

Easter 2009

Earlier this year a headline caught my eye:

Red tape is preventing a Polish man from returning from the dead. (Reuters) The article was about Piotr Kucy, from the city of Polkowice in southwest Poland. He was wrongly identified by authorities as a drowned man, only to show up a few days after his own funeral. Despite pointing out the fact that he was alive to government officials, Mr Kucy still remains dead in official records, stopping him from working. "But on the bright side" he told a local newspaper "I no longer have to pay taxes."

When Jesus came back from the dead it wasn't just the authorities who didn't know what to do about it, it seems the disciples were unsure what to do. Even after they had seen Jesus at least twice Peter still feels the need to go and do something familiar – something normal – and he goes fishing. There was still unfinished business, Peter knew that Jesus was alive, but after his denial would he accept him back, could Jesus have room for someone who let him down once again? What he hadn't counted on was the amazing grace of God. No matter how often we let him down the good news of the Easter story is that Christ died so that we may be forgiven and rose from the grave so that we could have new life as His people.

I recently read a book which used in car satellite navigation to illustrate God's grace. I don't what I don't think about 'Sat Nav' I couldn't live without ours now. Not only has it made journeys shorter and the car calmer, but our 'Sat Nav' can be attached to my motorbike and can take me on

scenic bike routes recommended by other bikers! In the book the author says that the great thing about the 'Sat Nav' is that when you fail to follow the instructions you've been given by this very calm female, you expect to be told off! You might be expecting the words "You idiot! I told you to turn left and you went straight on! How do you ever expect to get where you are going if you cannot obey simple instructions?" But, no, what you get is a period of silence and then the calm voice again, completely unruffled giving you further instructions as if nothing had happened at all. She quietly redirects you onto an alternative route.

In other words, she starts from where you are, and takes you from there to where you are to be. This is the same as God's grace. The truth is we all get things wrong and make mistakes, we can act foolishly and selfishly and make poor judgements, but it is never final. God has an extraordinary way of taking us from where we are, without flap or panic and directing us to where we should be.

The journey of Lent and Easter takes us through the sins we have committed and the sacrifice Christ gave for us, Easter is another chance for us, like Peter, to leap out of the boat and share with our Risen Lord.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Honorary Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Reader	Linda Dean	328658
Churchwarden	Iris Brown	565956
Churchwarden	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	234409
PCC Treasurer	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
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Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Bass	363156
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Flower Arrangers	Jeanne Elsey	357622
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Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Good Shepherd Players	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Good Shepherd Players	Ruth Banger	234409
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Historic Churches Cycle Ride	Ros Lund	565303
House Group	Terry Barringer	424584
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Ann Callar	357694
Lesson Readers	Lilas Davison	354300
Monday Club	Eva Hutson	574070
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Planned Giving Secretary	Lilas Davison	354300
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Tom Shipp	353734
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristans	Ian & Else Catchpole	474540
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Iris Brown	565956
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Henry Disney	359396
Social Events Co-ordinator	Evelyn Walker	364067
Sound System	John Lamont	565559

READINGS FOR APRIL

Sundays and holy days

- 5 PALM SUNDAY – ALL AGE
John 12: 12-16
- 12 EASTER SUNDAY – ALL AGE
Acts 10: 34-43
John 20: 1-18
- 19 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 4: 32-35
John 20: 19 - end
- 26 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 13: 12-19
Luke 24: 36-48

Wednesdays

- 8 Acts 10: 34-43
John 20: 1-18
- 15 Acts 4: 32-35
John 20: 19 – end
- 22 Acts 13: 12-19
Luke 24: 36-48
- 29 Acts 4: 5-12
John 10: 11-18



MEETINGS IN APRIL

Monday April 20 Standing Committee meets at 7.30pm at 56 Harding Way
Sunday April 26 Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 11.30am

REGULAR SERVICES IN APRIL

- Sundays 8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
(first Sunday in the month is an All-Age service)
- Mondays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Tuesdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer

The Church will be closed between Monday April 13 and Saturday April 18 inclusive. There will be a Communion Service on Wednesday April 15.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN APRIL

Palm Sunday (April 5)

All Age Communion for Palm Sunday with procession around the Church at 10am.
Evening meditation for Holy Week with music at 4pm

Maundy Thursday (April 9)

Wedding at 12.30pm
Holy Communion at 7.30pm

Good Friday (April 10)

Act of witness with other churches in North Cambridge (watch the weekly bulletin nearer the time for details)
Service of Meditation at 2pm

Easter Day (April 12)

Holy Communion at 6am and 10am. The 10am service will be an All Age event. Breakfast will be served between the two services and there will be an Easter Egg hunt after the 10am service.

EVENTS IN APRIL

Sunday April 5 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall.
Sunday April 5 at 7pm Social Evening in the Carlton Arms
Wednesday April 22 at 7.30pm Quiz Evening and Bring & Share Supper



A Place apart – Three days at St. Cuthman's

St Cuthman's, named after a seventh century local saint, is a retreat house situated in Sussex between Horsham and Billingshurst. We first heard about it from the late Sue Shimmels who was a member of our church for the last two years of her life, and this February we spent three days there.

Many retreat houses run programmes and courses about particular aspects of spirituality, but St Cuthman's does not do that. Administered by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, it operates on an ecumenical basis, and welcomes all who simply seek time apart from the pressures and routine of daily life. As its brochure says, 'All who seek quiet, space and time apart are welcome, whether it is to read, reflect, pray, or simply rest and enjoy the surroundings.'

And what wonderful surroundings they are! The house, which dates from the seventeenth century, is large and tile-hung, and is beautifully situated in extensive grounds where lawns and gardens slope gently down to a large lake which is rich in bird life. The grounds extend far beyond the gardens, and it is possible to walk right round the lake, glimpsing ever-changing views of it through woods and clearings. From the orchard, the South Downs can be seen on the horizon. Inside the rooms are warm and welcoming, with beamed ceilings and panelling and, when we were there, blazing log fires kept out the February cold. There is also a wonderful library which guests are free to read in and borrow books from. There is a wide range of spiritual reading, but other tastes are also catered for, including a substantial section of thrillers! The food is excellent home cooking, and meals can be eaten either in a silent dining room or in the ordinary dining room where you can chat and get to know other guests.

Guests' rooms – either individual or twin – are centrally heated and extremely comfortable with en suite facilities, and our room was surprisingly spacious with panoramic views over the lake. At least one room is adapted for disabled use and is wheelchair accessible.

If requested beforehand, St Cuthman's will arrange spiritual direction for any guest staying there, but we were glad simply to use the time for relaxation, prayer, walking and reading. We were greatly helped by the morning and evening prayers which were held in the simple chapel whose east wall is just a plain glass window overlooking trees, an inlet of the lake and a grassy bank which, when we were there, was covered with snowdrops. Prayers started with a piece of meditative music, and this was followed by a short daily office with ample time for silent reflection and intercession. Guests staying in the house were prayed for by name each morning and evening – a simple thing but something which made us feel cared for and valued. The chapel was also open all day for individual prayer and meditation.

All the printed information about St Cuthman's is prefaced by Jesus' words: ***Come all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.*** For us it certainly was a place of rest and refreshment, both physical and spiritual, and somewhere where it was possible to find a deeper sense of God's presence and love. We would certainly recommend it.

Rex and Liz Collinson

Further information can be obtained from St Cuthman's, Coolham, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 8QL Tel 01403 741220 or from the website: www.stcuthmans.com

Obviously there is a charge for staying at St Cuthman's, but a bursary fund is available to help those who need assistance with the cost.

There are, of course, many other retreat centres and organizations throughout the UK, including a number in East Anglia. Details are available in the publication *RETREATS* obtainable from The Retreat Association, The Central Hall, 256 Bermondsey Street, LONDON SE1 3UJ Tel 020 7357 7736. Details are also available on the website: www.retreats.org.uk

Some pictures of St. Cuthman's



Charitable Giving

The PCC would be happy to receive suggestions for the next annual distribution of charitable giving which will be considered at the May PCC meeting. If you have a charity you would like to suggest, let the PCC Secretary or Treasurer know. We cannot guarantee that your chosen charity will be successful, but we can guarantee that it will be considered. Over to you!

Remember those Church Christmas cards we *didn't* send?!

Thank you all so much for the fantastic £145.00 that you have raised, in lieu of sending Christmas cards, to help FARM-Africa! It is a brilliant achievement and we really are very grateful to you.

With your support FARM-Africa continues to help whole communities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Southern Sudan. All our projects have a common theme - we help some of the poorest families to make a better future for themselves.

FARM-Africa helps children in Tanzania to learn practical farming skills at school. As part of this, 13 year old Jesca has joined a pupils home working group which FARM-Africa helped set up. Using her new farming skills and knowledge, and some seeds from FARM-Africa, Jesca planted a small vegetable plot where she grew cabbages, carrots, tomatoes, peppers and onions.

With plenty of hard work and support, she really is showing signs of being a farmer and business woman of the future! Not only has Jesca and her family grown enough vegetables to eat, there was even plenty spare to sell. The money they earned from the market has helped pay for school books, medicines, clothes and some more seeds for next season. Jesca has even managed to save some money too!

With your help, FARM-Africa will be able to reach out to many more families like Jesca's - giving them the support they need for a healthy harvest in years to come.

This just wouldn't be possible unless people like you played their part - so thank you once again.

[Letter from Farm Africa]



I have a number of Inkjet cartridges I no longer need;

Canon No 41, suitable for Pixma series

ip1200/ip1600/ip1700/ip1800/ip2200/ip2500/ip6210D/ip6220D/mp150/mp160/mp170/mp180/mp450/mp460.

Also IJT cartridges for Canon BJC 3000/6000.s00/450/500/600/6300

If these are of any use you are most welcome, give me a call on 01223 354300.

Lilas Davison

**“We thank you, Lord, with joyful lips, for our Shrove Tuesday
fish and chips!”**

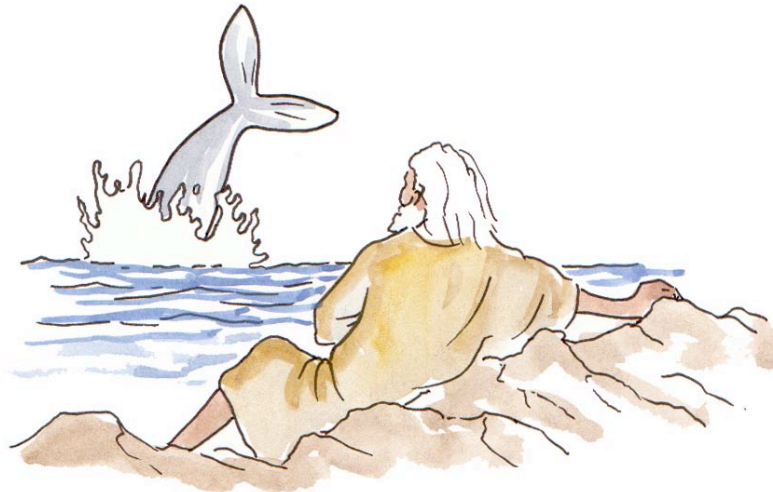
Yes, Lent has come round again. Here at the Good Shepherd we like to mark the beginning of this season with a hearty fish and chip supper. Apparently, it all started when some people were cleaning the church on Shrove Tuesday and someone suggested getting fish and chips as they were all so tired! Now we seem to go straight to the fish and chips!!

It was great to see the church hall so full and everyone tucked in with great gusto! Afterwards, the choir and players entertained us with some ‘fishy’ items and Dave and Dave introduced us to their new worship song “Jesus is rather nice” – written for people who don’t like singing anything too definite!!!

We heard about the three naughty fishes who would insist on swimming over the dam despite their mother’s warnings, the baby sardine and the treacherous shark, the prawn who couldn’t bear afternoons, the oyster who longed to be part of a society clique and was swallowed by a posh lady who afterwards - how shall I put it – returned him, little Tommy who went fishing on Sunday, the sea captain who liked to wear a red dress and go hunting for fish fingers – don’t ask – and, of course, Jonah’s unfortunate experience with a whale! Our mouths watered at the description of tasty, salty chips and ‘batty bits’.

On a more serious note the choir sang the Manx Fishermen’s Hymn and finished with a Benediction asking that we may all be surrounded with God’s love, joy and peace. It was certainly a most enjoyable evening. Many thanks to all who prepared the hall, ordered and collected the fish and chips, served the drinks and provided the entertainment.

Rex Collinson



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

March 8

Tiffany Kitty Drayson Harman
Ashleigh Jayne Bailey-Underwood
Aaron Joseph Luke Elvis Underwood
Karl George Terence Esterban Underwood
Barbara Kester



Fish and Chip Supper pictures



The Power of Music

A few weeks ago, when I was at Morning Prayer in the Chapel, I was asked to read one of the readings. It was a Monday morning – never the best day of the week – and Linda asked me to read Ecclesiastes Chapter 1. If it is Monday morning when you are reading this Newsletter, it is not a bit of the Bible I would necessarily recommend. As I said to Linda, “*Vanity of vanities, said the Preacher, all is vanity*”. That is what I remember from my youth of Ecclesiastes – a book of pessimism and misery. And yet, having read that Chapter which spoke of there being nothing new under the sun (I agree with that!) and that the pursuit of wisdom does not bring happiness, what has stuck with me ever since is verse 15. *That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered*”. Every time I read those words in my head I can hear that glorious aria from the *Messiah* where Handel’s music reminds us triumphantly that the crooked can indeed be made straight. David thought I had drawn the short straw with that particular reading and at the time I agreed with him! But to have music like that running through your head is surely a blessing.

Messiah may well be something we listen to over the Easter period. Just rejoice that the crooked has been made straight, even if Solomon with all his wisdom did not think it could happen.

Ruth Banger



It's Daffodil time again!

Amazingly, another year has gone by and once again the closest thing we have to a Druidic Circle was convened in the Collinson home in Cottenham on St David's Day (or the nearest Saturday!) The first item on the evening's agenda, the question of "how many is this then?" was aired by several arrivals and a consensus was rapidly reached that it must be the "16th". As more and more aficionados of all things Welsh arrived, the atmosphere became more like a front room in a Rhondda village, with happy exchanges greeting the new arrivals (in English, of course).

Once again, as the evening began with a stirring rendition of the Welsh national anthem, we were faced with a full and varied programme of "Welshness" compiled by Liz, which managed to include all present in its delivery, either by poetry, prose or song! Some of the items in the night's programme were old favourites, like "Big Arth from Penarth", but we were also treated to some new discoveries, such as finding out that Newport was, in fact, the "home of the Mole Wrench"! If you really need to know what a Mole Wrench is, ask Ruby and she will bring mine to Church.

We soon reached the mid-point of the programme and a temporary halt was called to enjoy the marvellous array of food and wine which was laid out to tempt the revellers in the dining room, a product of that old COGS tradition, "bring and share". I have to say here that the highlight of this exotic spread was a Bread & Butter Pudding, but modesty forbids me from revealing its creator. (Well, OK, it was me!)

Suitably refreshed, after several visits to the table, we resumed the entertainment, only for someone to notice that Liz had forgotten the Raffle. Hastily, the draw was done and prizes were distributed. A motley assortment of items, with one common characteristic – Wales.

After that, time passed so quickly that before we knew it, that old faithful "Cwm Rhondda" was being sung with gusto and the whole evening drew to a close with a suitable prayer, the Blessing of the Druidic Circle.

A crowd of happy, glowing Cymrughiles (is there such a word?) dispersed into the night, vowing to meet again for the 17th time next year, "if you'll have us" and peace and quiet descended on Cottenham once more.

Geoff Leyshon



Blessing of the Druidic Circle

Grant, O God, Thy protection,
And in protection, strength,
And in strength, understanding,
And in understanding, perception of justice,
And in perception of justice, the love of it,
And in the love of it, the love of all life,
And in all life, to love God,
God and all goodness.

Edward Thornley – Ordinand, Westcott House, Cambridge.

Hello! My name is Edward Thornley. I am an Ordinand at Westcott House Theological College in Cambridge, and I am going to be on placement in the Parish from the end of April until the end of June. My time in the Parish will involve working with Revd David Maher, in the Church and in the community. I am extremely excited about this opportunity and look forward to joining you all!

Here's a little bit about myself. I am 25 and am studying at Westcott for two years, working on an MA in Pastoral Theology with Anglia Ruskin University and the Cambridge Theological Federation. As part of my training, I get to work in a variety of interesting places. Over the past seven months, I have been working at Great St. Mary's Church in Cambridge and with the hospital chaplaincy at Addenbrookes, as well as doing various things with my college, which obviously includes long hours in the library studying! I still work with my previous Parish, St. Nicholas Church in Dersingham, Norfolk (just outside King's Lynn if you're up that way!), where I have been living for the past three years.

I am originally from Canterbury and grew up mainly on the Kent coast - anyone familiar with Broadstairs? I studied Theology at Exeter University and upon gaining my degree, worked as an RE teacher in a secondary school and Sixth Form in King's Lynn, Norfolk. Once I began the process of formally exploring my vocation to Ministry, I realised I would need more time to myself. I changed jobs and worked on the Queen's Estate at Sandringham in Norfolk, mainly in the visitor centre, but I would also get to work in the House sometimes too! I enjoyed the work and the working hours gave me the time and space I needed.

When I do get time to myself, I enjoy playing guitar – acoustic and electric - which I have been playing since the age of ten. I like a bit of everything in music; blues, rock, classical, even metal (!). I have always enjoyed creative writing and film; indeed my dissertation is on Theological readings of modern films. I am also a keen photographer. And of course, I enjoy reading, both fiction and Theology – I always need to keep my studies up!

I have been at Westcott since September 2008 and am enjoying my training very much. Though it is very demanding and sometimes quite tough, I am relishing this experience as I continue to explore God's call in my life. I am very much looking forward to coming to the Church of the Good Shepherd, and I know that this will be a very interesting and valuable experience!

See you soon! Best wishes and prayers,

Edward Thornley. [who will be with us from the end of April]





We are survivors (for those born before 1940)

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, xerox, contact lenses, videos and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens, before dishwashers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be). We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent. A 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat and crumpet was what we had for tea. We existed before house husbands and computer dating. 'Sheltered accommodation' was where you waited for the bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, artificial hearts, word processors or young men wearing earrings. For us 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and software wasn't a word.

Before 1940 'made in Japan' meant junk and the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on a double-decker bus to the terminus. In our day cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', grass was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coalhouse, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you ate on a Sunday and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock Music' was a fond mother's lullaby, 'Eldorado' was an ice cream, a gay person was the life and soul of the party, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder there is a generation gap to-day ... But by the grace of God – **WE HAVE SURVIVED**

Supplied by Sheila Munns



IN THE CHURCH HALL

THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.30 - 4pm	Eva Hutson	574070
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Mrs B Wright	426517
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Mrs V Ford	870711
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
CARERS & SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	Jo Hughes	0776 6058767
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
THE CAMERA CLUB Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	C.N. Hall	350516
GUILDHALL RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm	Yvonne Wisbey	523549
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm March to November	Mary Glasscock	155 Minerva Way CB4 2TZ
T G W U 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	John Drake	244030
CAMBRIDGE INSTRUMENTS PENSION FELLOWSHIP 3 rd Thursday of the month 10am - noon	Mr Richard Luff	424027
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.15pm	Alan Leader	563233
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559

TO BOOK THE CHURCH HALL

Please ring 352151
(evenings)