



# THE ARTS & CREATIVITY



Choir 1990s



The Choir 2013

Music plays a very important part in the worship at St Michael's and central to this is the organ and our regular choir, which includes talented musicians and singers, several of whom are members of local or national choirs and choral societies.

Over the years the choir has enhanced many services with performances of specially written pieces in addition to more traditional liturgical music.

Amersham Music Festival has chosen on many occasions to hold a Festival Eucharist in the church, where Sung Masses by composers such as Mozart and Bach have been performed by a special Festival Choir. New members, especially boys and girls aged 7 upwards, are always welcome. Please contact the Parish Administrator for details. Choir practice takes place every Wednesday evening from 7 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. and on Sunday at 9.10 a.m., before the service.

Choir Festivals, school carol concerts, organ recitals and a Musicathon event have all enriched the musical life of the church. At all these events our wonderful and recently-restored Walker organ has played a major role in accompanying the performances.



Parents & children formed a music group to play for the 2Gether service



Young members of the church dance during a service



Jen Steele dances through the church



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Joseph



Joseph

On a lighter note we have been regaled over the years with 'home-grown' theatricals: musicals, such as 'Joseph,' and pantomimes, including Cinderella, Aladdin and Alice in Wonderland, a great opportunity to see old friends in a new light!



Alice in Wonderland



Aladdin



Cinderella



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Fay with her banners

We have been fortunate over the years in having many artistically gifted members of the congregation who have willingly used their talents for the enhancement of our building and our worship. Examples range from beautiful floral arrangements to the altar frontals embroidered by one church member and the banners designed and made by another. In recent years, as part of Bucks Open Studios month, the church has hosted an exhibition by the Simpatico group of artists. This wonderful and uplifting exhibition has led to a most successful outreach group, Pop in and Paint. Here anyone who wants to express their creative side can try their hand at painting and drawing, with gentle encouragement from Liz and Jenny, two of the Simpatico artists. Its popularity has extended far beyond St Michael's members and now anything up to 30 people can be found enjoying themselves discovering their creativity.

Poetry also has played its part, both in services and in our one time poetry corner, with some of the poems being written by church members. It has also provided a focus for meditation in the Quiet Garden, which was established as part of the St Michael's Square project.



Pop in and Paint



Altar frontal



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Amersham Town Band



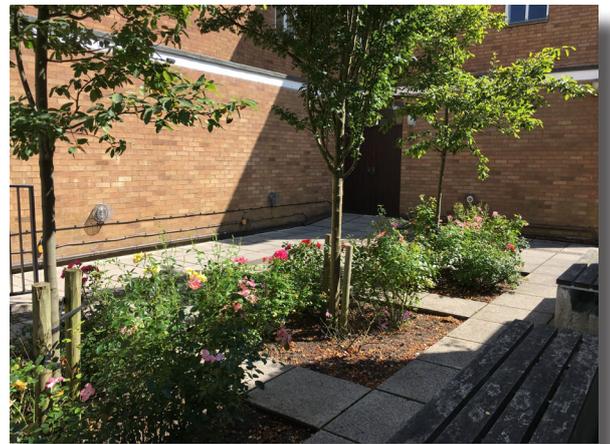
A Capella perform in the old forecourt



The opening of St Michael's Square has led to opportunities for entertaining a wider audience and performances have been given by our church choir, Amersham A Capella and the Amersham Town band, among others. At Christmas the square is the focal point for the late-night shopping evening, providing a venue for carol singing and music.



The Quiet Garden



The Garden Group maintain the Quiet Garden and the flower beds