

Good Shepherd News

November 2011

30p



On my return to Birmingham, sometime after the end of the 2nd World war, there were many things I needed to learn, not only another language. My sister told of their nightly evacuation to the Anderson shelter that had now become a playground. Every street had houses reduced to rubble, not for rebuilding purposes but due to bombs being dropped from war planes. Many families had no head of the house, due to the father being killed or missing in foreign fields. I was told how streets descended into an ominous shared silence, as mothers dreaded that the telegram being delivered was for them. I certainly had been sheltered from the reality of war and was not certain if I were glad or ashamed.

On the first year of my homecoming on a dark and dreary November day, I was shopping with my mother when she pulled me to her side and said I must be quiet. The trams, usually a cacophony of metal on metal and bells ringing, were silent, cars, a source of dark exhaust gases, had their engines turned off. Shopkeepers and customers alike spilled out on to the pavement. Wherever my eyes roamed people were standing still and many were silently crying and some of the men were standing rigidly to attention. As suddenly as the silence began it ended and people went about their business. I spent a long time talking to my mother and learned that on the 11th hour on the 11th month Britain stood still for two minutes, factories ceased work, schools ended lessons and all stood still, only absolute necessities were carried out. On Remembrance Sunday, churches that were usually low in numbers saw their number increase as flags and men and women filled the pews to overflowing. The act of Remembrance was a tangible reminder of the cost paid in

human lives and suffering. Gradually as the years rolled by the silence was forgotten and all but a few attended Church. I wonder why we still say, "Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn, at the going down of the sun and in the morning, WE WILL REMEMBER them". Clearly this has to be revisited to find something that speaks to this generation and the next. Throughout the world it is estimated that 65 to 70 million people died during the war and almost a million were British soldiers with wives and mothers waiting at home. Germany's losses were even more horrific and they had a greater burden to bear.

Today I am not advocating a return to the past, for only a few of us remember the awfulness and tragic cost of those dark days and those numbers are dwindling. However, from a base of rationing, the scarcity of food, money, clothing and inadequate health provisions, people pulled together and Britain was reborn. This had nothing to do with politics, but with people's strength of purpose and resolve.

Maybe Remembrance this year will say something about the predicament we are in today. It may also in our generosity have something to say and do for those now serving in the Armed Forces. Men and women have been called to serve since 1945 in almost 20 conflicts World wide. At the same time, 3,500 have given their lives in service of their country. Having proudly served alongside many soldiers I can say with confidence, not one of them asked to die, they just did. Long may their sacrifice be remembered in a meaningful and relevant manner that befits their memory.

Harry



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
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
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	John Phillips	502969
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
North Cambridge Council of Churches	John Lamont	565559
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 NOVEMBER

Sundays and holy days

- 6 SHOEBOX SUNDAY
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12
- 13 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Matthew 25: 14-30
- 20 CHRIST THE KING
Ephesians 1: 15 - end
Matthew 25: 31 - end
- 27 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Isaiah 64: 1-9
Mark 13: 24 - end

Wednesdays

- 2 Romans 13: 8-10
Luke 14: 25-33
- 9 Titus 3: 1-7
Luke 17: 11-19
- 16 Revelation 4
Luke 19: 11-28
- 23 Daniel 5: 1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28
Luke 21: 12-19
- 30 Isaiah 52: 7-10
Matthew 4: 18-22

FIRST CALL

First Sunday of every month
8-9pm at 51, Highworth Avenue



REGULAR SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

- Sundays 8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
(first Sunday in the month is an All-Age service and we are joined by those who attend the Community Church in Orchard Park)
- Mondays 9.15am Morning Prayer
- Tuesdays 9.15am Morning Prayer
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Thursdays 9.15am Morning Prayer
- Fridays 9.15am Morning Prayer

Play and Pray at Orchard Park will be on November 13 and 20 at 11am at Orchard Park School with children's activities, discussion group and refreshments. For further details see the weekly bulletin.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Sunday November 6 at 10am All Age Parade service for Shoebox Sunday
Sunday November 20 at 10am will be a service of Healing and the Laying on of Hands with Prayer

EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Sunday November 6 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall.
Monday November 7 Launch of John Polkinghorne's latest book at 7pm in the Church
Saturday November 12 Godly Play training day
Saturday November 19 Christmas Market
Sunday November 27 *Last Orders*, Social evening at the Carlton Arms.
Monday November 28 Arbury School Choir to the Monday Club

MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER

Monday November 17 PCC meets at the Vicarage at 7.30pm

Autumn

The dew lies heavy upon the lawn
there's a definite chill in the air
summer flowers fad and droop
spiders' webs tangle my hair.

Twisting and twirling the leaves are
falling
red and gold and brown
children search for conkers
hidden in the ground

Prepare the garden for its winter sleep
watch the swallows take wing
plant the bulbs deep in the rich brown
earth
all ready for the spring.

Light the lamps early
draw the curtains against the coming
night
make tea and buttered toast
and watch the cats sleeping in the
firelight.

The harvest is safely gathered in
Come, ye thankful people, come
bring our offerings to Church
and raise the song of Harvest Home.

Joy Staley



In Sunday School one morning Little Joey raised his hand and proceeded to ask a question that had perplexed him for some time.

"Mr. Goldblatt," said little Joey, "there's something I can't figure out. According to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?"

"Right."

"And the Children of Israel beat up the Philistines, right?"

"Er, right."

"And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?"

"Again you're right."

"And the Children of Israel fought the Egyptians and the Children of Israel were always doing something important, right?"

"All that is right, too," agreed Mr. Goldblatt. "So what's your question, Joey?"

"What were all the grown-ups doing?"

Let's eat grandma!



Let's eat, grandma!

**PUNCTUATION
SAVES LIVES!**

Thank you, Terry!

According to a news report, a certain private school in Newcastle upon Tyne was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom.

That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the maintenance man would remove them and the next day the girls would put them back.

Finally the Headmistress decided that something had to be done.. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night (you can just imagine the yawns from the little Geordie 'Princesses').

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required. He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it.

Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are teachers.....and then there are educators.



NEW PASTOR

My appointment as the new pastor coincided with the church's appeal for aid for victims of a hurricane.

Unfortunately, on my first Sunday in the parish, the center page of the church bulletin was accidentally omitted. So members of the congregation read from the bottom of the second page to the top of the last page:

"Welcome to the Rev. Andrew Jensen and his family ... the worst disaster to hit the area in this century. The full extent of the tragedy is not yet known."

A STORY IN TWO PARTS

PART 1:

Adam was walking outside of the Garden of Eden with Cain and Abel when the boys were young. Cain and Abel looked into the garden and viewed waterfalls, lovely birds, lush forests and fruit trees bending over because of the large amounts of fruit on them. Then they took a long look at where they lived. It was dry, dusty with weeds and sickly-looking trees.

"Daddy, why don't we live in there instead of out here?" they asked innocently.

Adam said, "Well, sons. Eve and I use to live in there at one time. But your mother ate us out of house and home."

PART 2:

Do you know the phone number for the Garden of Eden?

Adam 8-1-2!

[Of course, that joke only works for folks old enough to remember when phone numbers started with words!]



THE FINAL INSPECTION

The soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

'Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you ?
Have you always turned the other
cheek?
To My Church have you been true?'

The soldier squared his shoulders and
said,
'No, Lord, I guess I ain't.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand.

There was a silence all around the
throne,
Where the saints had often trod.
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

'Step forward now, you soldier,
You've borne your burdens well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell.'

[I think this was given me by Bill
Else. Apologies if I'm wrong]



Thinking about Christmas Cards – again!

Just to let you know that we shall be featuring our Christmas corner next month when anyone can put in their Christmas message for fellow church members. For those of you who are new, the idea is that we spend an awful lot of money on Christmas cards and this is a way to make a real contribution to one of the many charities that so desperately need our help (especially this year). All we ask is that you send in your message to me (usual contact details on back page or see me in church) and make a contribution to the charity of your choice to reflect what you would otherwise have spent on Christmas cards.

Dorothy's and my card money this year is going to *Angel Tree*. This is a branch of the Prison Fellowship and enables those in prison to send a gift to their child/children. How does it work? A prisoner can apply to the Chaplaincy team to have a gift sent to their child/children. Gifts are bought, wrapped and sent by Prison Fellowship volunteers and the prisoner has the opportunity to send a hand-written message with the gift. Amazingly there are around 160,000 children in England and Wales with a parent in prison – two and a half times the number of those in care and six times the number of those on the child protection register. These children have done nothing wrong but their families frequently struggle financially and this gift could bring some much needed joy.

If you have no particular charity you wish to support, I would be happy to add your card money to mine. If you have a charity you would like to support, let me know when you give me your Christmas message and I will happily publicise whatever charity you are supporting. Sadly even “charity cards” give a very small percentage of the money raised to the charities they support – this way *all* the money goes to the charity of your choice.

I am not saying we should not be sensitive about this. Cards mean a lot to elderly people who are on their own – I know how much they mean to my Mum – but perhaps we could manage not sending individual cards to the friends we see every week in church and making that money really mean something?

Messages to me by **Sunday November 13**, please. December's GS News will be on the shelves on November 27 – just in time for the start of Advent.





Will you be part of Will Aid this November?

The Will Aid scheme runs for the whole month of November. It's a fantastic opportunity for you, your friends and family to have a professional Will drawn up by a local solicitor, in return for a voluntary donation to nine of the UK's best-loved charities.



Why you need a Will

In a 2011 Will Aid poll, nearly half of all respondents mistakenly thought their estate would go to their partner when they died. In fact, the only way to be absolutely certain that your money and possessions go to the people you want is by having an up-to-date a Will.

Find out what would happen if you died without a Will.

Here's how Will Aid works:

Solicitors across the UK donate their time to support the Will Aid charities.

Instead of paying a fee for writing a basic Will, you are invited to make a donation to the Will Aid charities.

Suggested minimum donations are £40 for a codicil, £85 for a single Will or £125 for a pair of mirror Wills.

In other words, Will Aid makes your Will more affordable while helping to raise vital funds for charity.

Once you've taken care of your loved ones, it also gives you a wonderful opportunity to think about leaving a gift to charity in your Will. Any gift you leave to our Will Aid charities, large or small, can make a lasting impact on the lives of vulnerable people in the UK and around the world.

Don't miss out on Will Aid 2011

Please book your Will Aid appointment as soon as possible. Will Aid solicitors are in great demand during November, so the sooner you book the better!

Find a solicitor and contact them directly to make your Will Aid appointment

Use our Will Planner to prepare for your meeting

Write your Will and make your donation via the solicitor

Any questions? Get in touch. Call 0300 0300 013 or email enquiries@willaid.org.uk

REGISTER YOUR WILL FOR FREE

 **certainty.co.uk**

Will Aid have teamed up with Certainty National Wills Register to include free registration (usually £30 per Will) with every Will written under this year's scheme. This ensures your relatives can find your Will when the need arises. Just go to www.certainty.co.uk/willaid and enter the redemption code; willaid2011



Thank you

I would like to thank everyone who donated items for the Jumble Sale and all who helped on the day. We raised the magnificent sum of £196

Ruby



John's good day

It was early, when it was yet dark. Brr Brring Brring. New every morning the alarm clock shrieked '*Now is the time to wake from sleep*'. John Friend crawled out of bed, showered, shaved for he was a *smooth man*, not a *hairy man*, grabbed his breakfast and *went forth to his labour until evening*. He commuted into the City and *his train filled the Temple Underground station*. He was an accountant and had studied hard to reach his present position. He resisted the usual temptations to *riotous living* and *although much study is a weariness of the flesh* he passed his exams *by the skin of his teeth*. All morning he looked at columns of figures saying to various people '*Pay me that thou owest*' or '*Take thy bill*'. '*Love of money is the root of all evil...But in all labour there is profit*' he reflected. After all, '*If any would not work, neither should he eat*' and he did enjoy his food. Lunchtime came and he went out for a walk.

He *went down to the potter's house* and bought a nice pot for his Mum's birthday present. He went into Waterstones and considered the paperbacks. *But of the making of many books there is no end* and he could not make up his mind. He went into the takeaway and purchased *bread and pottage of lentils* and a cup of coffee. The server was over generous and he had to say, '*Steady there, my cup runneth over*'. It was a beautiful day. *For lo the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The time of the singing of birds is come*. He went for a walk in his favourite little park and *cast his bread upon the waters* for the ducks.

He was back at his desk when his phone rang. His line manager said '*Friend, go up higher to my office on the top floor*'. He took the lift. There had been talk of redundancies. Was this the *writing on the wall*? He thought about how he had done those things which he ought not to have done and not done those things which he ought to have done and he was worried.' *Truly man is born unto trouble as the sparks fly upwards*', he reflected.

But he was surprised by Joy, the boss's secretary, saying. 'Well, you are *highly favoured*'. '*John Mark, this*', said the boss. Your hard work has been noticed. *Well done thou good and faithful servant*. Employees like you are the *salt of the earth*. We are going to promote you and send you into *a far country*. We want you to run the office in Timbuktu. Big salary increase of course and lots of perks. What do you say? John was struck dumb and asked for time to think about it.

He went back to his office and rang his favourite restaurant and ordered a *feast of fat[tenning] things, a feast of wine on the lees, a feast of things full of marrow*. Then he rang his girlfriend Sarah. Come out to dinner tonight. '*Let us eat drink and be merry*', he said. '*Rejoice with me. I have tidings of great joy.*'

Sarah was dressed up to the nines. She gave much attention to *plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold and putting on of apparel. She was fair to look upon.* The waitress came for their order. *He asked water and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish.* They were assured that they *shall eat and be satisfied.* He said to Sarah, who was unusually abstemious, *‘Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake’.*

Then John said ‘Will you marry me? I’m going to *the uttermost parts of the earth,* will you come with me? *It is not good that the man should be alone’.* He waited *in fear and trembling* for her answer *for a good wife who can find?* Sarah laughed. ‘Of course,’ she said *‘Whither thou goest, I will go.* But I want a big white wedding. *Can a maid forget her ornaments or a bride her attire?* I must be properly arrayed as a bride for her husband’ He said *‘Have you counted the cost?’*

She said *‘I will arise and go to my father and ask him to pay up.* He said ‘Whatever you want, dear’.

He called the waiter and said, *‘We have kept the good wine till last’.* Bring us another bottle. However despite their celebrations they were *not drunk with wine wherein is excess.* But at last it was time to go home. *The Night cometh when no man can work.* John fell into a deep sleep knowing *that joy cometh in the morning.* Not to mention the hangover and the credit card bill.

[Liz read the amusing *Sarah’s Dinner at The Word Revealed,* the service we had in August to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Version. It contained dozens of Bible quotations incorporated into a story and, by popular request, it appeared in GS News in the October issue. I challenged anyone to produce a similar rendition and Terry has done just that. Congratulations!]



Macmillan Coffee Morning

We received £393.40 – the best ever in six years. Thank you to everyone who helped: Ruth who did the publicity posters and manned the cake stall, Iris, Lilas and Jeanne who sold raffle tickets and Jean who helped me in the kitchen and of course everyone who so generously parted with their cash. Also to David for being with us and drawing the raffle tickets.

Shirley

Saint-Clement-des-Baleines, September 2011

Dear Friends at the Good Shepherd,

We have arrived safely in France and send our greetings to you! We were brave and drove through the night to get here so that Jakub would sleep. "Here" is the Ile de Re which is next to La Rochelle on the Bay of Biscay. And so our French adventure has begun.

Jakub is already meeting the locals and making himself known. He gives everyone a cheerful smile, which everyone enjoys. We are all enjoying spending the time together - Jakub's face lights up when he sees us together. We are indulging in a glass or two of wine, but not too much because of breast-feeding!

We are making the most of the sunshine and warm weather here, going out every day and exploring different parts of the island. It's also the harvest season for the grapes on the island, so there is lots of activity in the fields with the harvest.

I am also planning to teach English here, and have arranged my first class for next week. Hopefully, I will continue to get teaching here. Meanwhile, we are also focussing on learning French.

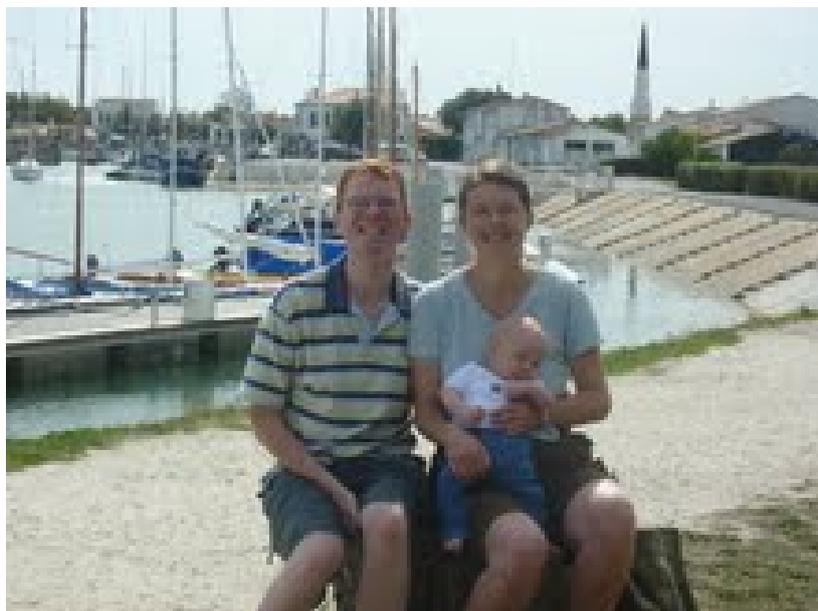
Please keep us in your prayers that our time here may be productive in making new friends and being open to what God wants us to do here.

Our love and prayers

Zuzana & Michael Lovell

P.S. We are on facebook under "Michael Lovell", where you can find more photos. Also our address in France is:

c/o M. Michel Lucas
163 rue de l'Ormon
17590 Saint-Clement-de-Baleines
France







I'd like to remind you that on Saturday 3 December we shall celebrate Nicholas Ferrar Day at Little Gidding, led by Bishop David Stancliffe. The day begins with a celebration of the Eucharist at 10.30 and is followed, after lunch, by the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Little Gidding at around 2pm.

4 December marks the day on which Nicholas died in 1637, and is the date on which he is commemorated in the Calendar of the Church of England. This year, 4 December is a Sunday, and so the principal celebration at Little Gidding will be on Saturday 3 December.

David Stancliffe, who will preside, was the Bishop of Salisbury from 1993 until late last year, when he retired to Durham. He was for many years the Chair of the Church of England's Liturgical Commission, and led the Commission through the production of Common Worship. Bishop David is not only a leading liturgist but is also an excellent speaker, and he will give an address in Ferrar House after the service.

This is followed by lunch, and then the Friends' AGM at around 2pm.

We invite you to come for either or both parts of the day. If you would like to have lunch at Ferrar House please let us know so that we can arrange the catering. Please email Judith Hodgson at hodgsons@phonecoop.coop or telephone 01832 275343.



'NOW I ONLY KNOW IN PARTS'
(1 Corinthians 13: 12)

It's like confessing one is gay
To say I place my trust in Christ.
It's not that one's ashamed as such.
But media seem to be enticed
By tales of fools rejecting light
With random quotes from ancient
books
To trash what science teaches know.
But such are intellectual crooks
Who only heed the facts that suit
Conclusions reached before they start
Review of data now secured.
Indeed, like Dawkins preaching part
Of truth to fit belief that God
Is dead, their minds are closed so tight
That much of what is widely known
Is spurned as though it's deadly blight.
Unless beliefs are free to change
When shown that some of what we
thought
We knew is now displaced by what
Is fresh, and so was never taught
Before today, we'll never grow.
With open minds, and inner ear
Attuned to Holy Spirit's prompt,
Researcher's finds can rouse no fear.

Henry Disney



Science and Religion in Quest of Truth
by John Polkinghorne

There will be an opportunity to hear John talk about his latest book and to buy a signed copy at The Good Shepherd on Monday November 7 at 7pm.

What an opportunity to buy a really special Christmas present!





CHRISTIANS IN IRAN

Five Christians who were held in prison but then released on bail in February/March 2010 have now received their sentences from the court in Shiraz. Mr. Behrooz Sadegh Khanjani; Mr. Parviz Khalaj; Mr. Mehdi (Petros) Foorootan; Mr. Mohammad (William) Biliad; Mrs. Nazli Makarian have all been sentenced to one year's imprisonment for threatening the security of the country. All have been told to report to the court to serve these sentences.

Mrs Nazli Makarian is seven months pregnant. If the authorities insist on detaining her for her faith, her child will be born in prison.

Yousef Nadarkhani has been shown the rope, but says 'I am staying in my faith'. Yousef Nadarkhani has been ordered to appear in court in just a month and a half to again face the charge of apostasy from Islam where the death sentence is likely to be confirmed. On June 27th 2011 Iran's Supreme Court upheld the original death sentence handed out in November 2010, but then suspended it, implying that the 34 year old Pastor Nadarkhani who became a Christian when he was 19, should be given time to change his mind. To help him do this he has twice been taken to the gallows and shown the rope that he would hang from. Despite this cruel violation of the United Nations Charter of Human Rights which affirms that everyone can choose their own faith, Yousef Nadarkhani has refused to deny Christ letting his family know, 'I am staying in my faith.'

Yousef Nadarkhani was first arrested in September 2009 when he approached the local school to ask if his two children could be taken out of the Koran classes. The reply was to send him to prison. Later his wife, Fatemeh Nadarkhani, was also detained, but she was released in October 2010. As for the children, they have not been to school for the last two years.

New Arrests

Elam Ministries has learned that on Saturday 3rd September members of a new house church network were arrested and taken away to prison. Details are limited about the exact numbers or whereabouts of those detained. According to another agency, Mohabat News, two Azeri Christians, Vahid Rofegar and Reza Kahnamoeei, were arrested on 15th July 2011 in Kalibar, near Tabriz, and on June 30th the student

Mostafa Zangooyee was taken in the South West of Iran. There are no more details available.

More harassment, religious cleansing of universities

A female student has been told to either renounce her faith in Jesus Christ, or be expelled from the university where she is studying. Gaining a place at a university in Iran is an arduous affair, involving much study, and often significant financial investment. This ultimatum is effectively legitimizing a policy of religious cleansing in Iran's system of higher education

The Iranian Government: 'We have confiscated 6,500 New Testaments'

The Iranian government has stated it has seized 6,500 New Testaments in the North West of the country. No details were given regarding what the authorities did with the New Testaments. Last year officials burnt 300 New Testaments they had confiscated. There has been no verification from the church regarding this seizure of Scriptures. However the statement once again shows the Iranian government's hostility to allowing their people to read the Bible.

In reporting the August incident, Dr. Majid Abhari, advisor to the Social Issues Committee of Iran's parliament, first praised the quality of the New Testament - 'these books were made with the best paper in the world in pocket size' - and then made the false assumption that they were sent to 'confront Islam', hence justifying the seizure of the holy books. The church has no desire to 'confront' a religion, but a passion to share Jesus Christ with ordinary men and women. However many New Testaments the authorities confiscate, nothing will take away the great desire Iranians have to read about Jesus.

This account has been forwarded by John Lamont and he asks for our prayers for Christians in Iran



Hope for Justice

I wonder how many of you have heard of this organisation?

I certainly hadn't before I attended a meeting at Cambridge Community Church recently. I was invited along by a colleague from school. I wasn't sure what to expect, except that I would be hearing about human trafficking, but I did think that there would be some disturbing facts. There were.

Firstly what is **Hope for Justice**? It is a British-based human rights organisation which seeks to eradicate the problem of human trafficking in the UK. Its main activities are:

- **Investigating and rescuing victims**
- **The protection and rehabilitation of victims**
- **Prosecuting the perpetrators of the crime**
- **Campaigning to ensure laws work effectively to combat the problem**

Cambridge **ACTFOR JUSTICE** is a voluntary group which supports the above aims by:

- **Praying**
- **Raising awareness**
- **Fundraising**
- **Campaigning**

The definition of human trafficking is:

The recruitment, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by threat, coercion, abduction, fraud or deception in order to achieve control over another for the purposes of some form of exploitation.

I was shocked to hear that 99% of victims trafficked for sex are never rescued and that children as young as three years old are brought into the UK for sex, drugs and servitude. Of course we always think that these things happen 'somewhere else' but be assured that they are happening in every major city in the UK – Cambridge is no exception.

We heard some heart-rending stories and I'm sure no-one could have been unmoved by the plight of the victims.

Hope for Justice are hoping that many local groups will be set up to raise awareness of and pray for the situation. To this end, having spoken with Dave, I will be talking about it early in the New Year at one of the 'First Call' meetings at the vicarage on the first Sunday of the month. So if, like me, you are concerned and would like to be involved, do come along and hear more about it.

Liz Collinson



COMMUNITY CLEANS UP ON RECYCLING DAY

[Press release] Volunteers from local churches teamed up with Cambridge City Council staff and residents to run a recycling day and community clean-up in Kings Hedges. Local people brought unwanted clothing, furniture, toys and bikes to a 'Take It Or Leave It' area to pass on for re-use, and enjoyed a BBQ courtesy of North Arbury chapel.

Church volunteers collected bulky items from nearby houses. TVs, microwaves, fridges, freezers, tumble dryers, cookers and an electric fireplace were collected for recycling along with a truck full of wood, over half a tonne of metal, around 40 tins of paint and two tonnes of garden waste. Nearly four tonnes of non-recyclable rubbish were also collected, and the green spaces around the chapel were cleared of litter.

Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Reverend David Maher said, "This was a really good opportunity for local people to meet, work together to improve their neighbourhood and help one another, and we have all enjoyed doing it. It's great that we were able to re-use or recycle so many of the things which were previously cluttering people's homes or gardens."

And what did those who took part say?

Making Friends

As a newcomer to Kings Hedges and Arbury I enjoyed getting to know the area a little more by walking through the estate to some places that I had not been to and chatting to John and Nathan my co-workers on the way helped me get to know them better. It was also good to get to know the people we were helping and to meet some of their neighbours as well. Socialising with folks from other the other local churches over a burger and a cup of tea at lunchtime was also a highlight.

The Community Action Day for me was a satisfying morning's work especially when I saw the fruits of our labours go off on the back of a lorry and fill the back of a whole large van. It was a time for making friends and hopefully making a few people's days too.

*Paula Preston
Ordinand and placement student*

Driving the van

The community project in Kings Hedges to help people clear rubbish or unwanted items from their homes, gardens and garages was a great success. Chris with a variety of helpers was driving the van and the mornings work was very varied from collecting a rocking chair that the owner was desperate to get rid of, from outside a house, to clearing the garage of a widow who was unable to move the old bags of cement and other heavy items on her own. We also kept seeing the flat-bed van which only seemed to standstill long enough to be emptied and then it was off again.

The stall that was set up for people to bring and take away items at no cost was doing a roaring trade as well and the whole morning was very good natured. The hot dogs, burgers, biscuits and cups of tea were very welcome, and we were thankful that the rain, apart from one heavy shower, held off.

Chris and Fiona Blows

And what did those whom we helped say?

May I through the Good Shepherd News offer my grateful thanks to David and Ruth who organised the gardening club/group i.e. all those hard workers who helped tidy my garden? It is much appreciated.

Sad to say, due to the gales at this time of year I am back to square one – well, almost! Everywhere is covered in leaves and sycamore keys. I am still hopeful of a gardener to help maybe every other week or so – just to sort the weeds from the flowers.

Dorothy Gardner

There are lots of pictures at

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/38391009@N07/sets/72157627566874321/>

and thank you to Binnie Pickard who is Community Development Officer (North) and Buchan Street Neighbourhood Centre Manager for allowing us access to them. Here, for the benefit of those without computer access are a few pictures (sorry they are not in colour here). I should add that a lot of our people are not included as they were out and about getting on with it!



Our charitable giving

This year we divided the money contributed into four equal shares and the PCC voted to give £531.50 to each of these charities:

Smile Train

Besom

Alzheimer's support (group that meets in the Church Hall)

Rowan

Thank you to all who made suggestions – they were all considered by the PCC.

What do these chosen charities do? Some will be familiar and others less so – so here is a little information on them all.

Smile Train

This charity helps to alleviate the problems of children born with a cleft palate. The aim of *Smile Train* is as follows: Every child born with a cleft anywhere in the world has the opportunity to live a full, productive life. 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. Their clefts usually go untreated because they are poor – too poor to pay for a simple surgery that has been around for decades. The good news is that every single child with a cleft can be helped with surgery that costs as little as £150. It's a true modern-day medical miracle that gives a child back their life.

Smile Train claims that 82.2% of the money donated to it goes on actual surgical work and *New York Times* claims it is one of the most productive charities - dollar for deed – in the world.

Besom



This is what is traditionally thought of as a besom. The charity of that name to which we are donating acts as a bridge helping members of churches to give to those in need. When we had our Community Action Day Besom provided the van Chris Blows drove to collect unwanted items etc. from people's homes and gardens. It is a national charity but we have been dealing specifically with the Cambridge branch. They help those who are interested to give of their time as a group (or as an individual) or to give things (which Besom then forwards on to those in need) or to give money. Their projects vary but are always long term, of a capital nature, and aim permanently to improve the quality of life of a community

Alzheimer's Support Group

I expect we all know someone whose mental capacity is failing. Sometimes this may be due to Alzheimer's (where the chemistry and structure of the brain changes and this leads to the death of brain cells) sometimes it may be due to vascular dementia (where brain cells die due to lack of oxygen to the brain). Whatever the underlying cause, dementia is a progressive illness and is very trying for the sufferer and for those caring for them.

The group which meets in our Church Hall gives support to both sufferers and carers and, due to the present financial difficulties, has had massive cuts to its funding. With an increasingly aging population the need for such support groups is very pressing.



Rowan

The Good Shepherd Church supports a “Hidden Treasure”

This year your PCC has very kindly decided to make a contribution to Rowan, a wonderful local charity working with special needs adults to make beautiful, original works of art.

I know that this gift will be especially appreciated by them this year, as some of their funding has been axed in the recent government cuts. On their behalf, thank you most sincerely.

I asked Judith Jones if she would tell us something to introduce us Rowan, and she has sent us the enclosed short article and photographs, which capture much of the essence of this magical place.

If you are intrigued to learn more, visit the web-site at www.rowanhumberstone.co.uk (and look for a familiar face) or ring Judith to arrange a visit in person.

John Lamont



Dear Readers

I love to let people know about Rowan, which has been described as one of Cambridge's hidden treasures.

Rowan is a local arts charity that brings artists and people with learning disabilities together.

Our centre in Humberstone Road houses four studios and a gallery. Rowan's students live in Cambridge and the surrounding area and they come to Rowan for between one and five days a week to make art and explore their creativity using different artforms and disciplines; alongside professional artists and crafts-people. Everyone contributes their own individual skills to each piece of artwork and this collaborative style of working gives rise to beautiful, high quality, unique pieces of artwork.

We aim to enhance people's lives within an arts and crafts environment giving them the opportunity to develop personal and vocational skills. As a result our students gain greater independence and control over their lives, participate as active & equal citizens economically and socially; have the best quality of life, irrespective of illness and disability and retain maximum dignity and respect.

Rowan's programme is continually evolving and we currently have four projects. Our Ceramics Project provides opportunities for self-expression and creativity in a busy, experimental and focused environment, our Wood Project is a busy and exciting place where students have the opportunity to develop technical woodworking skills as well as their own creativity. Changing Images is our project for people who need greater support to participate and where creativity is encouraged to the surface using a wide range of materials and activities. Our newest 3D Project provides an artistic environment where students' creativity can be challenged and developed and where the creative process is the focus.

Rowan is a happy place made up of a creative team of caring and enthusiastic students, volunteers and staff from Cambridgeshire. We are open Monday to Friday and our students attend between 9am and 3.30pm. If you or any of the Church groups and societies would like to find out more about our valuable work, we are more than happy to arrange visits to Rowan or visit your groups.

We have a website www.rowanhumberstone.co.uk where you can learn more about Rowan, or you can reach me by telephone on (01223) 566027, or mobile 07888 399156.

Judith Jones - Marketing and Fundraising, Rowan Humberstone
40 Humberstone Road, Cambridge, CB4 1JG



IN THE CHURCH HALL

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
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
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Christina Oxtoby.	017800767627
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	Anthony Tyler	01954 719315
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	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
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	Tom Boughton	301002
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

TO BOOK THE CHURCH HALL

Please phone 352151 (evenings)

**Submission date for
December Newsletter:
November 13
(Publication date November 27)**



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

