

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

Lighthouse DAILY NEWS

Thursday 31 July 2008 • Lighthouse Thame 2008 • www.lighthousehame.org.uk • 07722 08895



Lighthouse Parent & Toddler session listening to the mainstage team at the Rugby Club

It just get's better!

Lighthouse just keeps getting better. The weather is fantastic (if a little hot!). The kids are great. The programme is superb. Our band *Lighthouse Rocks* – er, rocks (at least, most of the time!)

Wednesday's fun-packed day saw a local retained fire-fighter joining Lamplighter 'Captain Jack' in the gunge tank.

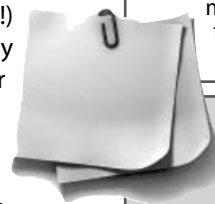
We were visited by a team from the original Great Misenden Lighthouse, who were very impressed with "our professionalism" and "with the way the team were clearly en-

joying themselves."

We've also been working with the press to get some coverage in this week's Thame Gazette and Herald Group papers. So look out for a cherubic picture of a certain vicar...

Halo:gen, the evening programme of games, chill, sports, talks and music for Lamplighters and invited friends, is also

going very well – aided by (or perhaps hindered by?) the leadership of Paddy Harris (Youth Pastor Long Crendon Baptist) and Pete Stratton (Youth Leader, Barley Hill Church). Last night (Wednesday) saw a fantastic gig with band Electralyte. ■



Welcome all the family at 4pm Friday!

Our end-of-Lighthouse Celebration event is 4-5pm Friday. Bring everyone: mum and dad, the kids, the granny, the dog (no, on second thoughts, not the dog!). It's a great opportunity for your kids to show you what they've been doing all week.

Visit us online!

Daily photo updates at www.lighthousehame.org.uk



Parent's Cafe

Our Parent's Cafe is open daily at drop off and pick up times in the main entrance tent.

Fresh coffee & cakes will be available (yum!) and we will also be selling Lighthouse merchandise.



Lunchbox challenge

Friday's lunchbox challenge is to dress like your Lighthouse Keeper!



Thursday 31 Birthdays

Sara Gaultney (Lighthouse Keeper)



Please remember for tomorrow!

Please remember to apply suncream, bring sun hats and a (full) water bottle.

Lost property: All your child's mislaid clobber can be found in the Admin tent.

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!



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



Lighthouse Thame 2008

July 28 - August 1

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](http://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



7 out of 10 believe in God

In a recent poll, 7 out of 10 people said they 'believed in God', but most of them had a negative view of the Christian faith.



To help such people (you might be one of them?) explore questions of faith, spirituality and meaning, 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 – or visit www.alphacourse.org. ■

In tomorrow's Lighthouse News, the story of Lighthouse parent Lisa's hot-off-the-press experience of Alpha.

(If you're leading an Alpha course or similar, and want to list it online please contact us via the website.)



Wednesday's Lunch Box Challenge: Crazy hair!

Church Rep Mary Higgs

Each day in Lighthouse News we plan to meet one of the volunteers on the team. Today, we meet Mary Higgs who has been part of the organising committee, and on site, is a 'Lighthouse Keeper' leading a small group.

Mary, how did you come to be involved in Lighthouse?

Before Lighthouse started, Linda Newton and Dianne Brackley offered to visit each church leadership to explain the vision of the project. When they visited Christchurch in February 2007, where I was previously Church Secretary, I decided that I should be involved in Lighthouse, and offered to represent Christchurch on the committee. (I decided to volunteer, before I was volunteered by someone!)

And, why did you want to get involved in Lighthouse?

I enjoy working with children and young people. It's also good to see churches working together. Too often we're 'segregated', when in fact we have the same God and the same sense of purpose. I think churches are a bit like cars: one will choose to drive a Ford, while another prefers a BMW – but at the end of the day they're all cars, and we're all going in the same direction.

Also, the church is often 'segregated' from the wider community, and Lighthouse is one initiative to better connect the church to the community. ■



Parents' Ponderings

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

When you think of the great Olympic competitors, what names come to mind? Daley Thompson, Steve Redgrave, Denise Lewis?

Among them you may never have heard of Gilbert Tuhabonye. Gilbert is from Burundi, and from the time he was young, Gilbert loved running. At 14 his coach said to him, "Son, you can be the best. Not just the best around here, but around the world." Then in 1993 he was terribly injured during the civil war in that country. The burns he received were so bad that for three months he could not move, and thought he would never run again.

But Gilbert fought back, and 13 months later started running again, beginning slowly and daily building up distance and speed. He returned to his coach, and although terribly scarred, this did not stop him running.

Since then, he has gone on to become national champion, inspire others with his own coaching and charitable work enabling children from all backgrounds to run.

His story is inspiring because it is one of true dedication, which is what the children have been learning about today – the spirit in us that, when we love and believe in something, refuses to be defeated.

Winston Churchill once gave a speech that went, "Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in." That is dedication.

Jesus was dedicated to one mission, rescuing people from the consequences of the mess inside us. And Jesus wants us to live lives dedicated to him. When we do, he promises to never, ever leave us. That is dedication too. ■

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