

The Magazine of St Luke's & the Church of The Holy Spirit

# BURPHAM TIMES

J u n e 2 0 2 2



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## CHURCH FOR ME?

If someone asked you to sum up what church was all about for you, I wonder how you would answer? I am conscious that many of us come from different church traditions that probably emphasised different aspects of the Christian faith and so we might all come out with very different answers. Church can mean so many different things for us all. Perhaps you have come across one of the “church for me” CPO posters I’ve shown here? One of our local churches has a couple up in their hall and as I read them they really make me think. What does church mean for you?

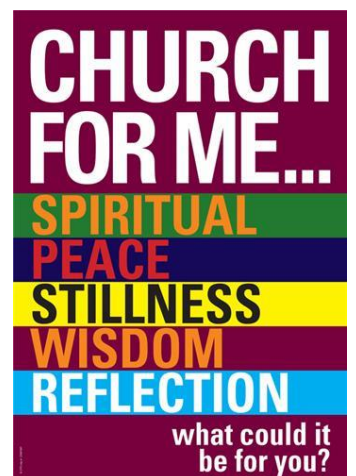
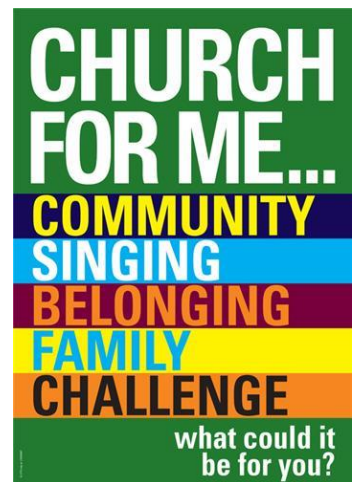
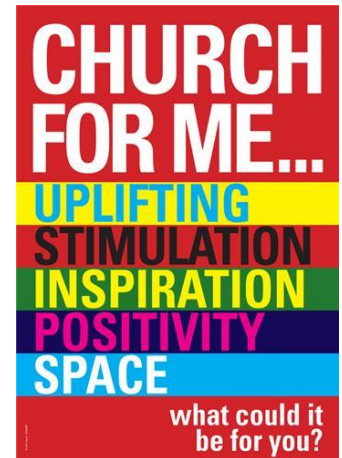
Here at Burpham Church we have tried to come up with a statement that encapsulates who we are and what we are about, and if you come into our building regularly you may be familiar with this statement that is on a banner in CHS.

### **God’s family, living and sharing the good news of Jesus**

Over the last few weeks, we have been unpacking it a little in our morning services and thinking about the really excellent news of the gospel (the word gospel we saw, isn’t just good news – it is really EXCELLENT news!), about the way that God designed the church to be a family and what it might look like to live this out in practice. We concluded that as we live out the good news of Jesus in practice it will be good news for those we come into contact with and will give us opportunities to share about the God who is behind it all.

God invites us to be salt and light in our families, our communities and our workplaces. Jesus says to his followers “You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world” (Matthew 5v13-16). Let me invite you to reflect with me on what we want those around us to answer in response to that question: church is for me... How might God be calling us to make our church more Good News for those around us?

*With every blessing Rev’d Joanna Levasier*





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## ***COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING***



## **DROP IN**

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## **WANTED - A NEW EDITOR**

**Having been the Editor of Burpham Times for a very long time,  
I have decided to retire.**

**My last edition will be December 2022.**

**If there is anyone interested in taking over, please have a word  
with Jo, or let me know, and I can explain how I have done it.**

**John will also cease to liaise with the advertisers, so that job will  
also need a volunteer. (Unless the new editor does that as well!)**

***Valerie Boon***

## Dates for the diary



A wonderful opportunity to join us at our allotment and do church outside: Digging, weeding, wheelbarrowing, sowing, and learning about Jesus on our church allotment. This term's remaining dates which can be booked online at

[www.burphamchurch.org.uk](http://www.burphamchurch.org.uk)

Parent and child sessions: Thursdays 9:30-11am

**June 25, July 7.**

Reception - Year 6 Drop Off sessions. Fridays 3:45-5:15pm **June 10, July 8**

**10.45am Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Pentecost Sunday with**

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Do come and celebrate this powerful moment of public witness – why not invite a friend to join you.

*(note new time 10.45am)*



Join us for a friendly cuppa and chat fortnightly on a Friday 1 – 2:30pm at CHS. All ages welcome.

Remaining dates this term

27 May, 17 June, 1<sup>st</sup> July & 15<sup>th</sup> July.



Note amended June date

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 4pm**

*All welcome*

**THURSDAY DROP IN:** Every Thursday

10– 11.15am (except Thu 2 June)

in CHS hall ALL WELCOME FOR COFFEE &  
CONVERSATION

note we are trialling moving our Thursday service later to allow more time in Drop In beforehand

**THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE**

**11.15AM**

# ANNUAL REPORTS FOR BURPHAM TIMES 2022

## **Alasitar and Elodie's growth group**

Since the first lockdown, our group has rapidly moved on to being fully online, with initial technical challenges, but we have since moved into a hybrid type after things started reopening, with occasionally some of us meeting up together and having the other members of the group on Zoom, which suits us as our group contains a majority of parents which relieves the pressure of getting babysitters organised each week.

We have studied the latter part of the book of Romans, the first part of the book of Proverbs, and are now studying the book of Luke alongside the sermon series.

We have had a few people leaving the group, and a few people joining. We have enjoyed great conversations along the way, and hope to keep growing together in our discipleship of Jesus, encouraging each other.

## **Rob and Joan's growth group**

We began our new growth group last June and, with Covid rules then in place, had to limit our numbers to six people. (We particularly wanted to meet face to face rather than on 'Zoom'.)

There are now eight of us in our group and we meet regularly each Thursday evening, varying the venues between us.

We have been studying during our time together: the book of James; Jesus' parables and miracles; a selection of teachings from the Sermon on the Mount and currently, the book of Esther from the Old Testament.

## **Val and Jane's growth group**

We are a group of thirteen women who enjoy meeting fortnightly to eagerly discuss, apply and pray over bible truths that we have learned. We found remarkable relevance to life in 2021 as we studied the book of Joshua and reassurance as we looked at the promises of Jesus.

During lockdown we ventured into the zoom world and for the duration met weekly for support and encouragement.

One great encouragement, as we fumbled our way on zoom, was that a husband was asked to help his wife to connect her with zoom, which he did very easily; he will be 100 years old this May. Never too old to learn new things!

### ***Miscellaneous observations on our Christian pilgrimage***

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

If God is your co-pilot – swap seats.

Plan ahead – it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.

Fight truth decay – study the Bible daily.



## **Youth and Children's Work**

The PCC places a high importance on its youth and children's work with activities for different age groups held throughout the week. Nicky Geraghty is our full time Youth and Children's minister. Since September 2019 she had been studying one day a week at a Cornhill Course and this course ended in June 2021.

Brownies and Guides met weekly at the church centre up to lockdown in March 2020. They have now both returned to the building since lockdown ended.

In conjunction with the youth worker from St John's Church, Merrow we relaunched our Wednesday evening youth club in October, onsite at CHS with a new name— Youth Café. This is a social group for young people in school years 7-11 to come and play games, chat to friends and enjoy food from the tuck shop. We have 16 children on the register so far and this has seen some of the previous Download attendees return and new young people join as well.

Our Sunday evening group Blaze, for school years 7-13, worked well online and a midweek games session online helped young people who were struggling during lockdown. In September Blaze began again in person on Sunday night, but we have found it hard to reconnect with all of the pre-Covid attendees.

In the summer term, a youth Bible study group was set up on Thursday evenings to look deeper at the Bible, working through Genesis and Acts. There are 4 regular attendees who have grown so much in their faith through this group - a huge encouragement.

The PCC has been encouraged by all the creative ways in which our Youth and Children's Minister has worked hard to connect with the young people in these difficult circumstances.

Despite restrictions, we were able to hold our popular February half term holiday club, albeit on Zoom. We had 50 children attend The Forbidden Forest Holiday Club and whilst in person is better, we were pleased that so many young people connected in and we were able to include children in preschool. We were particularly grateful to Nicky Geraghty and Rob Gibbons for filming and editing a fantastic drama using a green screen so actors could social distance.

Sunday Club has been running continually online for the first half of 2021, attracting a greater attendance than when in person due to other activities not preventing people from attending. From September we were able to meet in person again alongside the 10:45 service. Due to reduced volunteer numbers we no longer have a separate crèche alongside Sunday Club and we are encouraged that some of the older children have stepped up to help with the younger ones.

The PCC is grateful for the time and hard work many volunteers put into running all of the different groups throughout the week to support the youth work.

Jo Levasier has regular involvement with educational organisations that meet in the parish, but continuing Covid-19 restrictions meant this was still at reduced level in 2021. Harvest visits were arranged for Christopher Robin Nursery and our own Burpham Preschool. We were pleased that we were able to hold 2 Christingle services for Burpham Primary School at CHS. Also, due to Nicky's son attending Boxgrove Primary School, we were also able to do an online Christingle for the reception classes.

Caterpillar Café began to meet in person during the summer term when restrictions began to ease. This was with precautions in place and restricted numbers. By the end of the year we were regularly seeing around 25 – 30 adults and 30 - 40 children each week.

Last year we also ran various allotment club sessions for under 5s, reception-year 6 and even a session for the teenagers as well. This was a great way of being able to gather under the restrictions at the time, but has also been another way to connect with the local community and offer something a bit different for our young people.

## **DROP IN 2021**

Drop In restarted on 9<sup>th</sup> September following an 18 month break due to Covid 19 restrictions. Many of our members had been shielding for much of that time and so mixing again was not without a little anxiety. However, the chance of coffee and a good chat is always a winner and within a short while it was as if we had never been away.



On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November Drop In celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The morning was well attended, and a special cake was cut by our senior member, Peggy Rogers, who had celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in May! Sadly, our plans for Christmas had to change due to rising numbers of Covid cases but we hope for better times in 2022.

*Janet Robins*

## Monday Group

There are 8 in this Life Group, now all ladies! Peter Thirkettle was a loyal member until he died in early March 2020 & he's sadly missed. During the lockdowns we met, weather permitting, in the Park and thereafter via Zoom until more recently face to face, hosted either by Evelyn or Jennifer. We are currently studying Acts and Barbie Howarth and Jean Davy take turns in leading. Because of illness and commitments away from Guildford, our numbers fluctuate but we still greatly value the study of God's word together and we appreciate our friendship & look after each other e.g. lifts, phone calls & pastoral care.

## Hope Space

The church have been reaching out into the community with a Hope Space, an initiative from the organisation Hope Together UK. Our Hope Space is an opportunity for people of all ages, of faith, no faith or another faith to stop and reflect and, if they wish, pray about their losses and their hopes and dreams. This is offered through reflective prayer activities hosted by a few church members who are there to welcome, listen and if visitors wish to pray.



A small group from Burpham Church have taken the Hope Space to two community run events; Burpham Wellfest and the Great Big Burpham Community Yard Sale where we also offered a pop Up café.

Also the Hope Space has been part of events organised by the church for the local community; Remembrance Day, Family Fireworks and Carols in the Park. People of all ages from the Burpham community have engaged with the prayer activities, at times the Hope Space has been busy with visitors. We already have plans to offer a Hope Space at more community events in 2022. Jane Agg



## Serenity Walk – July 2021

In the warmth of the evening summer sun church put on a Serenity Walk at Burpham Nature reserve. This worked well as an event under the restrictions at the time. After a guided walk with prayer stations to rest at along the way and get creative with craft activities the walk guided you back to the start for a



well-earned cool drink and an opportunity to chat to others. The community were still in the grip of the Covid pandemic but we were encouraged to see a dozen people or so enjoy the event.



### Sing, Play, Make & Pray

By Eleanor King, Kevin Mayhew, £7.99

Got a free hour or two? Has something been cancelled and you're wondering what to do? Worried the kids are going to be bouncing off the walls? Well, this is the book for you!

This is a collection of creative, fun and reflective things to do as a household. The ideas are flexible, practical, doable and don't require expensive resources, but are also engaging and interesting for all ages to do together. To accompany each activity there is a short Bible passage linking in with the theme, and a family-friendly prayer.



## **AS I SEE IT - by Joan Barnett**

### **Gadgets Revisited**

Proverbs 16:21 NIV. *The wise in heart are called discerning and gracious words promote instruction.*

I had a thought recently about the various gadgets I used when my sight loss journey began, some of which are now no longer produced. Others are still in use.

One of the first items I bought was a Talking Cube clock, affectionately known as the Man By the bed! One of the visually impaired ladies I worked for gave it that name when she first showed me hers. After 17 years mine still keeps good time whereas another one I bought tends to lose time even with new batteries. The Liquid Level Indicator has been replaced a number of times over the years but I would not be without it. When measuring hot liquid, I use it although I am aware many visually impaired people simply put their finger in the mug, if I do that, I am unable to feel the heat until it is too late and liquid is flowing everywhere. Cold water is fine I can feel that okay.

I used to have a portable victor Reader that played CDs to use when travelling long distance in the car. It is no longer made now that victor Stream has superseded it. Over many years I made good use of the cd player and before that a simple tape recorder. I still have a number of audio tapes. It was far more cumbersome having to carry the boxes with the tapes because they usually lasted around 30 minutes each side. A journey of more than 2 hours always required a fair number of tapes. Nowadays, the SD card system I use in my Milestone is far easier.

I am onto my third talking mobile phone. I like the Blindshell because it has buttons rather than just a screen. The I Phone and I pad are very popular with visually impaired people.

When I came across the verse in Proverbs It reminded me of the audio instructions and information given in various forms when learning to use a new gadget. Listening to clear instructions on a cd while holding the item greatly eases the way of learning for me, it feels as if the teacher is sitting at my side. We all have our own preferred systems when attempting something new.

## ALL IN THE MONTH OF JUNE    It was:

100 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1922 that Judy Garland, American actress and singer, was born. Best known for her films *The Wizard of Oz* and *Meet Me in St Louis*. Died 1969.

Also 100 years ago, from 28<sup>th</sup> June 1922 to 24<sup>th</sup> May 1923, that the Irish Civil War took place. Led to Pro-Treaty leading to confirmation of the Irish Free State.

80 years ago, from 4<sup>th</sup>– 7<sup>th</sup> June 1942 that the Battle of Midway took place. The USA defeated Japan in the most important naval battle of the Pacific Campaign.

75 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1947 that the Marshall Plan was proposed. US Secretary of State George C Marshall offered a self-help programme to Europe that would enable countries to rebuild democratic societies and resist communism after WWII.

65 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1957 that the first premium bond prize draw took place in Britain.

50 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1972 that the Watergate Scandal began when five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington DC.

40 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1982 that the Falklands War ended. Argentine forces surrendered to the British in Port Stanley and a ceasefire was agreed. Argentine president Leopold Galtieri resigned on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Also 40 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1982 that Prince William of Wales was born. Son of Charles and Diana, he is second-in-line to the British throne.

25 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1997 that Shakespeare's Globe Theatre opened in London. It is a reconstruction of the original theatre of 1599.

Also 25 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1997 that J K Rowling's first Harry Potter novel, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was published in the UK.

15 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007, that Apple released the first iPhone.

10 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012 that the founder of Wikileaks, Julian Assange, sought political asylum in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London, to avoid extradition to the USA after publishing classified documents. He remained in the embassy for seven years, until he was arrested and imprisoned.

10 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2012, that Lonesome George, the male Pinta Island tortoise died. The last-known member of his species, Lonesome George serves as an important symbol for conservation efforts around the world, and particularly in the Galapagos Islands.

<b>Burpham Times for July 2022</b>
Last day for copy - Sunday 19th June

*Editor: Tim Lenton, looks at Harry Potter and the iphone*

## **HARRY POTTER**

Twenty-five years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1997, J K Rowling's first Harry Potter novel, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, was published in the UK.

It received massive acclaim, and another six best-selling books and eight hugely successful films followed. The books have been translated into over 80 languages, and have sold more than 500 million copies worldwide. Spin-off books and films have followed, and the author also publishes crime novels under a pen name.

Death and the struggle between good and evil are the central themes of the Harry Potter series, and it has provoked much religious debate, centring mainly on claims by some that the books contain occult and Satanic sub-texts. Defenders of the books say that the magic in the Harry Potter series is more akin to fairy tales and to *The Lord of the Rings* and *Narnia*.

Supporters argue that the whole story can be viewed as essentially Christian in character, particularly the last volume, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, in which the hero dies and comes back to life to save mankind. Elsewhere themes of courage, love and the temptations of power are central.

Its author – born Joanne Rowling in 1965 – has described herself as a Christian and attended a Church of Scotland congregation while writing Harry Potter. Her daughter Jessica was baptised there.

## **APPLE'S FIRST IPHONE**

Just 15 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007, Apple released the first iPhone.

From the original concept of an efficient, easy-to-use, slick mobile phone, it transformed by the time of its creation into what was described by Brian Merchant, author of *The One Device*, as the “primary platform for thousands of apps offering streaming music and video, real-time video chat, addictive videogames and virtual and augmented reality experiences”.

Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, called the iPhone a “revolutionary and magical product” that “fits beautifully into the palm of your hand”. Five years after its debut, more than 200 million had been sold. Merchant calls it a “culturally dominant, world-eating phenomenon”.

From the outset, the iPhone was hugely popular, with queues forming for hours outside Apple stores in both Europe and America on its release. In addition, Jobs provided an iPhone free to all his employees.

FaceTime through the iPhone made a dramatic and positive difference to people's lives under lockdown.

## **BURPHAM GARDENING CLUB**

At last the risk of frost has passed and we can safely plant out our tender plants into their bedding positions and look forward we hope to keeping them well watered throughout the warm and hot Summer months ahead.

Roses should have any wild suckers (that is shoots with seven or more leaves) removed, they should then be sprayed regularly with a systemic insecticide against Aphids, Blackspot and Mildew and fed with a Rose fertiliser. Climbing and Rambling Roses need to be tied in as near to the horizontal as possible to encourage better flowering. Dahlias should be planted out and staked as they grow. Dead head Delphiniums and Lupins to encourage a second flush of bloom.

Spring flowering shrubs such as Forsythia and Philadelphus should be pruned after flowering. Perennial Aubretia and Alyssum should be trimmed after flowering to encourage new growth. Clematis, Honeysuckle and Sweet Peas should be tied to supports as they grow. Lift Tulips when the foliage is dry and papery.

Pinch out the leading shoots of Chrysanthemum Fuchsia and Helianthus to encourage bushy growth. Divide Bearded Iris after flowering.

Containerised plants should be fed once or twice a month.

In hot weather the greenhouse should be dampened down with water to maintain a humid atmosphere.

Protect Delphiniums, Hostas, Lilies and Lupins from Slug and Snail damage using Animal and Bird friendly pellets.

Indoor Tomatoes should be staked and have their sideshoots removed unless they are a bush variety, start feeding when the first fruits have formed.

Brussel Sprouts, Winter Cabbage, Courgettes, Purple Sprouting and outdoor Tomatoes should be planted out. Early Potatoes should be dug as soon as they come into flower. Runner and French Beans should be planted out, sow seed now for a later crop. Continue to sow small quantities of Salad Crops.

Thin out Apple, Pear and Plum fruits after the natural June drop has occurred.

Make sure that newly planted Shrubs and Trees are kept well watered during dry weather.

Now is a good time to sow Herbs outdoors, Parsley can be slow to germinate and can be speeded up by placing the seed in the refrigerator before sowing or by pouring boiling water over the soil after sowing. French Tarragon cannot be grown from seed only by vegetative propagation, Russian Tarragon which can be grown from seed is bland and tasteless.

Continue to mow the lawn frequently and apply a dressing of Summer Weed and Feed just before Rain is forecast.

***John Boon***



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(James not currently working, please contact Jo)

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**The Rev'd Darlene McCarley** 07890 096202

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<b>Guides</b> Yvonne Peach	Mondays 7.00pm 224692	<b>Youth/Children's</b> <b>Work</b> Nicky Geraghty	07305 619868

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