

“Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you.”

(1 Peter 3: 15)

If someone asked you the question “What do you believe then?” or “Why do you go to church?” I wonder what you would say. Do those kinds of questions fill you with dread or do you relish the opportunity to share? My training incumbent thought the above text from Peter was very important, he would regularly turn round just ten minutes before the mid week communion and say with a smile on his face, “Why don’t you preach this morning!”

This autumn we will be looking at the Bible and the Nicene Creed as the foundation of our faith. Looking at the question of what do we really believe. Every week we stand and say the creed, but if we stop and think about it we’re making some bold statements. Even the opening few words “We believe in one God...” is a bold Trinitarian declaration, one which had the church debating for quite a few years. The creed (established in the fourth century) is the culmination of conversations and arguments between various groups within the emerging church trying to work out what we believe as Christians. This autumn we will look at this text in light of the Bible and ask the question – What does it mean for us today some 1600 years later?

Once again we will be running a housegroup near you and all the sermons will be recorded and can be emailed, put on CD or you will be able to listen to them via the website. If you haven’t been to a group before, now is a good time to start as we once again wrestle with the same issues that the church did in the fourth century.

Also this autumn we will once again be running back to church Sunday. Each one of us is encouraged to ask one person to church on that day. Once again there will be invitation cards for those whom we would like to ask to come along. Do begin to think about whom you would ask and in this month do pray for them.

Of course you don’t have to wait to the last Sunday of the month to invite someone to church ☺!

Dave Maher



Prayer for a new Church Year

May we cross boundaries and find God waiting;
may we go where we don’t belong and find a place of welcome;
may we live the gospel in dangerous places and recognise in each act of service the love of God and the start of the Kingdom.

Amen

(Taken from *Roots – Adults and All Age*)

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Curate	Rev. Anthony Lees-Smith	425338
Honorary Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Reader	Linda Dean	328658
Churchwarden	Terry Barringer	424584
Churchwarden	Rhodri James	357607
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Rhodri James	357607
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Finsetta Cummings	352757
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Bass	363156
Book of Remembrance	Horace Giles	359001
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Child Protection Co-ordinator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Children's Work	John & Alison Phillips	502969
Christian Aid	Simon & Clare Redfern	740513
Church Cleaners	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Heating	Horace Giles	359001
Coffee Makers	Gill Ambrose	858994
Coffee & Rolls	Fiona Blows	329822
Director of Music	Dorothy Holliday	234409
Flower Arrangers	Iris Brown	565956
Flower Arrangers	Jeanne Elsey	357622
Friends of Etterbeek	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Eva Hutson	574070
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	07764 613862
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Ann Callear	357694
Lesson Readers	Lilas Davison	354300
Monday Club	Eva Hutson	574070
Newsletter Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	John Phillips	502969
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Linda Fiagbedzi	01954 252324
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Ruby Leyshon	352151
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	328521
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Linda Dean	328658
Planned Giving Secretary	Lilas Davison	354300
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Tom Shipp	353734
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan		
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Terry Barringer	424584
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Rhodri James	357607
Social Events Co-ordinator	Bertha Wilson-Njenou	571948
Sound System	John Lamont	565559

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sundays and holy days

- 5 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Philemon 10-17
Luke 15: 11-31
- 12 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Job 38: 4-18
Revelation 4: 6-11
Mark 12: 28-34
- 19 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Malachi 3: 1-4
Hebrews 2: 14-18
John 14: 1-7
- 26 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Isaiah 53: 1-6
1 Corinthians 15: 3-8
John 3: 11-17

Wednesdays

- 1 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9
Luke 4: 38 - end
- 8 1 Corinthians 7: 25-31
Luke 6: 27-38
- 15 1 Corinthians 12: 31 – 13: 13
Luke 9: 1-6
- 22 Proverbs 30: 5-9
Luke 9: 1-6
- 29 Genesis 28: 10-17
John 1: 17 - end



BIBLE STUDY

REGULAR SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

- 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

Family Worship at Orchard Park will be every Sunday at 4pm in the Orchard Park Community Centre on Central Avenue. Light refreshments. All welcome. For further details see the weekly bulletin.

EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- Sunday September 5** at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall.
- Saturday September 11** Autumn Fete
- Saturday September 25** Macmillan Coffee Morning
- Sunday September 26** at 8pm Social Evening in the Carlton Arms

SPECIAL SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday September 26 at 10am – Back to Church Sunday

MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER

- Saturday September 4** at 10am in Church – meeting for all servers, coffee makers and sidespersons
- Week beginning September 6** House Groups start
- Monday September 20** PCC meets at 7.30pm at the Vicarage.
- Monday September 27** at 7pm Meeting to review Autumn Fete and to plan 2011 Calendar.



Our new name (did you notice?)

The appeal for a new name for the Newsletter did not fall on deaf ears – it really stimulated your creative impulses! What suggestions did we have?

Sid Reid suggested *Spirit of Nicholas*, that's lovely but you do need to know quite a bit about the Church for it to make sense. (Come and ask Sid or me if it doesn't make sense to you).

Audrey Disney suggested *The Crook* and provided me with a little drawing of a shepherd's crook to go with it. We were concerned that this title might be open to misinterpretation. Sorry, Audrey.

Joanne Jagger suggested *Parish Tidings*. Nice one that, with a feeling of the angels' message at Christmas.

Peter Carter suggested *Chesterton Chatter*. But are we really Chesterton? Bit more Arbury really!

Phil Morris suggested *Forty Winks*. That's really subtle – think about it!

Geoff Leyshon was truly inspired. He came up with *Flock Paper*, *Pastoral Pages*, *The Sheep Pew Paper*, *Shepherds Delight*, and *Flockwatch*. To understand *Sheep Pew Paper* you would have had to be at the Welsh Evening when either Liz or Geoff produced some (sanitised) paper made out of sheep poo. If you ever wondered about the Welsh Evening, wonder no more! *Shepherds Delight* came with a subtitle of *Late night final*. (again – think about it!)

I must admit I was really taken with several of Geoff's offerings but then we hit a snag. Dave felt, quite rightly, we were an urban parish and all this harping on about sheep somehow missed the point and John Polkinghorne wisely pointed out that jokes wear thin after a time however funny they were to start with, and we did want a title that would last. So we went with Harold Lambert's suggestion of *Good Shepherd News*. Thank you, Harold. Nice and short, and as Anthony said, it said clearly what was in the tin!



DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOUR DAY?!



A nurse on the paediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own heart. Their eyes would always light up with awe, but she never got a response equal to four-year old David's comment. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. 'Listen', she said 'What do you suppose that is?' He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap - tap - tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin and he asked,

'Is that Jesus knocking?'

Supplied by Lois Morris

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

April 17	Colleen Joan Ryan
April 18	Carly Sylvia Thomas
May 23	Harry James Anderson
June 13	Logan Kenneth Stanford
	Louise Anne Stephenson
July 4	Safia Hancock
	Saryan Navie Samuels
	Isaac Kingsley Samuels
	Kayleigh Christina Harrison

Holy Matrimony

April 17	Colin David Roberts and Louise Jayne Basham
June 25	Sindisa Nyathi and Florence Nosithembso Masithemini
July 31	Darryl Steven Griffiths and Laura Jane Coleing

Funeral

May 28	Norman McLean at the Church of The Good Shepherd
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Memorial Service and Burial of Ashes

August 9 Shepherd	Joseph Henry Fletcher at the Church of The Good Shepherd
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Caring for lost children

As a Church we have supported the Children's Society for many years: a number of us have boxes in which we save the odd coins when we shop and as an entire church we support the Society when we celebrate with our Christingles. Recently the Society has set up Check Point, a 'drop in' centre in Torbay. Below is an extract from the latest Newsletter.

Some have left home to escape an abusive step-parent, violence or family conflict... others have been forced to leave by their parents or carers. They're normally alone, scared and hungry. Many have had to beg for food just to get by, or been the victims of the criminals and abusers who pose as friends. Check Point is a place where children at risk from violence and abuse can escape the horrors of the streets. With eight paid members of staff and 12 student volunteers, it offers a 'drop-in' service where any child in danger can see a trusting, friendly adult face without an appointment. Once here a nervous young person can ask for what they need. If they're hungry, Check Point can give them a food parcel. If they need a warm shower, Check Point can offer that too. If they need information on housing or benefits, they'll be able to use a phone or ask a Check Point volunteer to help them do the paperwork. At first a young person won't say they're a 'runaway', but with gentle questioning they eventually share what's happening at home. Then they're offered the specialist help they may need. Check Point's aim is to promote young people's safety, health, values, rights and responsibilities in the community. This in turn will encourage them to reach their own decisions and consider their choices to achieve their full potential.

If this makes you feel that you would like to support this worthwhile initiative, have a word with Ruby who would be happy to provide you with a collecting box.



Investing in a better future

Throughout the UK, there are large churches like ours facing to the east, and in consequence the south facing roof often offers a large exposed area to the sun's rays. It has been noted that these south facing roofs are ideal for the installation of PV (photovoltaic) solar panels, used to generate electricity for use in churches, and for distribution via the national grid. A few churches have already installed these and it is a subject that has been raised at Church of the Good Shepherd too, as part of our care for the environment.

Solar panels are also a good financial investment at present. In April 2010, the government introduced a new scheme to encourage small-scale electricity generation, such as putting solar panels on a rooftop. They will pay a very good rate for all electricity generated, even if used by the supplier. There is a tight deadline though; the panels have to be supplying electricity by March 31st 2011 in order to qualify for the special rate of payment, called a feed-in tariff.

At the July PCC meeting, we discussed the decreasing interest rates in the Churches' Official Investment Fund (COIF) due to the state of the economy; there is a large sum of money currently being invested, partly from generous legacies, partly from the sale of the former curate's house in Hurrell Road. Money gained by investing these in COIF has dropped drastically over recent years and we wondered whether the money might be better invested elsewhere. Our ever-prudent treasurer, Ginni Carroll, was keen to point out that higher interest rates also came with higher risks, however it was decided that we would look further into the pros and cons of investing the money in solar panels.

David remarked at the PCC meeting that the money we have is not just for raising money but should be put to good use, furthering the mission of the church. The parable of the talents was also mentioned: are we using this 'talent' in the best possible way? Caring for Creation is part of our mission and the care we take with our resources, or how we use our 'talents', can be a vital witness to our faith. The Ely diocese is also encouraging churches to consider this opportunity, and is offering support to churches willing to take on this challenge.

This is why there will be a trip to visit St. Mary's, Lydgate on Wednesday, September 1st. at 6pm. St. Mary's Lydgate is a medieval church near Newmarket that installed 10 solar panels on the roof in 2007. The treasurer at St. Mary's and one of the wardens will show us the panels and talk about whether they have found them a good investment and any difficulties about the installation or maintenance. Please note that to see the panels involves a steep climb up the tower and a torch is a good idea. Please speak to David if you want to come along as I'm sure we can share lifts.

Clare Redfern

We went to.....Oberammergau

It was my mother's idea. She said she had wanted to go ever since she first heard about the Passion Play as a teenager and that if I didn't take her this year, she would not be up for it in ten years' time. Some of my friends, knowing my feisty octogenarian parent, responded, "Well your Mum will be, but will you?" Shortly after this conversation, nearly three years back, I spotted a note in the Friends of Ely Cathedral Newsletter from Canon Peter Sills (who many at the Good Shepherd will remember) announcing that he was leading a group to Oberammergau in June 2010. We signed up.

The story of Oberammergau is well known. In 1633, the Thirty Years War was raging around the little Bavarian village and bubonic plague within in. The villagers gathered and vowed that if God spared them they would perform the "play of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ" every ten years. There were no more deaths from the Plague and successive generations of villagers have kept the vow. Today the play is performed from May to October in an auditorium that seats 4,700 and is the centre of a huge business and tourism enterprise. Only those born in the village or residents of twenty years' standing are allowed to take part and from Ash Wednesday in the year preceding the play, male participants may not shave or cut their hair. However the rules that previously debarred married women, women over 35 and Protestants have been repealed.

We travelled with Camino Journeys (<http://www.caminojourneys.com/>) (highly recommended) – a large but friendly group of 50 plus. Peter encouraged us to regard each other as fellow-pilgrims, new friendships were quickly formed as we gelled as a group. We enjoyed a few days in Italy at the beginning of our trip, staying in the lovely village of Rota d'Imagna up in the wooded hills near Lake Como. There were excursions: to Milan where we lingered in the cathedral and environs, watched the police parading in fancy uniforms to celebrate a significant anniversary and paid our respects to Da Vinci's Last Supper (although I am still refusing to read Dan Brown), to Bellagio on the lake and Bergamo with its history-soaked churches and little street. There was time to read and relax and prepare ourselves physically, intellectually and spiritually for the play. It was a privilege to enjoy the hospitality of the village church for our Sunday Eucharist and Quiet Afternoon of prayer and preparation.

Then came a long but scenic drive over the Brenner, through Austria and into Oberammergau itself. The village has been described as "a kind of Christian Disneyland, the houses like iced cakes decorated with frescoes of Biblical stories" and fairy stories. My own favourite was the Red Riding Hood House. Somehow the village manages to avoid tipping into blatant commercialism or sentimentality and handle the masses of visitors, many of whom stay in private homes, with hospitality and efficiency.

The play itself was stunning with superbly choreographed crowd scenes (including a tiny babe in arms, lots of children, plenty of animals including a charming mother and daughter pair of camels) and more music (imagine Bach crossed with Wagner) than I was expecting – pageant/drama/oratorio combined. We were provided with copies of the text in German and English and I had enough German to follow the English translation scene by scene.

In recent decades the producers have been bending over backwards to avoid charges of anti-semitism so now we get a very Jewish Jesus. The most interesting other characters are Caiaphas (a political operator trying to keep control of his own Council while playing off against Pilate) and Pilate (who gives in to Caiaphas not because he is afraid of being reported to Caesar but because he is so manifestly bored by these crazy orientals obsessing about their God). Each scene is preceded by a tableau of an Old Testament scene - sometimes with some very obscure typology which sent me scurrying to some long unvisited pages of my bible. (Well do you remember Amasa being betrayed by a kiss at the rock of Gibeon?)

The immediate dramatic effect was powerful but for me it was also a fruitful exercise to meditate on the text both before and after the performance and for me this opened up new ways of thinking about the gospel story.

All in all, a good holiday and more than a good holiday.

Terry Barringer (and approved by Phyl)



General Synod

The synod spent two entire days scrutinising and voting on the draft measure providing for the consecration and ordination of women as bishops. The draft had been produced as a result of painstaking work over a period of 12 months by a so-called 'Revision Committee' of which Canon Alan Hargrave has been a member. Each of the 11 clauses was considered in detail and voted on. The consideration involves the opportunity for the Synod members to propose amendments in order to create a provision that meets the needs of the broad range of the Church of England as a whole. 22 amendments were debated, including that proposed by the archbishops which you probably heard about in the press.

The first clause is simple, making it legal for the CofE to ordain women as bishops. The second clause makes provision for people and places who, for reasons of theological conscience, will not be able to accept the ministry of female bishops. This is perhaps the most contentious clause and was the focus of most of the amendments, in the search for the most acceptable and appropriate provision. After careful and lengthy debate, lasting from about noon to 6pm (with a lunchbreak) all the amendments were rejected and so on Monday morning, the Synod turned its attention to debating the Revision Committee's original clause 2.

Monday morning came with reassurance from the Archbishop of Canterbury that sticking with the process was important, and the second clause was passed overwhelmingly after a short period of debate in which the need for fair provision, despite the impression of a compromised acceptance of the ministry of ordained women that it conveys, was acknowledged.

Clause 3 provides for parishes to pass resolutions (the current structure of resolutions A, B and C will lapse) requesting oversight from a male bishop and that their incumbent or priest in charge should be a male priest. This was carried overwhelmingly by a simple majority. Clause 4, about Crown benefices (the patron being the Queen or Lord Chancellor) was uncontroversial and so consideration moved to Clause 5 about the provision of a Code of Practice to be drafted by the House of Bishops governing the nature of alternative provision described in Clause 2. This has not yet been drafted, which is unfortunate because, without its detail, the implications are clause 2 are not at all clear, and for those who are to depend on this, it means everything. The House of Bishops have agreed to work on this urgently. Nevertheless the clause was passed, as was Clause 6 creating a duty to work to it. Clause 7 creates exceptions to the Equality Act and attracted comment from legal advisers and a former MP. Its legal value is contested and this attracted some debate but it was nevertheless passed. The final clauses, 8-11, are essentially consequential, though there were amendments proposed, including a suggestion about a sunset clause, which was withdrawn and the need for a two thirds majority to repeal the measure which was passed.

After all the clauses had been secured, the Synod voted on the four Schedules which detail the way in which the provisions will be taken forward. There was substantial discussion of the possibility of compensation for those who feel unable to remain as ministers within the CofE after the measure receives final approval, but it was felt that, in view of experience after the women priests measure was passed in 1992 and the financial constraints facing the CofE at present, this would be better dealt with on a case by case basis as it arises, rather than through legislation.

Just as a final vote was to happen, a member suggested that the measure be committed for final revision. This was met with some consternation and, after a flurry of debate, the proposal was rejected and a final vote passed.

Next

The proposed measure is now committed to every diocese for its consideration. It must be discussed in diocesan synods but it may also be considered by every deanery synod and, indeed, PCC. The way in which this will be done in the diocese of Ely will be communicated to us all very shortly.



Music Group

For the last year some of our children and adults have been singing at the All Age Services. In recent months we have sung a song at the point when the choir receives communion.

From this autumn we are hoping to take a more prominent role in the music. The singing on the first Sunday in the month will be led by the music group, with keyboard and guitar accompaniment. The Good Shepherd choir will continue to sing an anthem during the administration of communion on those services as on other weeks.

We will be meeting weekly during term-time to practise for the All Age services. A drink and snack will be provided. Practices will be at 3.30pm on Wednesdays starting on September 1.

Anyone interested in joining the music group would be most welcome! Please contact Dave Maher (351844), Linda Dean (328658), or Wendy Lees-Smith (425338) for further details.



Be careful what you ask for!

I asked for strength: God gave me difficulties to make me strong;
I asked for wisdom: God gave me problems to solve;
I asked for prosperity: God gave me brain and brawn to work;
I asked for courage: God gave me danger to overcome;
I asked for love: God gave me troubled people to help;
I asked for favours: God gave me opportunities;
I received nothing I wanted and everything I needed.

Anon., supplied by Celia Stimpson

One million days

The Bishop of Huntingdon was in Ely Cathedral on Sunday, 13th June 2010 to present awards to long-serving musicians from parishes in the Diocese of Ely. On a day designated by the Royal School of Church Music to be “Music Sunday”, it was fitting that local musicians were honoured in this manner during a service of Choral Evensong, sung by the boys and men of Ely Cathedral Choir.

In total, 90 nominations for Long Service Awards for Music were received. All the nominees had served for a minimum of 25 years as musicians in no more than two different parishes in the Diocese and most had contributed over many more years. Their combined years of service totalled some 3,500 or, as the Bishop pointed out, around 1.27m days.

Each award winner received a Certificate of Long Service, designed especially for the occasion and those serving 50 or more years additionally received engraved medallions. There were also special, written messages of congratulations for each nominee from John Rutter (distinguished Cambridge church musician and composer) and Lindsay Gray (Director of the Royal School of Church Music). Having made the presentations, the Bishop thanked all those present for their faithfulness in the gift of their talents, their time and their teamwork in the service of God.

Among those being honoured were (from The Good Shepherd) Maureen Carter, Liz Collinson, Finsetta Cummings, Rhodri James and Jeanette Lee. See pictures 3 and 4.

This prayer by John Donne was spoken at the service and is very special to all to whom music is important.

**Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening
into the house and gate of heaven,
to enter into that gate and dwell in that house,
where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,
but one equal light; no noise nor silence,
but one equal music; no fears nor hopes,
but one equal possession; no ends, nor beginnings,
but one equal eternity;
in the habitations of thy glory and dominion,
world without end**



A student reflects

My time at the Good Shepherd has gone too quickly. I approached my four week placement with great anticipation, eager to learn what the life of a parish priest is like in actual practice. However, Jacqui and I never expected to find it so hard to leave – mostly because of how genuinely warm and friendly everyone has been towards us. From our first welcome at the entrance to time spent at house group meetings or conversations over coffee every person we've met has been wonderful towards us. We haven't merely been accommodated as another student and his family, but welcomed as though we were family of the Good Shepherd – which I suppose we are in that we're all family in Christ. This real sense of belonging to a community provided a very positive context for deeper exploration of parish ministry. I believe that ministers need the support and love of their congregation to be most effective in their ministry beyond the congregation of their parish.

I was greatly surprised by how much Dave and the leadership team give of themselves to an extensive and often demanding array of duties which varied incredibly week-to-week. I'm sure that much of their energy came from the support, love and encouragement of the people of the Good Shepherd. I also think that the people of the Good Shepherd are able to love and support others precisely because of the confidence they have in God's love – a love which they see in Dave and the leadership team. You'd think that sometime during the course of 28 days one might begin to see cracks in the relationships between the leadership, but I observed nothing but their support and respect for one another. They were fantastic models and I'm immensely grateful for the time I had with them. If God sends us to a parish and team half as nice as the Good Shepherd I'll be singing all the way – even though I can't sing as some may have noticed.

Greg Holmes



Encountering Scripture

On Tuesday July 20 about 50 of us gathered at church to hear John talk about his new book which he had dedicated to his friends at The Good Shepherd. You will see an entirely characteristic picture of John in full flow (Picture 1) and one of a group of us at the end of the proceedings (Picture 2). That second picture represented about half of those who actually attended the launch. From my point of view I had no idea how many would come and how many copies of the book I would sell. I was utterly delighted that I sold out my 40 copies on the night and then disposed of a further 10 copies in the following week.

Much more important was the fact that we had a truly lovely evening with an inspiring and thought provoking talk by John. As Harry wrote to me afterwards, *What a joy it was to sit at the feet of such a clear thinking and practical theologian.*

Ruth Banger

Anthony's Ordination

Saturday 3rd July 2010 was to prove an eventful and interesting day. The sun had been shining for the past two weeks, and finally it was Ladies' Final Day at Wimbledon; would Serena win again?... Of course. In South Africa Germany was playing Argentina in the World Cup quarter-final. Who would we support? Germany?... No, we should still be there after Lampard's goal, and we just don't like them. Argentina?... No, Diego Maradona robbed us years ago, so we don't like them either. Elsewhere something significant was due to happen.

A coach full of us from the Good Shepherd had arranged to set off in time to make the long and arduous journey to... Ely. When we arrived we were able to view the magnificent cathedral which is almost 1000 years old (mid-way between Christ's death and resurrection, and our lives today). Not only has it been used for the ordinations of many of God's faithful servants, but it was also used by Oliver Cromwell as a stable for his horses.

We were there to witness the ordination of our curate Anthony as a priest.

The cathedral was full of people who had come to lend their support to the ordinands. The Dean welcomed us and we then stood for the opening hymn, "All my hope on God is founded". The Bishop then introduced the service with the words "God calls his people to follow Christ and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness unto his marvellous light." He then continued to explain the roles of priests and deacons within God's family. The 15 candidates to be ordained as priests and deacons entered in procession.

The first reading was Isaiah 6, verses 1-8. Isaiah describes his vision of heaven and of God's splendour. He realises his own impurity but despite this God still calls him. The Gospel reading was from Mark 10, verses 35 to 45. James and John asked if they could have the best seats next to Jesus in Heaven. Jesus explains that they should not try to elevate themselves, but to be servants of others.

The Dean of Ely then provided the sermon. He explained that this was the last of a series that he had given to the candidates during their preparation. During this time he had concentrated on Christ setting His face towards Jerusalem; Christ had known that things were going to be very difficult for Him as He continued to the end of His ministry on earth; but He knew that He was fulfilling God's will. The Dean had instilled in the candidates that their lives would be altering and that now they needed to be even more strong in their determination to serve the Lord God, as things can be really tough as a Christian minister. We were also told by the Dean, that we, the congregation, were merely eavesdroppers (at this point, having always been told eavesdropping is rude, we stopped listening!!!).

For the ordination, all of the candidates went forward, surrounded by their ministers and supporters. The ministers laid hands on them and prayed for them. We were puzzled as to why Anthony was called out of the order printed in the order of service. This mystery was explained later. The service continued with communion and ended with the fine hymn "Oh for a thousand tongues".

After the service the new ministers were able to celebrate with their friends and families outside the cathedral. Hilary was overjoyed to see her father. We also discovered what happened during the service. The Bishop realised that Anthony appeared as if he were about to pass out so he went to his seat and ordained him before some of the others. His blood sugar was too high but thankfully Wendy was there to prove her commitment "in sickness and in health". Anthony soon recovered and he is now a priest.

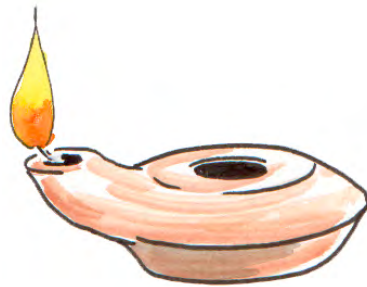
Phil and Lois Morris

There are pictures of the Ordination in this issue – Numbers 5 and 6. Dorothy asked Anthony if he had a favourite item he would like the choir to sing on the first Sunday he presided at the Eucharist and Anthony chose *How can I keep from singing?* Perhaps we might all sing it one day!

My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far off hymn
that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear that music ringing.
It sounds and echoes in my soul -
how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine, since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?



Jesus, you call us and unbind us,
You whisper our names and set us free.
You know our souls and let them live.
You know our lives and grant them purpose.
You renew our dreams and make them our future.
You transform our living and make us belong.
Loving God of transformations,
with justice you serve us,
and with grace you give us life.
May our turning towards you
Be our praise and thanksgiving
(A prayer from *Roots – Adults and All Age*)

Our Charitable Giving

We decided at the PCC that our donations this year would go to 4 initiatives – Ellie Howes' Transition Programme, Smile Train, Mission Aviation Fellowship and Able to be Independent. Here is a little about those various programmes. As you read about these various organizations I am sure you will agree that all are really worthwhile. I hope you will also agree that they represent a wide range of institutions, local and national, which need our support.

Transitions Programme

Working with 10 – 14 year olds across the city the Transitions Programme supports young people who are at risk of exclusion during their key transition stage of moving from primary to secondary school. The programme offers a model of informal education which helps to enable the young person to successfully negotiate the transition, overcome disadvantage, and to develop essential life skills.

In our day to day work, the Transitions Team – Myself, Mary (North City) and Naomi (South City) - run small group and 1:1 sessions that are tailor made to the needs of those who attend. These include Year 6 transfer groups, after school groups, social skills groups, gender based topic groups and individual targeted work. Alongside this we work closely with families, look at ways of developing positive life experiences and enjoy the fun of trips and residential that give the chance to for the young people to build positives relationships with us and their peers in new and different ways.

The hope for all the work that we do is that the young people will grow to know God's love, the potential for their lives that he has created in them, and a hope for their future.

Every day I am blessed by the joy that my work gives me, for every smile I see on a young person's face who would otherwise have little to smile about, and for every opportunity I see a young person taking that is changing their life for the better I give praise to God for the love and hope that shines in their lives. [There are pictures of Ellie's work – Numbers 8 and 9]

Ellie Howes

Smile Train

Unlike many charities that do many different things, The Smile Train mission is focused on solving a single problem: cleft lip and palate. Clefts are a major problem in developing countries where there are millions of children who are suffering with unrepaired clefts. Most cannot eat or speak properly, aren't allowed to attend school or hold a job, and face very difficult lives filled with shame and isolation, pain and heartache. The good news is every single child with a cleft can be helped with surgery that costs as little as \$250 and takes as little as 45 minutes. This is our mission:

-To provide free cleft surgery for millions of poor children in developing countries.

-To provide free cleft-related training for doctors and medical professionals.

Until there are no more children who need help and we have completely eradicated the problem of clefts.

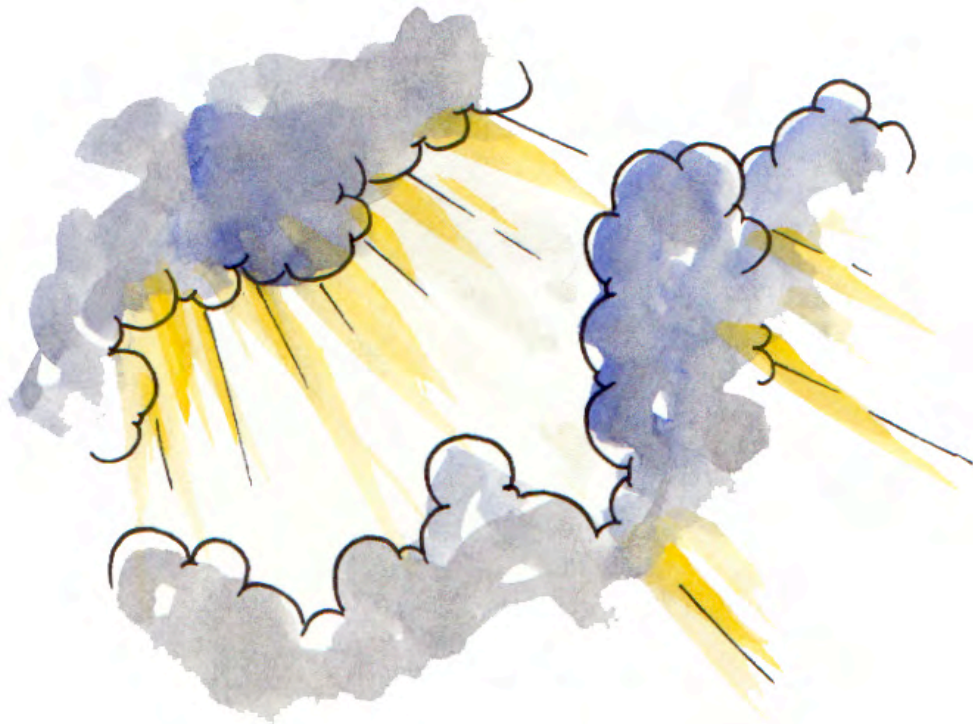
Able to be Independent

"Able to be independent" is a new group which has started up. The group is for people with disabilities, adult and young carers, people wanting support & guidance. The group meets in Orchard Park community centre, Cambridge on the first Wednesday of the month at 10am for tea and a chat. People with disabilities and their carers can feel isolated so if you would like to make new friends, feel supported and meet people who are in a similar situation to you please feel welcome to the meetings.

Mission Aviation Fellowship

Mission Aviation Fellowship is a Christian organisation. Our mission is to operate light aircraft in remote places where flying is not a luxury, but a real lifeline. Every three minutes one of our planes takes off or lands somewhere in the world. On board are dedicated teams bringing medical care, supplies and Christian hope to communities struggling to survive amidst poverty, conflict or natural disaster. Flying across deserts, jungles, swamps and mountains, we reach places that might otherwise remain cut-off because of impassable or non-existent roads.

MAF was founded towards the end of WWII by a group of international airmen, all determined to use their skills to help people in deepest need. The first MAF passenger flight landed at a jungle airstrip in Mexico in 1946. Today MAF is a worldwide partnership operating over 120 aircraft from bases in more than 30 countries. Serving over 2,500 destinations, we help enable aid and development agencies, missions, national churches and other local groups bring relief and healing for body, mind and spirit.



Autumn Fete

This year the Fete is on September 11th from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. By the time you read this newsletter it will nearly be upon us, but that still leaves enough time to make a cake and find some bottles to donate to the Tombola stall.

We also need donations for raffle prizes and it would be nice to get some items for the Jams and Preserve stall this year too. We can't expect Finsetta to make it all every year!

Of course, we also need help to man the stalls and serve refreshments, so please contact us for more information and times.

Ruby, Evelyn & Eva

(Your local Function Team)



Shoe Box Sunday is November 7th !

The time has come to remind experienced “shoeboxers” and new recruits that there are only another 12 weeks to go before the Christmas gifts for the World's disadvantaged children are collected for distribution all over Europe and further afield. Twelve weeks to finish (or begin) collecting small gifts to fill a shoebox for a little boy or girl who would otherwise have nothing at Christmas. If you are not sure what should be included or any other query, please contact me at Church or call 352151. I have lots of leaflets, describing the efforts of Samaritan's Purse, the organisation that co-ordinates the nation-wide collection effort and distributes the Christmas gifts. I always find the hardest task is to cover the box with Christmas paper to give it that festive look. Last year the Good Shepherd managed to collect 85 boxes, but this year, God willing, we hope to give 100 boxes, so please start collecting now for November 7th! This is the 20th anniversary of the scheme, so let's make it special this year.

Ruby Leyshon

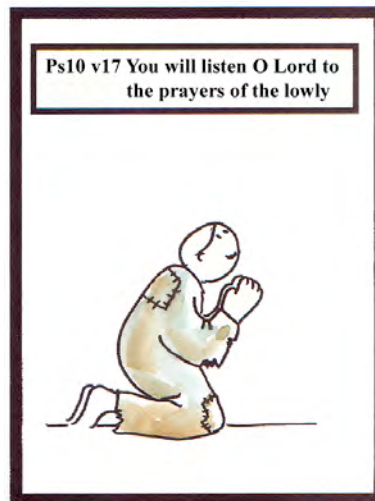
On the shoulders of giants

On Monday August 9 about 40 of us gathered to say our last farewells to Joe Fletcher. It was a real homecoming and utterly appropriate that Joe's ashes are now resting in the memorial garden here at The Good Shepherd which meant so much to him and Joyce.

When we met for our original memorial service on January 13 we started in the Chapel and spilled out into the Church when so many people turned up to remember Joe. This time we assembled in the church for a short service and then went outside to the memorial garden. When David spoke in January he mentioned that stones with the names of the original members were *underneath* the floor of the church. This really struck home to me. This time the phrase I can't forget is that here at The Good Shepherd we stand on the shoulders of giants. Joe was certainly one of those giants.

All those who remember him do so with great affection and we send our love to Joyce who must miss him even more than we do.

Ruth Banger



Suburban Life

By early May our garden glows
With many rainbow blooms to bring
A sense that life is good. Too soon,
As courting birds now nest and sing,
The weeds begin their march, intent
On waging ceaseless strife. We start
Relentless counter strike with hoe
And other means. But weeds are
smart.
They're skilled in bandit tricks. Some
creep
Along the ground or climb aloft
By twining round our favoured plants.
But sometimes when I'm feeling soft,
I think a garden full of weeds
Becomes a mini nature park
With bindweed trumpets, yellow
spread

Of dandelions, or dance to mark
The edge of lawn a lacy dance
Of umbels named for Queen we've
long
Forgot. While nettles may be dull,
And threat to child, they still belong
As food for infant butterflies.
But hoverflies and bumble bees
Enjoy exotic blooms as well
As us we who cherish all of these
We've nurtured right from seed with
care
And patient hope. Perhaps the best
Is compromise as shown by lawn
That's far from grass alone. It's blest
With many daisies, yellow dance
Of composites and bugle clumps.
And in the spring the violets give

Us joy along with little humps
Of moss the birds employ to pad
Their nests. Today I drew a line
When rat appeared. I set a trap.
For some of nature's not benign!
Indeed, at scale of ants, the world's
A constant fight to stay alive.
From dawn till dusk, throughout the
night,
To eat and not be prey, survive

Is only task of real concern.
It's from a jungle we emerged,
With beastly instincts still intact.
But God desires that we be purged.
By grace the weeds of self regard
Are slain as Holy Spirit's gift
Ensures that love is freed from drives
And life's no longer aimless drift.
Emergent souls are what survives,
As that's the goal of human lives.



Race for Life

The Race For Life this year took a different route to the usual one around Jesus Green and Midsummer Common. This year we went from Parkers Piece through town up Silver street and then via St Johns College to Jesus Green. It was a hot day but that meant that there were a lot of people in town, cheering and encouraging us as well as donating money to Cancer Research UK.

Fiona Blows

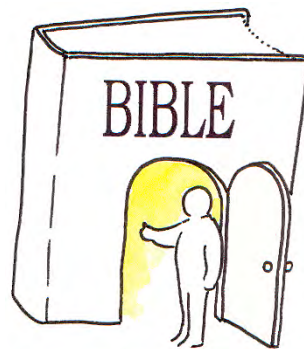


Don't forget the House Groups are starting again!

House Groups start up again in the first full week in September. Just to give you a "feel" for what you might get up to, here is Terry's report from one of our Summer House Groups.

How ever did we get on to women bishops (what's the problem?) from Psalm 104 and to Vera Lynn from Psalm 46? I don't know, but that gives you an idea of how wide-ranging our discussions were. We also learned a new appreciation of the Psalms, in their poetry and structure, historical context and present application, their reflection of every human emotion. We reassessed our understanding and stereotypes of the Old Testament God and touched upon the elements of seismology and vulcanology, enjoyed some appropriate music (thanks, Haydn) and some fresh approaches to prayer and stillness (thanks, Anthony). We enjoyed using 'The Message' alongside more conventional translations and treasure some of its images, especially god giving his creatures 'their meals on time' and Leviathan, "God's pet dragon" "romping" in the sea. (104: 26-27). Overall, we felt renewed in our understanding of God's delight in and care for His creation, the order, beauty and diversity of that Creation and the privileges and responsibilities of humankind within it.

Terry Barringer



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Shirley is organising a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer support on Saturday 25 September in the Church Hall. She would love your support.

How can you help?

First of all, come on the day and bring your friends, especially ones who do not regularly come to The Good Shepherd.

Secondly, donate raffle prizes.

Thirdly, bake cakes to sell. If you are able to donate prizes or to bake cakes, do let Shirley know (C.561103)



For your amusement

At the Passport Office

Unfortunately, getting a new passport required a new photo. As I handed my ten-year-old passport and the new picture to the clerk, I sighed. "I like the original better."

"Trust me," she said. "Ten years from now, you'll like this one."

Pet Corner

A man went to buy a parrot. The pet shop owner pointed out three identical parrots and said, "The parrot to the left costs 500 dollars."

"Why does that parrot cost so much?" the man wondered.

The owner replied, "Well, it knows how to use a computer."

The man asked about the next parrot.

"That one costs 1,000 dollars because it can do everything the other parrot can do, plus it knows how to use the LINUX operating system."

Naturally, the startled customer asked about the third parrot.

"That one costs 2,000 dollars."

"And what does that one do?" the man asked.

The owner replied, "To be honest, I've never seen him do a thing, but the other two call him Boss."

Good dog!

A local business was looking for office help. They put a sign in the window, stating the following: "Help wanted. Must be able to type, must be good with a computer and must be bilingual. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer."

A short time afterwards, a dog trotted up to the window, saw the sign and went inside. He looked at the receptionist and wagged his tail, then walked over to the sign, looked at it and whined. Getting the idea, the receptionist got the office manager. The office manager looked at the dog and was surprised, to say the least. However, the dog looked determined, so he led him into the office.

Inside, the dog jumped up on the chair and stared at the manager. The manager said, "I can't hire you. The sign says you have to be able to type." The dog jumped down, went to the typewriter and proceeded to type out a perfect letter. He took out the page and trotted over to the manager and gave it to him, then jumped back on the chair.

The manager was stunned, but then told the dog, "The sign says you have to be good with a computer." The dog jumped down again and went to the computer. The dog proceeded to enter and execute a perfect program that worked flawlessly the first time. By this time the manager was totally dumbfounded!

He looked at the dog and said, "I realize that you are a very intelligent dog and have some interesting abilities. However, I still can't give you the job." The dog jumped down and went to a copy of the sign and put his paw on the sentences that told about being an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The manager said, "Yes, but the sign also says that you have to be bilingual."

The dog looked at the manager calmly and said, "Meow."



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	The Manager	884031
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		
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 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	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 phone 352151 (evenings)

**Submission date for
October Newsletter:
September 12
(Publication date September 26)**



Church Office 01223 312933

Church Hall bookings
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862
OR ruthbanger51@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk





1. John Polkinghorne at the launch of his latest book (photo - Tom Ambrose)



2. Some of those who attended the book launch (photo – Tom Ambrose)



3. Long Service Music Awards (photo – David Neate)



4. Long Service Music Awards (photo – David Neate)



5. Ordination Candidates (photo from Diocesan webpage)



6. Ordination Candidates (photo from Diocesan webpage)



7. Fiona at Race for Life



8. Ellie's Transition Programme



9. Ellie's Transition Programme



10. Arbury Carnival – Good Shepherd stall (photo- David Wilson)



11. Arbury Carnival – Good Shepherd stall (photo- David Wilson)



12. Arbury Carnival – Good Shepherd stall (photo- David Wilson)