership is open to both men and women (despite the name!).

If you would like to come along, you will be very welcome."

Val has some copies of the new magazine, "Families First", available at £2.50 each, so do let her know if you would like a copy (tel: 494021 or [valbrant@sky.com](mailto:valbrant@sky.com)).

## Upgrading the Vicarage garden

You may be aware that, when David & Rosie moved into the new Vicarage in Robins Grove, the garden was little more than a patch of grass and a leylandii tree, with a boggy patch just outside the back door. A path was urgently needed to wheel the bins from back to front of house, and other work was clearly desirable to make the garden into a convivial space for use not only by the Brown family, but also by existing parishioners and the many new contacts to be made in our various communities.

The garden has now been transformed into a nicely laid-out and well-stocked amenity, where many folk – old and new contacts – have already enjoyed some of the Brown's generous hospitality. However, despite much of the labour being voluntary and plants provided by the Browns, such a make-over comes at a cost, and our church Standing Committee has set aside £500 towards this. In keeping with our practice with projects in the recent past, we seek to at least match this with contributions from members of our congregations.

If you would like to make a contribution (and some donations have already been received), please give it to Jim Hall or Bill Booth, marked for the vicarage garden. If you are a taxpayer, please use a gift-aid envelope to enable your gift to be maximised. We hope you will share the PCC's desire to see our new priest-in-charge and his family live in suitable surroundings, from which the parish as a whole will surely derive great benefit. *Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Val Brant, PCC Secretary.*

## Warwick 100 event

In the last issue of *The Gos* we highlighted a **Compassion UK** fundraising event – **Hatton Park Live Funk and Rock night** – featuring **Jamson's Nook** (a local band rapidly gaining a reputation as the ultimate party band!). This takes place on 20th September, 8.00pm to 11.00pm, at Hatton Park Village Hall. **Tickets (limited to 100) are selling out fast** so, if you want to be there, get in touch quickly with Alison Massey on 01926 401781

## Terence Johnson retires

The Revd T J Johnson was vicar of Budbrooke between 1981 and 1997 ("Fifteen happy years", is how he describes it.) Many members of St Michael's, past and present, have reason to be very grateful for Terence and Carol's friendship and encouragement during those years.

Terence is currently vicar of a group of parishes in Northamptonshire, but will be retiring from full-time Church of England ministry as from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at which point he and Carol (plus Henry the cat) will be moving to Towcester.

His last Sunday will be 2<sup>nd</sup> November and there will be a Farewell Service and Tea at Milton Malsor Village Hall between 3.00pm and 5.30pm.

Terence has written with an open invitation that any friends would be most welcome to attend.

## The Open Door matters

### 1. The Full English...

Courtesy of David Morgan, The Open Door is now open each Saturday; serving 'proper' breakfasts! This new venture got off to a very good start on its first day (13<sup>th</sup> September)

Please make every effort to drop in. Even better (if you can spare a few hours, say once a month) volunteer to join the Saturday team rota – appropriate training will be given.

*In order to facilitate this new development it has been necessary to provide a new cooking area. Special thanks have to go to Jim Hall and his son, Colin, for undertaking so much after-hours work installing and wiring the equipment.*

### 2. Coming soon

Other changes in the offing include:

- Formation of a quiet area for counselling, prayer and other pastoral purposes.
- Introduction of other 'community events' for Saturday afternoons, following the lead of 'Knot just Knitting' (e.g. the 'Book Club' overleaf). Do you have a particular interest that could be developed in this way? Let David Brown know.
- Free wireless internet access and the installation of a 40" flat screen television

### 3. Have your say...

Are there other changes you would like to see at The Open Door or avenues that you think we could explore? Take part in the new Survey (and be included in the prize draw for a Fairtrade hamper). **Pick up a survey form in-store.**

### 4. Prayer time

Early morning prayers at The Open Door now take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8.15am to 8.45am. Everyone welcome!

## Introducing Ruth O'Connell

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September Ruth O'Connell was introduced and commissioned as our new Youth Worker, initially on a one year placement.

Ruth (18) is from Wolston (near Rugby). She previously did a 'gap year' in a similar role at St Matthew's Rugby and her aim is to undertake a Youth Work degree with applied theology.

Interestingly, Ruth attended Blue Coat School in Coventry where she was a contemporary of Rebecca Bradley (eldest daughter of our previous priest-in-charge Tony Bradley).

Ruth's timetable is still being finalised but she has already become an invaluable member of The Open Door team, both during the week and in the new Saturday morning slot.

She is being hosted by John and Jane Cross, but other offers of hospitality will be most welcome.

'The Gos' is a monthly publication aimed at sharing news of what's going on in the life of St Michael's. All contributions gratefully received! – Bob Dubock (Editor) telephone 01926 498626 email [bob.dubock@stmichaels-budbrooke.org.uk](mailto:bob.dubock@stmichaels-budbrooke.org.uk)