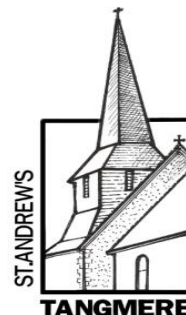


# Your local - Church News

October 2013

Saint Andrews Rectory  
21 Gibson Road, Tangmere, PO20 2JA  
Telephone: 01243 785089  
Email: [info@standrewstangmere.co.uk](mailto:info@standrewstangmere.co.uk)



## A Message from Fr Derek Humphrey -

Beloved in Christ, Heaven is our homeland - here we are merely strangers and pilgrims. We pass through this world as a child passes through school, preparing for the adult life ahead. Thus the way we use, the time given to us as we pass through this world, is of very great importance. Jesus says to each one of us "You are a small cog in a big machine, but you are vital to my work. Therefore give me your mind, to fill with my thoughts. Give me your heart to fill with my love. Give me your will, that I may breathe my power into it. Give me your defects and I will cure them. Give me your faults, and I will pardon them. Give me your talents, and I will develop them. Give me your worries, and I will disperse them. Give me your sorrows, and I will sooth them. Give me your crosses, and I will teach you how to carry them. Go forward in confidence, because of your Communion, I am in you, and you are in me." Our faith begins not in the stable at Christmas, but outside the tomb on Easter day. The resurrection of Jesus is our beginning and our end. The message Jesus gives at each resurrection appearance is, "Fear not - my peace be with you." The resurrection of Jesus shows us that it is faithfulness and not success that is required. The crucifixion shows us that in this world we do not know what in the eyes of God success is, or what is failure. In eternity we may well discover that our great 'failure' was in fact our greatest triumph - it depends only on the amount of 'God-love' we put into each effort.

So then, as we begin our ministry here together in Tangmere and Oving, remember that each of us will work in our own vitally important way to spread the Kingdom of God even further and deeper into the hearts and lives of the people of our parish.

It will of course take me a while to put the right names to the right faces, so do be patient with me - and thank you all for the wonderful welcome I have already received. Although I am here for what the diocese call 'light duty', please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, on any matter, but especially in cases of sickness or hospitalisation. If I am not at home, please leave a message on the answer-phone. I also wish to take the Blessed Sacrament to any housebound communicant - just let me know. I hope too, that all your needs regarding worship and prayer, discussions and questions will be openly and gladly expressed to me during my time here.

My love and prayers to, and for, you all.      *Father Derek*

### **Sleepover report** *by Anna and Natasha Wilson*

Our first church sleepover took place on Saturday 13 July 2013. The fun began at 7pm with a game in the churchyard; playing cards were hidden and we had to find all those in our group's suit. Everyone worked well in their teams but the boys group won by finding the most cards and the joker cards too! We then had a BBQ dinner of tasty burgers and sausages. Everyone had a laugh sitting around the BBQ roasting marshmallows; they were delicious too, even though we felt a bit sick afterwards! It started getting dark but the children weren't tired. So we then played a great game of Pompom 123. We ran around chasing each other and laughing. But before we knew it, it was time to go inside to get ready for bed! We put on our pyjamas and got into our sleeping bags. Before we went to sleep, we played wink murder. It was great fun and everyone had a laugh. We slept on the floor of the church and it was actually quite comfy! The brave adults slept with us in the church, but they slept on the chairs and that didn't look very comfy at all! Somehow everyone managed to get some sleep in the end. The next morning we woke up, sharing stories of how our night had been! We then got dressed and had bacon sandwiches for breakfast, before another quick game of Pompom 123. It was so much fun and everyone wanted to play again and again! We had a great time and can't wait for next year's sleepover. Thank you to everyone who organised it and for putting up with a bunch of giggling children for the night!

**Churchyard working party date: October 19<sup>th</sup> 9-12 noon.** Do come along to help tidy the churchyard for the winter.

