



Saint Michael's Messenger

**The Eucharist will be celebrated every Sunday at 10.00 am
and is followed by Refreshments**

Newsletter of St Michael's Church, Beaulieu-sur-Mer for October 2014



Fundraising for St Michael's - Auction of Promises

Following on from the April Workshop and the regular updates in the Messenger, we are delighted to confirm that we are ready to launch our first Auction.

The Catalogue of Lots donated by members of St Michael's is being e-mailed with this copy of the Messenger and is available on our website www.stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org. As you will see we have some very attractive lots on offer.

They would make great Christmas presents!

For this to work and raise meaningful funds WE ASK EVERYONE TO HELP. You can do this by circulating the Catalogue as widely as you can and encouraging friends, relatives and colleagues to make a bid. You can circulate by e-mail or hard copy and you can, of course, bid yourself !

The bidding process is simple and set out clearly in the Catalogue - bids can be made by text, by e-mail or by recording bids in the sheets at the rear of the church.

The Closing Date for bids is 5th December 2014. Successful bidders will be informed by the 9th December 2014.

Please do engage with this - it could be a source of valuable funds to St Michael's and, if successful, could become a regular part of our fundraising.

Jeremy Nordberg

Gift Aid – A Reminder

The following was recently circulated by the "Association of Church Accountants & Treasurers" and will be of interest to those chaplaincies that benefit from Gift Aid donations in general and those that run local Gift Aid Envelope Schemes.

"Church treasurers and Gift Aid secretaries might wish to remind regular donors that the personal allowance has risen to £10,000 for anyone born after 5th April 1948. It is likely to mean that some donors, previously on the borderline, will no longer be paying the necessary tax to cover the church's Gift Aid claim; and where a regular donor no longer pays sufficient tax, any enduring Gift Aid declaration for the person should be cancelled. Readers may be surprised to learn that HMRC reckons that only 43% of the population pays sufficient tax to take advantage of Gift Aid - and given the age-profile of many congregations, it is likely that their proportion of non-taxpayers is higher than the (UK) national average."

September celebrations at St Michael's

Two important events have been held at St Michael's during September. The first, on 21st September was the the Dedication, in memory of Helen Downes, of the newly paved area in front of the Church immediately after the 10.00 Eucharist. The congregation, including guests from Helen and Tom's native Scotland, processed outside into the September sunshine of Beaulieu for the short ceremony of prayer and dedication followed by a song sung by Churchwarden Barry before some celebratory refreshments. This paved area has greatly enhanced the entrance to the Church and we record once more our gratitude to Churchwarden Tom for his generosity in providing this facility.

The second, on 28th September, was the visit of Bishop Michael Colclough (an Hon. Assistant Bishop in the Diocese in Europe) to preside and preach at the Eucharist and Confirm two members of our congregation. With more than 70 people present it was an uplifting celebration for St. Michael's-tide as well as a memorable occasion for the two Sarahs (Sarah Blundred and Sarah Diamonds) who were Confirmed. After the service nearly 60 people joined Bishop Michael and his wife Cynthia for lunch outside. This was organised by Nicola Karlsen who was greatly assisted by a team of helpers on the day and before, in preparing the food and providing the Champagne, wine and soft drinks – quality provisions which so often accompany social occasions at St Michael's!

Now 18 months into our vacancy for a permanent Priest, it is clear that St Michael's is 'alive and well' with a congregation in good heart and looking forward positively to the on-going Anglican presence and our ministry in Beaulieu.

Fr Philip

This month Sophie and Rex visit...

Melbourne – Victoria - Saturday 8 Feb. 2014 – 39C °



Melbourne's roots can be traced back to the 1850s, when gold was found in the surrounding hills. British settlers took up residence and prided themselves on coming freely to their city, rather than having been forced here in convict chains. More Greeks live here than in any other city outside Athens and a third of Melbournians were born outside Australia making for an interesting melting pot of races and interests. We watched Chinese practising Tai Chi in the park, ate delicious seafood tapas and heard a great variety of languages.

Melbourne (pronounced Mel bun) is beautifully laid out and a lovely city altogether. The elegant tree-lined boulevards give it a very European feel. The green spaces are huge with gigantic trees everywhere. We enjoyed the green Fitzroy Gardens where Captain Cook's house has been transported brick by brick from England by his descendants. It is well worth spending time at the amazing war memorial Shrine from where there is a fantastic view of the city and in this heat we appreciated a cruise on the Yarra River.

The heat haze was enormous and my photos that day left much to be desired. We seem to be following the "exceptional" weather pattern and I was a little worse for wear after taking my hat off on the river. As I wrote this bush fires were raging all over Victoria, no less than 14 in the Melbourne area and looking out of the window the air was thick with smoke and the television was advising residents on which areas to move to.



Eden, NSW – 10 February 2014 –23 °



Eden was such a pleasant surprise, a small town with undulating countryside, great views and again the freshest fish. It was a welcome break to have a cloudy day but much of the haze was due to the fires. This is the place to come to view whales in September, October, and November and from what we are told they abound. The local volunteers had come out in force to greet us as two ships were expected, ours and Seabourn's Sojourn with Tom Cruise on board. Some of our companions went to Canberra but we couldn't face getting up at 5.00 for a 7 hr return journey but enjoyed watching the video on their return.

As we walked along the street we were interviewed by the local weekly paper and they took plenty of photographs of us (duly spotted online later).

Want to get in touch?

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