

CONNECTING THE CHURCHES OF MACCLESFIELD TEAM MINISTRY

# LINK

APRIL/MAY 2017

FREE



**A Live Simply Commitment** David Mayers page 3  
**Walk the Way of the Cross** Tricia Atherton page 9  
**St Peter's Church at Conwy** Revd Martin Stephens page 12

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# Welcome to Macclesfield Team Ministry

**M**acclesfield Team Ministry is a family of four churches that are located in the town of Macclesfield and are part of the Church of England. We are four different communities of people seeking to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and trying to bring wholeness and healing to the wider town.



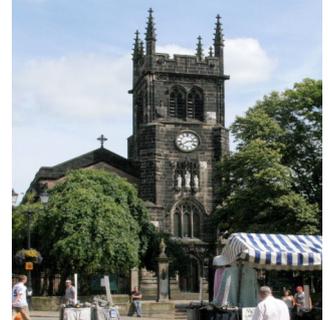
**All Saints**  
Brough Street West  
Macclesfield  
SK11 8EL



**St Barnabas**  
Lyme Avenue  
Macclesfield  
SK11 7RS



**St Peter's**  
Windmill Street  
Macclesfield  
SK11 7HS



**St Michael & All Angels**  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
SK10 1DY

## The Staff Team

**Team Rector**    **Revd Martin Stephens**  
T: 01625 426110  
E: teamrector.macc@gmail.com

**Team Vicar**    **Revd Dave Mock**  
T: 01625 432919  
E: revdavem@googlemail.com

**Associate Vicar**    **Revd David Wightman**  
T: 07770 785188  
E: david.wightman1@ntlworld.com

**Cre8 Director**    **Revd Rob Wardle**  
T: 077101 73177  
E: rob.wardle@cre8macclesfield.org

**PA to the Clergy**    **Sue Reid**  
T: 01625 421984  
E: clergypa@gmail.com

**Team Office**    **Macclesfield Team Office**  
St Michael & All Angels Church  
Market Place  
Macclesfield SK10 1DY  
T: 01625 421984 (24 hour machine)

**Team Printing & Photocopying**    **Emma Kingdom**  
Deadline: Thursday morning 9am  
E: maccteamprinting@gmail.com

**Link Editor**    E: linkteammagazine@gmail.com

### Administrators

St Michael's: Emma Kingdom T: 01625 421984  
E: stmichaelscoordinator@gmail.com  
St Peter's: Jann Thorpe T: 01625 500544  
E: coordinator@stpetersmacc.org  
Cre8: Katy Wardle T: 01625 503740  
E: katy.wardle@cre8macclesfield.org

### Weekly Notice Sheets

All Saints: Ron Sherwin  
E: allsaintsnotices@gmail.com  
St Barnabas: Vera Butler/Glenys Hibbert  
E: glenys.hibbert@ntlworld.com  
St Michael's: Lynne Spedding  
E: stmikesnotices@gmail.com  
St Peter's: E: coordinator@stpetersmacc.org

### Safeguarding Disclosures - Lead Recruiters

Team churches: Sue Reid T: 421984  
Cre8: Katy Wardle T: 503470

### Safeguarding Co-ordinators

All Saints: Chris Campbell-Kelly T: 261373  
St Barnabas: Fran Hiles T: 429990  
St Michael's: Ellen Brown T: 423178  
Paul Spedding T: 614819  
St Peter's: Jann Thorpe T: 500544

### Safeguarding Diocesan Advisor

Pauline Butterfield  
T: 01928 718834 ext 221  
E: pauline.butterfield@chester.anglican.org

## ECO-CONGREGATION

# A Live Simply Commitment

**W**ith green communion frontal, fair trade communion wine and a liturgy specially prepared by the Precentor of Canterbury Cathedral, Matthew Rushton; on Sunday 5th February St Michael's celebrated both the first anniversary of A Rocha UK's Eco-church award scheme, and along with hundreds of churches across all denominations the biblical truth that the saving work of Christ is for all Creation.

St Michael's became an "eco-congregation" in 2014, and is currently working towards the first stage of the new scheme. As such, we are expected to focus on 5 aspects of our church's life for potential change and reflection: worship, church buildings, use of land, community and global relationships and awareness, and lifestyle.

As part of our worship we were challenged to make a "Live Simply Commitment", which we hope will be at the heart of what we do as a congregation to love our sisters and brothers wherever they may be:

In addition the congregation was asked to respond to a number of environmental issues facing us today including: the destruction of rain forest habitats, and consequent rapid decline in numbers of orangutans, in Indonesia, to allow the planting of more and larger palm oil plantations (see below for more details); the disposal to land-fill of 16 million plastic bottles each day in the UK; the



relationship between the movement of refugees and the impact of climate change in their countries of origin; and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events and their impact on the poorest members of society.

Something to think about: the products you buy can make a difference to the planet. As Pope Francis said in his encyclical "Laudate Si", "Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply economic – act". Biscuits. Bread. Shampoo. Chocolate. Detergent. These everyday items have one thing in common: they are a threat to rainforests.

The list of products containing palm oil seems almost endless.

Palm oil is found in around half of supermarket products, like soaps and shampoos, and in many kinds of food.

Producing the oil often involves felling virgin rainforest, reducing biodiversity, destroying the habitat of endangered species such as orangutans, elephants and tigers, and ruining the livelihoods of local people.

The demand for palm oil has already devastated millions of hectares of rainforest in Malaysia and Indonesia. Now large-scale palm oil producers have turned their attention to the Congo Basin rainforests of Central Africa, where more than half a million hectares of forest are imminently threatened.

In the Congo we still have time to prevent the social and environmental tragedies caused by industrial palm oil production in South East Asia. But we need to act now.

*David Mayers*

**We, the people of St Michael's, accept that everyone on this planet is equal in the eyes of God; and that, as members of God's family on earth, we are called to help our brothers and sisters living in poverty both here and in the less developed nations of the world. This help we will give by:**

- trying to live more simply, enjoying what we have and not wasting money on things we do not need
- trying to live more sustainably, not using more than our fair share of the shrinking resources of the world, which are there for all
- living in solidarity with those who live in poverty, supporting them with our prayers, our action and our giving

**In making this commitment we ask for God's blessing on our church community, as we work and pray together for the coming of the Kingdom**



## Open the Book

This Spring term, our "Open the Book" team is visiting Bollinbrook, Christ the King and Ash Grove Primary schools every Thursday morning. We are telling the Easter story through drama, music and storytelling. Each week, after we have visited the three schools, we go back to All Saints church hall to rehearse for the following week.

The team has been together for a number of years and is very organised and professional. I started with them in September 2016 and have been welcomed into a lovely group of very dedicated and joyful people.

We begin with a prayer in the midst of all the hustle and bustle of the beginning of a school day at Bollinbrook. We put our drama and all our worries for the day ahead into God's hands, and off we go! There are two other "Open the Book" teams, so between us, we cover quite a few schools in the Macclesfield area. Anyone interested in joining would be welcomed with open arms!

*Julie Jones*



## Mayor's Prayer Breakfast - 24th February

Early one Friday morning, around 80 people gathered at Macclesfield Town Hall to eat breakfast together and to hear about and pray for the needs of young people in our town.

Having been welcomed by the Mayor, Cllr Alift Harewood-Jones, I couldn't quite hear whether the bidding was "Let us pray" or "Let us spray". Anyway, I'm pleased to report I managed to consume the cereal and pastry whilst chatting with other table guests, succeeding in not spraying Cornflakes over David Rutley MP or a local Headteacher!

We then heard from a number of organizations about the work they do with and for young people in the town, including the Guides & Scouts, Cre8, Just Drop In, Respect Me, as well as the work being done in local schools and the College. Time and again we were reminded of the pressures and stresses young people face, and how access to appropriate and timely

counselling and mental health services is stretched. Please will you pray for young people you know, and have a conversation for them to know they are valued and special.

From me, a big Thank You to everyone involved in hosting the Breakfast. To others, if this article is the first time you've heard about the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, sorry! I'll invite you to attend next time.

*Revd Martin Stephens*



## PLATINUM HAIR SERVICES

Cut and blow	£20.00
Shampoo and Set	£15.00
Shampoo and Blow	£12.00
Dads & Kids under 12	£8.50
Perm	from £35.00
Colouring services	from £30.00
Weddings, proms and hair up	prices on request



I am a qualified hairdresser, charging realistic, affordable prices bringing a professional service to the comfort of your own home. DBS checked for your peace of mind.

**ALL NEW CUSTOMERS CAN RECEIVE THEIR FIRST CUT AND BLOW FOR JUST £15.00**

Call Lorraine on 07840108808

**To advertise**

**please contact**

**linkteammagazine  
@gmail.com**



Tel: Shop - (01625) 424395

Fax - (01625) 511416

Farm - (01625) 574307

12 PARK GREEN, MACCLESFIELD

All Districts Served Daily

# Marshall Spearing

*Family Butcher*

Quality Beef, Pork, Lamb, Poultry and Game

*Specialists for Cooked Meats, Pies, Sausages and Home Freezer Orders*

### Visitors coming? Not much

**room at home?** Comfortable flat in Beech Farm Drive available for short stays. Two single beds, a single sofa bed and long sofa.

Contact Sheila Swarbrick at  
flatsk102eu@phonecoop.coop

**Personalised &  
Individual Care**

*For all your pets*



- 🐾 Dog Walking - am/pm/lunchtimes
- 🐾 Dog Home Boarding
- 🐾 Cat Feeding/Sitting
- 🐾 Small Animal Boarding for bunnies etc
- 🐾 Home visits for care & cuddles
- 🐾 Overnight Home Sitting
- 🐾 Fully Insured & Police Checked
- 🐾 Qualified in Pet First Aid

**We promise to beat your  
home insurance renewal  
by at least £30!**



**stonier**  
Your first call for insurance

Call now for a quote on:  
**01625 423 214**

Proposers must be over 30  
and claim-free for 3 years.  
A standard acceptance criteria applies

Available for residents of postcodes SK9, SK10, SK11 and CW12 only. Offer may be subject to change

[www.stonierinsurance.co.uk](http://www.stonierinsurance.co.uk)

Stonier Insurance 101 Chester Road Macclesfield. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



For more info  
please contact  
David & Tammy on  
t: 07919 403481

e: [cheshireeast@paw-pals.co.uk](mailto:cheshireeast@paw-pals.co.uk)

w: [www.paw-pals.co.uk/cheshireeast](http://www.paw-pals.co.uk/cheshireeast)

# St Michael's candles shine on

Work to ensure that the 90 candles hanging from the ceiling of St Michael's can continue to be lit has been completed.

The job required the removal of the existing candelabras so that they could be cleaned and all of the holding chains replaced, as they were over 100 years old. New chain extensions allow the candelabras to be maintained at a much safer height from the floor, while candles can be lit and replaced more easily for services and town social events.

David Smith co-ordinated a fundraising effort to pay for the work. Macclesfield Town Council provided £2,000 towards the cost of the refurbishment.



## Holy Week Services

### At St Barnabas Church

#### Love and Hate

A reflective art installation using 12 Stations of the Cross:

13th April 5.00pm to 9.00pm

Good Friday 9.00am to 8.00pm

#### Easter Vigil with Fire

On the night of Easter, recalling the story of God's saving work. A real experience of new life amid a passing from darkness to light

Saturday 15th April from 8.30pm

#### Faith: Change Community

The Cre8 Festival

20th to 23rd April

### At United Reformed Church

#### Tenebrae Service for Maundy Thursday

13th April at 7.00pm. Readings and prayers among gradually extinguished candles.

### At St Michael's Church

#### Good Friday Service

14th April at 10.30am

#### Contemplating the Cross

14th April between 2.00pm and 4.00pm in the Savage Chapel. Readings, reflections, silence and music in 30 minute segments.

**Walk the Way of the Cross** - from Friday 7th April  
(see page 9 for more information)





Having got married on Valentine's Day in Scotland, Danny & Vicky shared the celebration of their marriage with their ROAR 'family' and others on 24<sup>th</sup> February at St Michael's Church.

Congratulations

Jill Millward

## Congratulations

With no fewer than four church leaders present, it was Revd David Wightman who officiated at the service. Stirring songs and moving tributes from friends added to the occasion which included prayers and the blessing of their marriage.



The dedication of Phyllis Melvin's gift of flower pedestals took place in the Savage Chapel at St Michael's on 16<sup>th</sup> March. The dedication service was lead by Martin and followed with tea, coffee and cakes in church. (Photo: Derek Kite)

## Calling former pupils and friends of Beech Lane School

Beech Lane School, the former St Michael's church primary school, closed 50 years ago, at Easter 1967, a short time after the opening of our current church school, Bollinbrook. A former pupil of Beech Lane, Peter Miles, is hoping to mark the occasion; he wants to contact any other former pupils, with a view to sharing any photographs or memorabilia of the school, teachers or pupils; to create a display of memorabilia to be shown in St Michael's or elsewhere; and if there is sufficient interest to arrange a social gathering sometime in the summer. Please will anyone interested contact Peter on 424872 or [pandsmiles@ntlworld.com](mailto:pandsmiles@ntlworld.com)

## TEAM CHURCHES APCMS

St Peter's - Sunday 2nd April at 9.30am

St Michael's - Sunday 2nd April at 6:30pm

All Saints - Sunday 23rd April at 9.30am

St Barnabas - Sunday 30th April at 11.15am

Everyone on the electoral roll is welcome to attend. Information is on the noticeboard at the back of each church. Churchwardens and deputy wardens are elected year-by-year so anybody can apply to take one of these roles. At St Michael's there are also vacancies for our three deanery synod representatives and for three PCC members. Sidespeople are also elected on an annual basis. Proposers and seconders are required for all these roles and you must be on the electoral roll.

**Big Church Day Out**  
MADE IN THE UK  
DAY OUT

**NORTH**

**FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> & SAT 3<sup>RD</sup>  
JUNE 2017**

**CAPESTHORPE HALL  
CHESHIRE**

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

**bigchurchdayout.com/2017**

**ASfs****ANDREW SMITH  
FUNERAL SERVICES***The Local Independent Funeral Director*

- *Celebration and Thanksgiving Services tailored to your needs*
- *Simple, low cost Funeral Services*
- *Golden Charter Pre-paid Funeral Plans*
- *Recommended by the Good Funeral Guide and the Natural Death Centre*

Park Green House, 82 Sunderland Street,  
Macclesfield SK11 6HN



Golden Charter  
Funeral Plans 

[www.andrewsmithfuneralservices.co.uk](http://www.andrewsmithfuneralservices.co.uk)

**01625 433 853**

The **co-operative**  
funeralcare

25 High Street  
SK11 8BR  
**01625 422583**

124 Broken Cross  
SK11 8TZ

**01625 425284**

brokencross@letsco-  
operate.com

**Here for you when  
you need us most**



**THE  
Hope  
CENTRE**

*Living, Loving, Serving, Sharing***CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP & COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

16-18 Park Green, Macc SK11 7NA  
01625 404384

Pop in for a warm welcome, proper coffee & delicious food,  
or inspirational books, cards & gifts



Thehopecentremacclesfield



@HopeCentreMacc

**To advertise, please contact [linkteammagazine@gmail.com](mailto:linkteammagazine@gmail.com)**

## K N Motors Repairs & Servicing

1-3 Copper Street  
(off Black Road)  
Macclesfield

01625 614219



**Let our family business take care of your car**



## Quickstep Foot Care

Specialist's in Foot and Lower Limb

Sally Cole MChS HPC Registered Chiropodist/Podiatrist  
BSc (Hons) Podiatry BSc (Hons) Microbiology VTCT IHHS Massage

Mobile service covering all aspects of chiropody in the comfort of your home

Tel: 07849 852347

email: [sally@surefeet.co.uk](mailto:sally@surefeet.co.uk)

Appts: Daytime, evenings and weekends

Web: [www.quickstepfootcare.com](http://www.quickstepfootcare.com)

# Walk the Way of the Cross

St Michael's Church  
7th-17th April 2017



It has been a tradition in many Churches to reflect on the Way of the Cross using 'stations' during Holy Week and particularly on the night of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The Church has always kept alive the words and the events of the last days and hours of Jesus, taken from the words of scripture. The Way of the Cross is a loving, although painful memory of the path Jesus walked to his crucifixion at Calvary. We know that in the memory of every episode on that Way, there lies a gesture of the reality of Christ's love for us all. The purpose of re-living the Way by following these reflections, is to remind ourselves of what Christ did for us at that first Easter and also to reflect on what He does for us daily in our lives.

The twelve stations in this Way of the Cross are images taken from the War in Syria. The purpose of using these images is to prompt reflection on the Way

of the Cross, simply by using a contemporary image.

Each image is accompanied by scripture. The words below the scripture are meant to also prompt reflection on our human situation, our frailness, our capacity to hurt each other and why we so need Christ.

These images intentionally raise many emotions and questions will arise. The installation does not claim to give any answers. The Syria War was chosen because it is close to us and it has affected us all. It is also happening not far from Jerusalem, the place of Jesus' walk and his suffering.

*Tricia Atherton*

## Macclesfield Christian Aid Committee

We are a small committee in Macclesfield & District, raising funds for the world's poorest people. Currently, we are a group of six, representing Anglican, Methodist, URC and Baptist churches in Macclesfield, Bollington and Prestbury.

The following meetings are held annually: in January to plan arrangements for Christian Aid Week; in June to discuss the results of CAW; in October to plan our stall at the Charities Bazaar; and in November we help with the sale of Christmas cards in the temporary shop above the Library. Additionally, we sometimes obtain permission for a supermarket collection. Other fund-raising events are held in individual churches and altogether a good sum of money is raised each year for Christian Aid projects. Excellent support is provided by the regional office, based in Warrington.

You will probably be aware that Christian Aid is one of the largest charities in Britain, encompassing several denominations, and working with partner organisations across the world through which funding is channelled, rather than through governments.

It would be very helpful to our efforts for particular events if we could enlarge our database of people who would be willing to assist us. Our meetings are informal, held in each other's

houses, and we would welcome new members to our small group.

We should be most grateful if you could give this request some thought and if you would like further information please contact me on the telephone number or email below

BERYL NORTH  
Secretary  
01625 615298  
csbnorth@hotmail.co.uk



## Services in April & May

### Hospital Services

**9th April** Revd Barry Langam  
**30th April** Robert Marshall  
**14th May** Revd David Wightman  
**11.00am**  
 St Luke's Chapel,  
 Macclesfield Hospital



Have you ever thought about helping support patients who come to worship? For more information please contact Vicky & Gordon Darlington T: 01625 428215

### Healing Service

**Service of Prayer  
 for Healing & Wholeness**

**7th April  
 5th May  
 12.30pm  
 St Michael's Church**



This service will last about half an hour and all are welcome. It contains intercessions for those who are sick or grieving and there will be an opportunity for those who wish to receive prayer with laying on of hands.

### Midweek Communion

**Thursdays  
 10.30am  
 St Michael's Church**



### Messy Church

**1st April  
 6th May  
 4.00pm - 6.00pm  
 All Saints Church**



It's a once a month time of creativity, worship and eating together for families for whom traditional Sunday Services don't work.

## Events & Notices

### Our Church Toddler Groups

**WEDNESDAYS — 9.30am to 11.00am**  
**St Peter's Church 'Take a Break'**  
 Contact the Team Office: 01625 421984

**WEDNESDAYS — 1.30pm to 3.00pm**  
**All Saints Church '0-5 Club'**  
 Contact Shirley Hill: 01625 426874

**THURSDAYS — 10.00am to 11.30am**  
**St Michael's Church**  
 Contact Ruth Parker: 01625 613068

### Music at Mike's

**Next concerts**  
**19th May  
 23rd June  
 1.15pm**

A programme of concerts at St Michael's for your entertainment by King's School musicians.

Free admission and light refreshments served.

### Church or hall bookings

#### All Saints

Jim Donaldson 01625 619050  
 jacjim@ntlworld.com

#### St Barnabas

Jonathan Aiken 07515 410170  
 jonathanstewartaiken@gmail.com

#### St Michael's

Emma Kingdom: 01625 421984  
 stmichaelscoordinator@gmail.com

#### St Peter's

Mike Boardman: 01625 428646

### St Michael's is Open

Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 12.30pm. Call in for a look round or refreshments.

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>All Saints</b> Brough Street West	<b>St Barnabas</b> Lyme Avenue	<b>St Michael &amp; All Angels</b> In the Market Place	<b>St Peter's</b> Windmill Street
<b>2nd April</b>	9.30am Informal Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
<b>9th April</b>	9.30am Morning Worship	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Morning Prayer 6.30pm Choral Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>16th April</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i>	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service with Communion 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
<b>23rd April</b>	9.30am Morning Worship	11.15am Cre8 Sunday	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Worship For All
<b>30th April</b>	9.30am Informal Worship	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Treacle Service	No service
<b>7th May</b>	9.30am Informal Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
<b>14th May</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Morning Prayer 6.30pm Choral Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>21st May</b>	9.30am Morning Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service with Communion 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Worship For All
<b>28th May</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Treacle Service	9.30am Worship For All

# St Peter's Church at Conwy

**N**ot exactly hostelling, but just under 50 people from St Peter's spent a weekend together at the YHA base in Conwy. It's a marvellous venue with a big dual aspect view of the lovely surroundings. The group was a real cross-section of ages and it was lovely to have two young families with us. We had a 'loose' programme of events and activities, with lots of fellowship time and relaxation in between.

On the Saturday we could choose to get creative using the local church for inspiration - they have some very special stained glass windows - whilst back at the hostel there were workshops on creating videos, silk-painting, calligraphy, lantern-making and biscuit-cooking. We were also treated to nine fascinating 'Ted' talks - short presentations about a wide array of subjects, each injected with passion and insight. They were really informative.

On Sunday we held our communion service in which we brought together many of our weekend activities.

Our theme for the weekend was 'Letting in the Light'. Alongside Bible readings & prayers, we also considered lyrics from one of Leonard Cohen's songs:

*Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack in everything  
That's how the light gets in.*

When you meet with others only briefly on Sundays for worship, it's easy not to see, or to ignore, the cracks in people's lives. Being away with one another for a couple of days was special because we got to see and hear at a deeper level - to value the Light that we find within, and to appreciate people's honesty as they shared of themselves.

Thank you so much, organisers and facilitators, you did a great job.

*Revd Martin Stephens*



## Link

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Link. If you would like to submit news, an article or photos, please email [linkteammagazine@gmail.com](mailto:linkteammagazine@gmail.com) or hand in your contribution at the Team Office. The deadline for the June/July edition is **5th May 2017**. The views expressed in this edition of Link do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial team or the PCCs of the churches.