

Church Newsround June 2011

St Oswald's Church Blankney
Come and enjoy "**An Afternoon in Blankney**" on Sunday 10th July.
Guided village walks at 2pm and 3.30 pm.
Organ music throughout the afternoon.
Afternoon Teas & Raffle & Stalls.
All Proceeds to St Oswald's Tower Fund.

Dunston Scarecrow Weekend

This year's Scarecrow weekend is the 17/18 September, and attractions will include a Scarecrow Trail, Raffle and Tombola, Silver Sounds Band, refreshments, and the Fire Engine, with Evensong on Sunday at 6pm in St Peter's. Entrance is free and the winner will be chosen as usual by the public. More information from Sue on 320946 or Phyll on 321780

Bishops Letter : The Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head...

A routine conversation, with a well-dressed, groomed and beautifully spoken young man, revealed a surprising story: he had just got away from sleeping on the streets as a homeless man. There was no drug or alcohol abuse involved here, and there were no mental health issues; the young man had split up with his long-time partner and was forced to leave his flat in order to sever the relationship. Poorly paid in part-time employment, he could not afford a hotel room still less the deposit for a new flat or house. The answer was a tent on the riverside. Thankfully, this young man has now found better paid work and, being quite simple in everyday needs, has also got a new flat. He is one of the lucky ones. A recent Rowntree Foundation report (why not Google it?) suggests that around 75,000 young people become homeless each year, but the figures are difficult because only the folk who stay in touch with the agencies can be counted. Not all of these young people are sleeping rough as many are 'sofa surfing' and sleeping in friends homes on floors, but evidence suggests that a majority do spend at least a short period sleeping on the streets. Further studies make a significant link between homelessness and depression, familial violence and abuse and bereavement. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that there is a considerable social stigma attached to homelessness: amidst our pity, there is always the lurking suspicion that people have brought this upon themselves, deserve it because of bad management or actually like living an irresponsible life.

Homelessness in our own county of Lincolnshire is not as great a problem as elsewhere in the country, but it still exists and it is incumbent upon us to take it seriously. The Lincolnshire pattern is also what you may expect, with 6 homeless householders per 1000 in East Lindsey whereas South Holland has around 1.4 per 1000. As always, if we are not careful, out of sight can mean out of mind and we feel there is little we can do or say. Matters are made worse by the knowledge that support agencies like Lincoln MIND are now closing their doors because of recessionary cuts in funding. As economic factors kick in, the problem of homelessness and its attendant issues of mental and physical health and well-being are set fair to get worse. So what to do? Well first, as Christian folk following one who famously declared that he had 'nowhere to lay his head', we can simply care and be the ones who recognise, not just that there is a homelessness problem in this country and our county, but also that homelessness happens to flesh and blood human beings like you and me and that 'there but for fortune go you or I'. In addition, there is good evidence that the various charitable organisations such as NOMAD and the YMCA do actually make a considerable positive contribution to supporting and helping the homeless through their problems and into homes. We can support them financially and they would be worthy recipients of giving from local parish church communities. However, all of this is first-aid and cannot address the long-term problem alone: this takes the political will of the people of our county to demand investment into new home building, particularly in our rural areas, and to support our local Authorities in trying to meet the demands of the Homelessness Act of 2002. These are questions we need to put to those in power in our country and land.

+Tim.

THANK YOU

Mary Lamyman and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for their kind words of comfort and support in their recent bereavement.

Thank you also for those who attended the Celebration of Thanksgiving for Frank's life. Your presence was much appreciated.

Our New Associate Priest

On Tuesday 10 May the six Parishes in our Cluster came together for the licensing of The Reverend Jonnie Parkin as Associate Priest, by The Bishop of Grantham The Reverend Dr. Tim Ellis. A large congregation, mainly from the six parishes, local and district councillors and head teachers from the village schools. A reception was held in Nocton Village Hall giving the Reverend Jonnie Parkin an opportunity to meet people from the Parishes. We now look to the future working with Jonnie. MA

St Wilfrid's Quinquennial Inspection

Churches have to be inspected every five years, and St Wilfrid's survey took place in March and the report has just been received. It was carried out by David Glew of Glew + Smith, from Lincoln, who has been surveying the church since 1984. Overall the church received a clean bill of health (relatively speaking). People will remember the recent outbreak of dry rot which was repaired in 2009/2010. Before that, rusting ironwork had been removed from the four sides of the tower battlements, and the stonework rebuilt.

This time some DIY items were listed for volunteers to undertake. Then repairs to stonework, repointing, rainwater goods and roof repairs, were listed for the most urgent attention. After that, plaster, glazing and metalwork require action. In due course, redecorations, and joinery items need attention. Finally, speculation on future improvements included improved lighting, replacing the north nave gutter, the clock, redecorations, and some new joinery work.

Glew + Smith are very experienced church architects and surveyors, who also carry out domestic work, surveys for house buyers, reports on defects, etc.

On receipt of the report although a mention was made that we received a clean bill of work (relatively speaking), estimates of work required in the next few years could total over £20,000 to keep the building up to the required standard.

Over the last few months we have had increasing trouble around the church and if anyone does see anything suspicious they should contact the police who are aware of our problems.

RB

Dunston St Peter's School

We enjoyed some celebrations to mark the Royal Wedding. All of the children came to school wearing red, white and blue. They enjoyed a street party style lunch followed by lots of fun and party games. Mrs Higginbottom, one of our governors, made a special cake for us and we presented every child with a commemorative mug.

We had a good turn out for our annual Sponsored Walk around the local fields organised by The Friends of the School. As I write this the sponsor money is still coming in but we are hoping to raise lots of money.

The Year 6 children have completed their SATs (tests) for another year and, as always, have worked hard and done their best.

I attended the licensing service for Rev Jonnie Parkin as associate priest at All Saints Church at Nocton. It was a lovely service which was very well attended. I will be meeting with Rev Parkin very soon and looking at ways that we can work together.

The dates of our future family services are: June 23rd and July 14th. They are both on Thursdays and start at 2.15pm. You are most welcome to join us.

Graham Boyall Head teacher

SERVICES FOR JUNE IN THE THREE PARISHES

Thursday 2nd Ascension Day
7.30pm Deanery Eucharist – St. Wilfrid's

Sunday 5th The Seventh Sunday of Easter
8.00am Holy communion – St' Wilfrid's
9.00am Holy Communion – St. Peter's
10.30am United Service – Metheringham Methodist Chapel

Thursday 9th (and each Thursday)
9.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 12th Day of Pentecost
9.00am Holy Communion – St. Oswald's
9.00am Morning Worship – St. Peter's
10.30am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's with The Archdeacon. The Venerable Tim Barker.

Sunday 19th Trinity Sunday
9.00am Holy Communion – St. Peter's
10.30am Morning Worship – St. Wilfrid's

Thursday 23rd Corpus Christi
2.15pm Family Service with St. Peter's School

Sunday 26th The First Sunday after Trinity
9.00am Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion – St. Oswald's
10.30am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's

July
Sunday 3rd Second Sunday after Trinity
8.00am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's
9.00am Holy Communion – St. Peter's
10.30am United Service – St. Wilfrid's

Frank Lamyman

It is with great sadness that we report that Frank has died. This is the eulogy given by his son Bryan.

On behalf of my mother and family I would like to thank every one for the love and support over the last few weeks and for joining us today at Dunston St Peters church for this service to celebrate fathers life. A few years ago when my niece Nicola was at school she decided she would like to do a biography of her Granddad and so she sat with him and let him talk about his life and some of this I will be sharing with you during the next few moments. A life which began on 21st July 1917 when he was born at Tattershall Bridge, the eldest of four children, to Albert and Evelyn Lamyman. He was christened at Tattershall Bridge Methodist Church, and as he grew up he enjoyed many happy days and trips out with their Sunday school. His father Albert worked in the family bakery and post office and father along with his younger brother Roy, helped sell their hot cross buns and deliver telegrams.

Father attended Dogdyke school and in his own words he didn't particularly enjoy his primary school years, much preferring the outdoors. He loved to tell his grandchildren the story of a time when he had been kept in school for misbehaviour and it was a nice sunny day and the window next to his desk was open so he thought " I have had enough of this", saw his chance, climbed out of the window and ran off. He also told of the time when he and some of his friends burnt the teachers cane in the classroom stove.

He attended Horncastle Grammar School, which in his own words, was quite a trek to get there; he had to cycle one mile to Tattershall station, where he caught the train to Woodhall junction and then changed again for Horncastle. He enjoyed sport very much and played

football and tennis for the school teams, and later he played football for Navenby and Tan Vats.

His interest in football continued when his father took all the family to Sincil Bank to watch every home game. He very much enjoyed his years at Tattershall Bridge, the family holidays with his brother and sisters at Skegness, the boat trips on the river, and the many family picnics.

Father left school at 15 and had the opportunity to stay in the bakery or join his father in farming and we all know he chose farming.

It was at this time his parents had moved to Top Farm, Navenby and this was his first experience of working on the land and he described it as very hard work! He used to recall herding cattle from Navenby to Tattershall Bridge early morning and then biking back to Navenby to play football! He was also active in the A.R.P. helping make gas masks and air raid shelters during the second world war. He enjoyed visiting the Royal Agricultural Show and the Smithfield Show in London.

One day at the age of twenty six father was on his way back from a day trip to Skegness with his sisters Eileen and Bess they called at Tattershall Bridge Chapel for a party. He was introduced to eighteen year old farmers daughter called Mary Curtis. Their relationship developed through their mutual interest in sport, playing tennis and hockey together. They were married on Dec. 26th 1946 at Tattershall Church.

They began their married life at Poplar Farm, Dunston Fen. Life was hard in those days, they didn't have mains electricity and food, clothes and petrol were rationed. It was a typical mixed farm, Father had milking cows, a few beef cows, pigs, chickens etc and also grew potatoes and wheat. He initially employed prisoners of war and land army girls and later people from the national children's home who lived in with them and I know that one of those families are here today. I was born in 1949 and Jean, Judy and Neil in subsequent years.

The family moved up to Millfield in 1966 and in the same year father became a member of Dunston Parish Council. He became Chairman of the council in 1970 and remained in that office for 22 years and he retired from the council in 1995 after almost 30 years service. He was very proud that during his chairmanship he was involved with many things, the refurbishment of the village hall, the negotiations that took place regarding the new Primary School in Back Lane and he was invited to the opening and dedication of the school by the Bishop of Grantham in 1974.

In 1986/7 he was asked by a representative of the Sartre region of France if Dunston would be interested in a Twinning link with a village in that region and so started the Twinning with Trange and for many years he and my mother visited Trange many times and enjoyed hosting their family in Dunston. Dunston was his village, he loved this village and everyone in it and was very proud that he was able to represent Dunston in the way that he did. In the late eighties they moved from Millfield to their bungalow in Dunston and spent many happy years there.

He had many other interests, for 47 years he was a member of the Masonic fraternity and was master of Bolingbroke Castle in 1976/7 and eventually became Chaplain of that Lodge for many years. He was a member of the Woodhall Spa Probus for almost 30 years. He was a member and President of the Dunston bowls club for many years, and also a member of Sleaford Indoor Bowls Club. He was also president of the Woodhall Spa afternoon bowling league. He was on the Christ's Hospital Endowment Committee at Potterhanworth.

He supported both the Chapel, being a steward there for many years and also St Peter's Church Dunston.

He enjoyed his farming, his shooting and his fly fishing for salmon in Scotland and trout in our local reservoirs. He enjoyed following horse racing. He was a member of the N.F.U and a member of the Witham first district drainage board and a member of the Lincs agricultural Society and visited the Lincolnshire Show many times.

He was a great family man and enjoyed the many many occasions when his family got together and his favourite saying however small or large the gathering was "oh isn't this a lovely party" Of course the love of his life was my Mother, Mary. Its impossible to talk about father without mentioning Mum because they have always been as one, they had nearly 65 years together, Mum all our hearts go out to you, you and father set us all a wonderful example of marriage and parenthood which I hope we can all continue to emulate and pass on to our children and families.

During the last week father has been described to me as a gentleman and a gentle man, a pillar of the community, someone

who was always smiling, a good story teller, someone who would take time to talk to and listen to anybody, an inspiration, a kind man. To us his family he had all these qualities and many more and we will miss him greatly.

I know everyone here today has many different memories of him and my hope is that by sharing these memories with each other we will keep his memory alive for many years to come.

I said earlier that my Father was a member of the Masonic fraternity and there are a some words that are used in masonry that I would like end with and they are " He rose to eminence by merit, he lived respected and died regretted".

God bless you Dad.

Magnificent tribute to a wonderful man

An amazing £1735.26 was donated during a packed service in St Peter's to give thanks for the life of Frank Lamyman. Many people signed the Gift Aid envelopes provided, so we can claim a further £128 to be added to the total. The money is divided equally between St Peter's and Dunston Methodist Church and is most gratefully received. Thank you to everyone for your generosity, which shows in some small measure the love, regard and respect in which Frank was held by so many. Life in our churches will not be the same without him, he will be sorely missed. Mary and all her family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Adrienne Jones

Metheringham W I

The Gift Wrapping Demonstration by Jane Means produced attractive results – and a quiet absorbed meeting !

Lots of cellophane, tissue paper, ribbon and recycled bits (don't throw anything away was the advice – it can be re-used.) and most of all double sided sticky tape.

The despair of wrapping difficult shapes was made to look easy. E.g. bottles and the cleverest wrap was the folding and creasing of paper to cover a round tin. Added decoration to envelopes made cards more inviting. A box shape wrapped around with attractive paper to produce a party bag gave ideas to those entering the Party Bag competition at the Lincs Show.

Even so lazy people – me – will still probably do a last minute wrap around using too much paper and selotape but at least will be made to feel guilty about it.

The meeting then voted on and passed unanimously the two resolutions to go forward to the annual AGM to be held in Liverpool.

1. Against proposed Mega Farms.
2. Closure of local Libraries.

Next meeting 16th June – Fashion Show – Edinburgh Wool Shop.

JS

Girlguiding

The Metheringham Girl Guide Unit has run successful for many years, giving pleasure, opportunities and friendship. It is still a great success, and has a waiting list of girls, BUT we need help in Leaders and helpers.

The Unit is open each Tuesday 6-30-8-30pm during School terms.

Maybe you can only help occasionally, that is fine we could create a Rota list.

Please contact me, Phyll Sands. Tel. 01526 320719 or lesands@pampa.freemove.co.uk

Metheringham Over 60's Club

All Club events are held at the Village Hall, Metheringham, unless otherwise stated.

Petwood Hotel Lunch: On Wednesday, 27th April, 120 members enjoyed a three course lunch, including wine, at the Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa. Funding came from a bequest by the late Trudie Pilsbury, who wanted a party, and a donation from the family of the late Wyn Simpson. Our heartfelt thanks and condolences go out to their families. The club met the balance of the costs.

Member's Evening: On Wednesday, 4th May, we welcomed 14 new members to the club. Entertainment for the evening was provided by Mr. Trev (Budge) Walton, a vocalist accompanied himself on his accordion. He also used a keyboard and two synthesizers. Trev gave us a rendition of "The Tennessee Waltz". This reminded me that at aged 10 years, singing that same song, I won a singing competition at the St. John's Ambulance Brigade in North Wales. That was the pinnacle of my singing career and it has been going downhill ever since. We had medleys of well known Glenn Miller and Scottish favourites, Cliff Richard's "Move it", Bobby Vee's, "Take Good Care of My Baby", 10CC's, "Bad Moon Rising" and "Duelling Banjos", amongst many others. He also produced an interesting version of "The Dambuster's March" using the keyboard and synthesizers.

As well as an excellent work rate, Trev gave a good performance playing his own musical arrangements but with some imbalance of volume over vocals and perhaps a little too much of songs in the distant past. Members may be aged over 60 but we did not stop listening to music produced after the 1960s. Interaction with his audience was more noticeable during the second half of his performance and he is the type of performer that you may find and thoroughly enjoy at your Spanish holiday resort. Overall, his performance was well received by members.

Our next members evening, normally held on the first Wednesday of each month from September until May, inclusive, will be on 7th September.

Summer Holiday: There has been a change to the dates of this year's holiday. Still to Weston-Super-Mare, but from Monday, 26th September to Saturday, 1st October 2011, inclusive, staying at The Lauriston Hotel. The cost for 6 days, five nights, will be £350.00 per person. The price includes half-board, entertainment every evening, all gratuities, holiday insurance and no single room supplement. Also includes, couriers, day trips to Bath; Exmoor stopping at Lynton & Lynmouth; Wells Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace with a stop at Cheddar (cheese). Holidays are not subsidised by the club, therefore, it is open to both members and non-members. For further details contact Chairman Margaret Amos on Tel: 01526 321049.

Diary events:

Saturday 4th June Coffee morning - open to all members and the public. In addition to a refreshing brew of tea or coffee and scones, there will be a raffle, a chance to purchase home made cakes, books, bric-a-brac and tombola. All donations of items as prizes for the raffle, or for re-sale will be very welcome, with proceeds going to Club Funds. Doors open from 10.00 - 11.30 am. We look forward to seeing you all.

Coach outings:

Wednesday	29th June	Wisbech Rose Fair (Seats available).
Wednesday	20th July	Cambridge (Seats available).
Wednesday	3rd Aug.	Constable Country (Fully booked).
Wednesday	14th Sept.	Gressinghall (Seats available).

All coach trips are self-supporting, non-members are welcome to join us when seats are available. Please contact Mr. Fred Deacon, Tel: 01526 322704.

At the present time we have full membership. We have a waiting list and should you wish to add your details to this please contact the Chairman Margaret Amos on Tel: 01526 321049.

Watch out for the posters displayed around the village as a reminder of forthcoming events and we looking forward to seeing you at all.

Dave Williams. Secretary.

Women who know their place

Barbara Walters, of 20/20 (ABC's prime time news magazine programme), did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem happy to maintain the old custom.

Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, 'Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?' The woman looked Ms Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said: 'Land mines.' PP

Bible fever overtakes Bieber fever on Facebook

The Bible has pipped pop-star Justin Bieber to take top spot in the Facebook popularity charts. The Bible is also proving more popular than Man United and Real Madrid.

All Facebook, the unofficial Facebook resource, has recently announced that the all-time best-selling book in the world has overtaken Justin Bieber in the ranking table. (See below) With over six and a half million fans, the Bible Facebook page not only beats Bieber – who regularly reads the Bible himself - but Manchester United and Real Madrid FC who are two of the world's biggest clubs.

The Bible page is part of the worldwide work offered by Bible Society and United Bible Societies which works in over 200 countries and territories around the world. Ben Whitnall, Digital Advocacy Officer at Bible Society says: 'People would not necessarily put the Bible and Facebook in the same sentence. But a recent week's rankings list, which places the Bible in the number one spot, shows that Christians are engaging with social networks and using them as a means of communicating about the Bible. It's really encouraging to see that the two can co-exist.' PP

Yes, very interesting but who is Justin Bieber – Ed

Two million turn to the web to find church information

More than two million people have turned to the web to find their local parish church in the last 12 months, according to figures. The Church of England's www.achurchnearyou.com website welcomed 2,084,444 visitors in the 12 months up to April 2011, an increase of more than 28 per cent on the previous 12 months. In January, the Church's location database was integrated within the new CofE website at www.churchofengland.org, leading to a steady increase in visitors.

Peter Crumpler, Director of Communications for the Archbishops' Council, says: "The increasing popularity of the site is one further indication of the trend for people to use the web when looking for a place for worship, to attend a wedding, funeral or baptism, or to seek a quiet place for prayer or reflection."

The www.achurchnearyou.com website is just one example of the Church's engagement with web-based media. The Church of England's Twitter account (@c_of_e) currently has 8,200 followers; the YouTube channel boasts almost 60,000 views and 1,500 people viewed the latest video promoting church weddings in its first week. PP

(Our thanks go to our own Webmaster for St Wilf's site. Have you looked at it recently ? – Ed)

Apples

This tale comes from a Roman Catholic elementary school. . . Up at the head table in the school cafeteria, one of the nuns had placed a big bowl of bright red, fresh, juicy apples. Beside the bowl, she placed a note which read, "Take only one. Remember, God is watching."

At the other end of the table was a bowl full of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, still warm from the oven. Beside the bowl lay a little note scrawled in a child's handwriting which read: "Take all you want. God is watching the apples." PP

Sermon prep

A young curate who had just been ordained stepped in to take the sermon at very short notice, because the vicar was ill. At the end of the sermon he explained apologetically: 'At such short notice I'm afraid I just had to rely on the Holy Spirit. Next week I hope to do better!' PP

Fathers and daughters

A young father was taking care of his baby daughter while his wife went to town shopping. He decided to go fishing and he had to take the toddler along. "I'll never take her along with me again!" he told his wife that evening. "I didn't catch a thing!"

"Oh, next time I'm sure she'll be quiet and not scare the fish away," his wife said. The father said gloomily. "No, it wasn't that. She ate all the bait." PP

Last minute

A minister waited in the queue to have his car filled with petrol just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the

attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business." PP