

Churches working together to provide a fun-filled week for all!

Lighthouse DAILY NEWS

Friday 1 August 2008 • Lighthouse Thame 2008 • www.lighthousehame.org.uk • 07722 08895



Thursday's Lunch Box Challenge: crazy hats



KidzKlub Thame starts in October! Working closely with Lighthouse, KidzKlub will offer the same flavour of fun, activity and learning. Once a month, for an hour, on a Saturday morning.

We expect that the limited spaces will go quickly – so book your place now!

More information and application forms from the Admin tent or www.kidzklubthame.org



Visit us online!

Daily photo updates at www.lighthousehame.org.uk



The final countdown...

For the kids in the main Lighthouse programme, the climatic conclusion of the day has been the countdown to the gunge tank. Children have voted for Lighthouse adults who they want to gunge. The 4 leading candidates are brought onto stage and the final vote is cast by the time-honoured means of the loudest cheer!

Monday saw mainstager Jim in the tank, and Tuesday it was the turn of Vicar Ian 'Mounty' Mountford. Wednesday saw a local retained fire-fighter and parent joining Lamplighter 'Captain Jack' in the gunge tank. Mainstager Andy Clamp got it Thursday and that Linda Newton will be gunged by the end of the week is a cert: the only question is *when!*

The talk of the town

According to the grapevine, Lighthouse has become the talk of the town through the sheer scale of the initiative and numbers of kids involved. One neighbour said, "I had no idea it was so big. I wish I'd sent my kids!"

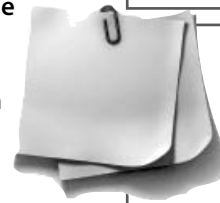
Lighthouse 2009 dates are already in *our* diary 20-24 July 2009, so get them in *your*

diary, tell your friends and visit the website in Spring 2009 for an application form. (Places will be limited by the number of volunteer helpers, so get your application in as soon as you can!)

Ongoing fun?

However, today is not the end of the story...

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Donations

Lighthouse Thame costs £33,000 to run! Half of this is subsidised by supporting local churches and we rely on parental donations to meet the remaining £40/child.

If you are able, please make donations in the postbox in the Admin tent. Please use an envelope so we can reclaim the Gift Aid. Thank you!





Checkout our website!

Visit the Lighthouse Thame website for...

- Songs (words & music)
- Event photos
- Event video (eventually!)
- Cool links
- Information about future events for kids in Thame, including Lighthouse 2009

Visit us at www.lighthousehame.org.uk
www.thamechurchesunited.org

For technical reasons, some Lighthouse content is hosted on our parent site thamechurchesunited.org



Lighthouse is a Christian holiday week for local children and young people run by volunteers from local churches. Contact us during the week only on 07722 088895 or visit www.lighthousehame.org.uk

- Barley Hill Church, Thame
- Christchurch, Thame
- community church thame
- Cornerstone Church, Thame
- Church of Good Shepherd, Hadd.
- Haddenham Baptist Church
- Haddenham Methodist
- Long Crendon Baptist Church
- Oasis Church, Thame
- Our Lady of Light, Long Crendon
- St Catherine's, Towersey
- St Joseph's, Thame
- St Mary's, Haddenham
- St Mary's, Long Crendon
- St Mary's, Thame
- St Nicholas, Chearsley
- St Peter & St Paul, Dinton

We operate as part of a registered charity (1071892).

We operate strict child protection policies.

We are closely related to thamechurchesunited.org, a partnership of churches in and around Thame, working together for the community

www.thamechurchesunited.org

thamechurchesunited
serving people in and around Thame



The final countdown (continued)

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Many kids, who perhaps don't normally enjoy 'church' will have enjoyed the high energy mixture of games, music and learning. Some of our partner churches are offering ongoing opportunities, for example KidzKlub Thame. We will publish details of other initiatives on the ThameChurchesUnited website as we hear about them.

Grown-ups too!

We hope you've enjoyed seeing your kids enjoying the week. Some of you might be asking fresh questions about the Christian faith.



Parent Lisa

Each day in Lighthouse News we talk with one of the people involved with Lighthouse. Today, we meet parent Lisa Whose -Surname-We-Forgot-To-Write-Down - sorry!

Lisa, how did you come to send your kids to Lighthouse?

I consider myself a lapsed or dormant Christian. I am currently doing an *Alpha* Course, and through people there heard about Lighthouse and decided to send my kids. They're having a great time!

Could you tell us a bit more about how you came to be doing Alpha?

As I said, I didn't consider myself religious, but my mum and a Christian friend in Bristol kept pestering me, so I went along to Barley Hill Church a couple of times (I live just next door, so it was the natural place to go). I met Stephen and Judith, who were about to start an *Alpha* Course, and decided to give it a go.

Tell us a bit about Alpha: have you enjoyed it? How do you feel the leaders have handled it?

Many local churches now offer opportunities to ask any question about the Christian faith, in a no-holds-barred, no-question-off-limits environment. Courses like *Alpha* and *Journeys* are set in an informal context, often with a meal, and provide a safe context where no question is "too silly" or "off limits". ■

For info about courses in the area please visit www.thamechurchesunited.org (If you're leading an *Alpha* course or similar, and want to list it online please contact us via the website.)

"WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?"

If God did exist what would you ask? alpha.org

Parents' Ponderings



This daily column will help you understand what your child(ren) have been learning about today!

Today's theme is *Decoration*, and deals with the reward when the race is completed.

Everyone wants to be a winner! No-one likes to be last. How many of us remember being at school when the teams were chosen. Did you ever get left to last, because no-one really wanted you? Or did you come second in a race, and were disappointed because everyone was focused on the Number 1 winner - being Number 2 was of no interest to anyone!?

It's a good job that God is not like that with us! God wants there to be no losers in the *race of life*, just winners!

In fact, to be more accurate, if we ran that *race of life* in our own strength, we'd all be losers. We all fall short of the mark. As Lisa says (see left), we've all "made a complete mess of our lives" and we desperately need God's help. God designed us to live lives that are 'good' and not 'messed up', but right from the start mankind 'messed up' and has been 'messing up' ever since.

Fortunately, God knew that and came up with a plan to rescue us from our self-imposed mess. (That's what Jesus did for us.) If we admit our need of rescue God will rescue us - and what's more, he will keep *helping* us run the race of life, so we can **all** be winners in the race of life! ■

Daily Parents' Ponderings by
Andy O'Connell and Ian Mountford