



Summer Issue 2016
31st July - 28th August

Men@St J We have a range of activities for men. The monthly breakfasts, usually on the 3rd Saturday in the town, are very popular. We also have a cricket team which plays roughly 5 games a year. The emphasis is on fun so don't worry if you're not a Ben Stoakes! If you would like more information please contact Peter Taylor (see Directory). Alternatively if you just fancy coming along to watch and enjoy a beer and a chat one of us will be there. If you would like any more information about Men@St J please contact David Donald (see Directory).

Shooting Stars

Shooting Stars was started in the Autumn term of 2014, as an after school club for primary school aged children, by Lee Buck and Ben and Tors Jones. For the past year Lee Buck has continued running the club with a group of volunteers. The last Shooting Stars of this school year was held on the 20th July where the group had a party concluding their recent series on Joseph, saying goodbye to Lee and rounding off the end of term. Claire Coleman, our Interim Children's Youth and Families minister (CYFM), will be taking over the club in September with the first Shooting Stars club being held on Wednesday 7th September, 4:00pm to 5:15pm. There is a great team being built up around this fantastic work and a desire to see children continue to grow in the love of God, in faith and in friendship with one another. Thanks to all those who have been involved in this ministry up to now and do pray for those moving forward with this work, for the children, and for the families we are in contact with.

Open the Book

Our Open the Book team visit the Primary Academy alternate Thursday mornings to present a Bible story to Years 2 and 3. Our first practice in September is on the 8th and our school visit the 15th. If you feel you might enjoy taking part (it only involves a bit of dressing up and possibly learning just one or two lines of dialogue) do get in touch with me or Steve B, who is hoping to start another team to join him on his visits to Mundella School.

We will also be holding another Prayer Week at the Primary Academy from October 17th-20th. Marj Francis

Saturday 27th August 2016 - shorter walk

Starting at Peene Station and lasting 1½ hours. Ask Corinne Hyde for details.

Get Connected

Welcome to St John's!

We warmly welcome you if you are visiting us today. If you would like to know more about the life of St John's do collect a welcome pack, available at all our services.

At our 10:45 service you can go to our Welcome Desk near the door where someone will be able to give you a Welcome Pack and answer any questions you may have.

Refreshments are available in the Church Hall after the All Stars and 10:45 am services. Do join us for coffee and a chat.

In the Summertime

The writer of Ecclesiastes (possibly King Solomon) tells us that there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven (Chapter 3:1). The summer season is a time when many people will take holidays and seek a time of refreshment.

Many of our regular groups will be taking a break during August so that the leaders can take a well deserved rest. Normal service will however be resumed in September and details of many of these activities can be found in this summer edition of Get Connected.

Every blessing

Steve Bradford

Church office: 01303 246422 admin@stjohnsfolkestone.org
www.stjohnsfolkestone.org
[facebook.com/StJohnsChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurch) Folkestone
[twitter.com/@StJohnsChurchFS](https://twitter.com/StJohnsChurchFS)



Please note the Church Office will be closed from 27th July to 18th August and on the 22nd August.

What's on - dates and activities....

August All Stars Light - During the month of August All Stars is going to use the film 'Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs' as inspiration for our time together. There will be opportunities to enjoy some breakfast, watch sections of the movie and take part in various activities that stimulate our thinking on some key themes within the movie and the Bible. We hope it will be a lighter way to engage with God over the month of August and our aim is that all ages will be able to connect to what God wants to teach us.

On Fizz is a housegroup style youth group started by Lee Buck and co-led with Emma Creeden. They have been enjoying times of food and fun hosted in Lee and AD's home, and once a month, worked through Youth Alpha. Since Lee and AD are moving on this summer, Emma Creeden will continue this group with the help of Yvette Sutton and others. They will move location to Grace Taylor Hall and meet on Thursdays 7-8:30pm during term times. Our Interim Children's Youth and Families Minister (CYFM), Claire Coleman, will oversee this group. Claire, Emma and Yvette have met together to plan for the new term beginning Thursday 8th September. Their mission statement is: "On Fizz aims to be a safe place for teenagers to grow in friendship and be nurtured in faith through games, activities, God's word in the Bible and in prayer." It is an exciting chapter in our journey of faith here at St. John's and we would gratefully appreciate prayerful support as we continue this great work.

If you would like further information you can approach any of the team at church or email Emma at emmacreeden1@gmail.com.

Also, if you would be able to support On Fizz by being on a rota to provide puddings for the weekly meeting please contact Emma. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated!

Primetime Wednesday September 7th is our first Primetime of the new era without a paid Primetime worker, a post which ends on August 31st. From September, Primetime will meet during term time only and will be facilitated each week by teams of three volunteers, primarily from our congregations. At the moment we have sixteen volunteers and could benefit from having two more to join one of the teams. This would mean that we can have six full teams of three who then only have to do two sessions per term (very occasionally three). The idea is to enable Primetime, a valuable part of our St. John's family, to continue to meet on Wednesday afternoons which is preferable for them. Frances Morgan will be co-ordinating the teams who will host an afternoon of tea, cakes and activities of their choice. This might include bringing in an external speaker or musician, hosting bingo or a quiz or leaving the Primetimers to entertain themselves with scrabble or a beetle drive (Primetime favourites). This is a new era and change can be a challenging time, please pray that the teams of volunteers would grow in confidence, in building relationships with one another and the wider Primetime community and that we would see this work continue to flourish.

Getting to Grips with the Bible

As part of our vision to grow as disciples I will be leading a 5 week course on Wednesday evenings, starting on the 12th October, exploring the 39 books of the Old Testament. I intend to run a similar course during Lent 2017 on the books of the New Testament. The sessions will begin at 7:30pm and conclude promptly at 9:30pm. The venue will be decided once we know how many people would like to attend.

The 5 sessions are as follows:

Week 1 - An overview of the Old Testament and the Creator's instructions (Genesis to Deuteronomy)

Week 2 - A Land and a Kingdom (Joshua to 2 Kings)

Week 3 - Worship and Wisdom Literature (Psalms to Job)

Week 4 - The Decline and Fall of an Empire (The Prophets)

Week 5 - The Struggle to Survive (post-exilic books and 1&2 Chronicles)

If you would like to be included please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of church or email me at stevejbradford@btinternet.com or phone me on 01303 211037.

Harvest

Harvest service followed by lunch 2nd October. Tickets for hot lunch £5 adults, £2 children. On sale from 11th September.

Taylor Toddlers at Grace Taylor Hall

Babies, toddlers and pre-school children play together while parents and carers enjoy a cup of coffee and a friendly chat on Wednesdays in term time from 10:00am - 11:30am. We will be re-starting on 7th September.

Twiglets in St John's Church Hall

A fun activity session for pre-school children and their parents or carer. Come and play, enjoy crafts, a Bible story, a song and a snack. We meet on Thursday during term time from 1:15 - 2:45pm. We re-start on 14th September.

Craft Club

We meet at Grace Taylor Hall on the first Tuesday of the month between 2:00-4:00pm to try out a different craft each time. We then make something for a gift or for the home. We explore patchwork, card-making, pincraft, plus lots more. We have made Christmas mats, table-runners, fabric-covered boxes, cushions, cards for all occasions and many other useful things. We enjoy good company and a good chat too. We re-start on 6th September.