

## Church Newsround June 2010

### WANTED

- Cleaners are needed to clean the Church on a voluntary basis.
  - A paid cleaner is needed for the Church Hall.
- Please contact Margaret Amos 321049

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### Bishop's Letter - It's the Law!

von Bismark once said that laws are like sausages – you don't want to be there when they are being made.

But being there while laws are made is precisely what will be required of members newly elected to Parliament. And this raises questions about how Christians should relate to legislation and the law of the land.

The standard response is that we do all we can to influence the legislative process by casting our vote, lobbying MPs and making the most of having Bishops in the House of Lords – and then live as best we can with the outcome.

On the other hand, there is a long history of civil disobedience on the part of Christians who refuse as a matter of principle to comply with the law, and are prepared to face the consequences.

Each of these stances finds support in Scripture and the Christian tradition.

But during the last Parliament we became aware of a third way whereby Christians campaigned to be exempted from certain laws because they were thought to conflict with Christian beliefs or threaten religious liberty. Former Archbishop George Carey even argued for cases involving Christian principle to be dealt with by specially chosen Judges who might be expected to understand the Christian point of view.

What do you think?

My own position is that we argue our corner when laws are being made but don't go in for special pleading in order to secure exemptions for ourselves. Civil disobedience remains an option for Christians when law and faith are in conflict, and many bad laws have been repealed as a result of peaceful protest. But spending less time on securing exemption for ourselves so as to concentrate on making laws which are for the well being of all, would not come amiss.

+ John Lincoln

### In Memory of Joyce Morris

St Wilfrid's church has received a bequest of £200 from the estate of the late Joyce Eleanor Morris with no restraints, so it has gone into the Fabric Fund. Also her daughter Joy and son-in-law David have made a donation for the purpose of purchasing a Remembrance Book in Joyce's memory. This has been acquired and will be in church soon. A wooden case with a glass front is being made to fit.

Anyone who would like to have a loved one's name included when the book is placed in church should please phone 321363 for further information.

### St Wilfrid's Church Marriage and Funerals

Please contact the Church Wardens : Margaret Amos 321049 or Richard Brewin 320163

### From the Registers - Baptisms

*We welcome into God's Family*

Grace Elsie Edith Peacock

George Robert Loakes

Baptised at St. Oswald's Sunday 16th May

## **Advance Notice - Bike Ride & Stride 2010 on Saturday 11 September**

Walk, cycle, horse-ride, or even run between Lincolnshire's churches and enjoy the wonderful scenery of our County. You choose the route, and you choose which churches to support.

The momentum for this year's Bike Ride and Stride will really start to build from now until the big event on Saturday 11th September. This event is a tremendous opportunity to raise money for your Church. Sponsorship money will be divided equally between the Trust and any church of your choosing in Lincolnshire. As well as raising money this is set to be a fun day out for all the family.

For the event to be a success we rely on the support of parishioners not only in taking part in the event but also in promoting the event within their local community. Remember, the money raised directly benefits your parish! Please encourage everyone to support this event. If you would like to find out more contact Nic Ridley at [nicridley@btconnect.com](mailto:nicridley@btconnect.com) (telephone 01476 550055) or Caroline Cummins at [caroline.cummins@btopenworld.com](mailto:caroline.cummins@btopenworld.com).

Sponsorship forms will be available nearer the time so make a note in your diary - Ed

## **Dunston News.**

### **St. Peter's Church of England Primary School**

The school has been involved in an exciting project with Siren FM (the University radio station) recently. We borrowed some of their recording equipment and a few of the older children have interviewed their relatives as part of our recent World War Two topic. A group of children will be going to the radio station in June to make the recordings into a radio programme to be broadcast soon afterwards.

As I write this, we are about to mark a very special retirement at Dunston. Margaret Doughty has worked at the school since 1979 as our caretaker and later as a midday supervisor as well. She is loved by all of the staff and children and we will be very sad to see her go. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

Here are some dates for your diary. The next church services take place on May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup> (both starting at 2.15). The school Summer Fayre will take place on Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 3.30 following on from our Sports Day. Please come and support us if you can.

Finally, a very special date for your diary. The Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Reverend John Saxbee, will be holding short services of dedication at both Dunston School (10.00am) and Digby School (11.00am) on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. He will be dedicating the two mosaics outside the schools to mark the successful federation between the two schools that has now been in place for over a year.

Graham Boyall Headteacher

## **SERVICES FOR JUNE IN THE THREE PARISHES**

### **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> ( and each Thursday )**

9.00am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> The first Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's

9.00am Holy Communion – St. Peter's

10.30am United Service – St. Wilfrid's

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> The Second Sunday after Trinity**

9.00am Holy Communion – St. Oswald's

9.00am Morning Worship – St. Peter's

10.30am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> The Third Sunday after Trinity**

9.00am Holy Communion – St. Peter's

10.30am Morning Worship – St. Wilfrid's

### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>**

2.15pm Family Service with St Peter's School

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> The Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

9.00am Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion –  
St.Oswald's  
10.30am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's

**July**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> The Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion – St. Wilfrid's  
9.00am Holy Communion – St, Peter's  
10.30am United Service – Metheringham Methodist Chapel

**Weathered timbers in Lincoln Cathedral**

The effects of 800 years of weathering on an oak window frame are about to go on display at Lincoln Cathedral. As part of the ongoing conservation work on the South side, the Cathedral's stained glass team are in the process of restoring a plain glazed lancet window in the Works Chantry, one of the three small chapels in the South East Transept, near the statue of Bishop Edward King.

Nearly all of the original oak window frames in the Cathedral have either been repaired or replaced over the centuries, but one of them, dating from around 1215, is almost complete. It is very unusual to find an original frame of this age. Unfortunately it is now in an advanced state of deterioration; it has lost its structural stability, and needs to be replaced. In order to preserve it and make the artefact accessible to the public the frame will be displayed in the Cathedral roof with some original medieval ironwork from the window. Visitors on roof tours will have the opportunity to see it from June 2010.

**W.I Report**

This meeting was to discuss and vote for the resolution to go to Annual Conference. "All food was to be clearly labelled with the country of origin and had to be ethically produced" The resolution was passed unanimously.

The second part of the evening was something completely different. A talk about what life was like running a Soho Night Club. The majority of the people working in them - due to circumstances – were there because they had to earn a living. A big thank you for a very enlightening talk. She deserved to win the raffle !

Next meeting Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup> – The Stage Coach Talk (bus not theatre)

Competition – something beginning with D.

JS

**Metheringham Over 60's Club**

*On Wednesday 28th April:* Members and guests enjoyed a visit to the flower festival at Long Sutton and this was later followed by a visit to Springfields, at Spalding, for shopping.

*On Wednesday 5th May:* We were able to welcome 19 new members from our waiting list to replace members who have resigned or moved out of the area, regrettably we were not able to absorb all those on the list on this occasion. There is a waiting list for membership but you are welcome to join the list by contacting the Chairman Margaret Amos on Tel: 01526 321049.

Members and guests were entertained by 'Just Chilled' featuring female singer Jan Huston who also played keyboard accompanied by guitarist Gordon Anderson. They played a wide range of songs and were fully appreciated by those attending.

Our next members evening will follow the summer events, generally coach outings and a coffee morning, and will be held on Wednesday 1st September with entertainment by another singing duo, Anita & Nick; more details will be published nearer the date.

Dairy events:

Our coach trip organiser Mrs. Doreen Cope has arranged a full programme with outings over the summer period as follows:

2nd June - Bury St Edmunds

7th July - Rufford Abbey/Thoresby Hall

4th August - Ely

8th September - Louth Market in the morning and onto Mablethorpe in the afternoon.

There has been a lot of interest in all these trips and they are currently fully booked. However, Doreen does have a waiting list in case someone has to drop out for any unforeseen reason and you are most welcome to contact her.

Saturday 12th June, Coffee Morning: we will be holding a coffee morning at the Metheringham, Village Hall. In addition to our members, we would welcome any member of the community and visitors to the village, who would like to join us to partake of a refreshing brew and a scone. There will be a raffle, usually with in excess of 40 donated prizes: the chance to purchase homemade cakes, books and bric-a-brac and tombola. Proceeds go towards club funds. If you wish to donate anything, please contact the Chairman Margaret Amos on Tel: 01526 321049. Watch out for the posters displayed around the village as a reminder and we looking forward to seeing you.

Dave Williams Secretary

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### **St Barnabas**

Are you going to Cyprus on holiday this year? If so, spare a thought for the Cypriot who played such a key role in the New Testament. He was Joseph, a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite, who is first mentioned in Acts 4:36, when the early church was sharing a communal lifestyle. Joseph sold a field and gave the money to the apostles. His support so touched them that they gave him the nickname of Barnabas, 'Son of Encouragement'. Barnabas has two great claims to fame. Firstly, it was Barnabas who made the journey to go and fetch the converted Paul out of Tarsus, and persuade him to go with him to Antioch, where there were many new believers with no one to help them. For a year the two men ministered there, establishing a church. It was here that the believers were first called Christians. It was also in Antioch (Acts 13) that the Holy Spirit led the church to 'set aside' Barnabas and Paul, and send them out on the church's first ever 'missionary journey'. The Bible tells us that they went to Cyprus, and travelled throughout the island. It was at Lystra that the locals mistook Barnabas for Zeus and Paul for Hermes, much to their dismay.

Much later, back in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Paul decided to part company. While Paul travelled on to Syria, Barnabas did what he could do best: return to Cyprus and continue to evangelise it. So if you go to Cyprus and see churches, remember that Christianity on that beautiful island goes right back to Acts 13, when Barnabas and Paul first arrived. In England there are 13 ancient church dedications and not a few modern ones. Barnabas the generous, the encourager, the apostle who loved his own people – no wonder he should be remembered with love. PP

**Erasmus (d. c. 300)** Do you like messing about in boats? If so, then you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea. St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted many modern bishops,

but not Erasmus – he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who also had to brave the elements of nature in their daily work. But when Erasmus was made the patron saint of sailors, it led to a curious confusion. His emblem became the windlass, a kind of hoist used by many sailors at sea. So far so good, but many medieval Christians, seeing the windlass emblem, assumed it was some sort of torture instrument. They knew that Erasmus had died in the persecution of Diocletian, and concluded that a windlass had been used to hoist out his intestines (which it hadn't). But no matter - Erasmus was still adopted by another set of suffering people. Not only did sailors remember the thunderbolt, and look to him, but soon, anyone with gut ache as well. PP

### **Petroc**

If you are going to Cornwall this summer in search of peace and quiet, Petroc is the saint for you. Especially if you find Padstow a bit too crowded for your liking! He would have sympathised. This 6th century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc set sail from South Wales, landed at Haylemouth, and founded a monastery as Lanwethinoc – now called Padstow, after him (Petroc's Stow). Padstow must have been popular even in those days, because about 30 years later Petroc, in search of some peace and quiet, moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceventon). Here he must have decided to try some 6th century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel. In time, Petroc began feeling crowded again. So he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit – until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly Petroc kept them all housed in a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river. But even here Petroc was not alone. One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the huntsmen arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem. Petroc was buried in the monastery in Padstow, but in c.1000 his shrine and relics, including his staff and bell, were translated to Bodmin. Here they have stayed ever since, except for a short, unplanned trip to Brittany in 1177, when they were stolen and carted off by a naughty Canon of the Church. Henry II intervened, and everything but a rib of Petroc was eventually returned. PP

### **Put the kettle on!**

Drinking tea and coffee can reduce the chances of you developing type 2 diabetes, according to recent research in Australia. It was found that those who drank three to four cups of coffee or tea a day had a 20 to 25 per cent lower risk of type 2 diabetes than those who drank none or only a couple of cups a day. It does not matter whether it is decaffeinated or not. The research, published in Archives of Internal Medicine, believes that it is compounds in coffee and tea, including magnesium and antioxidants, which may be responsible. PP

### **You could spend your life waiting for one of these....**

There are 91,500 people in the UK who are waiting for an allotment. That is up from 76,330 in June 2009. And the popular grow-your-own trend, accelerated by the recession and rising price of food, shows no sign of calming down. In Camden, north London, nearly 1,000 people are facing a 40-year wait for around 200 allotments. Islington, Burnley, Fylde, and Wirral all have waiting lists of longer than 10 years. In Oldham 400 people are waiting for 19 sites. Other councils have closed their waiting lists altogether. Local authorities have a statutory duty to provide allotments, but many frustrated gardeners say "it is just not happening, and is such a shame." As one keen gardener points out: "Having an allotment ticks all the healthy living boxes in terms of diet, exercise and low carbon footprints." PP

## **On why Arts Festivals in church are a bad idea**

The Rectory, St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren, Your decision to hold a Summer weekend Arts Festival in church, bringing culture to your inner city streets, was most commendable. Pity, how it all turned out.

The Friday evening started well with the concert of Scott Joplin piano music. Obviously knowing that the pieces were originally played in seedy bars on pianos wildly out of tune with several notes missing, your committee must have gone to endless trouble to find precisely the right instrument. Your stage hands, were, however, less careful and hadn't noticed that the platform had a noticeable list to port. After each piece, the pianist had to relocate the piano stool closer to his nomadic piano, with the last piece being performed with both entirely out of sight behind the pulpit.

It created much innocent entertainment for the audience, but the fault really should have been remedied before the Saturday evening choir concert. Discarded kneelers and rotting hymn books do not form a stable base for a stage supporting an 80-strong choir. So when it came to the enthusiastic rendering of hits from "Oklahoma", with copious hand movements, it came as something of a relief that the stage took this as the moment to signal defeat, tipping the tenors behind the altar. The audience's thunderous applause, assuming this was a carefully choreographed part of the performance, was quite touching. I am sure all the compensation claims will soon be sorted out.

Your one great mistake was to take on responsibility for organising the refreshments afterwards. Church entertainments committees have centuries of collective experience in judging the numbers of ham sandwiches and bottles of milk required. I am forever proud that our own ladies – through years of experience – can now get 34 cups of tea from every tea bag and can butter bread so thinly that one pack can last several months.

What you now do with 89 surplus loaves of bread is a problem you have brought upon yourself. You could possibly use them for supporting the stage next year.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

**Holidays coming....** My grandchildren believe I'm the oldest thing in the world. And after two or three hours with them, I believe it, too.

**Roar** - The teacher was giving a lesson about the weather idiosyncrasies of the various months of the year. "What comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?" she asked. Little Julia in the back row responded brightly: "My father,

**Now you know** - A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a baby sitter."

**Contentment** - Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked!

**Home is...** Teacher: Sam, give me a definition of 'home'. Sam: Home is where part of the family waits until the others are through with the car.

## **with miscellaneous observations of modern life in mind...**

Government expert: one who complicates simple things.

Gentleman: one who holds the door open while his wife carries in the groceries.

Friend: what you call a person who dislikes the same people you dislike.

Do not confuse a reckless driver with a wreckless driver.

Reformer: one who makes his associates feel miserable about their pleasures.

Prosperity: something private citizens create, for which politicians take credit.

Politician: the fellow who shakes your hand before the election and shakes you after the election.

We always like those who admire us, but we do not always like those whom we admire.  
LaRochefoucauld

One learns in life to keep silent and draw one's own confusions. Cornelia Skinner

At a certain age some people's minds close up; they live on their intellectual fat. W L Phelps

The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents and the second half by our children.  
Clarence S Darrow

When a boy marries, two opinions prevail at the home he is leaving. His mother thinks he is throwing himself away, and his sisters think the girl is.

The idea of fingerprinting children is a good one. It will settle the question as to who used the guest towel in the bathroom.

### **with our Christian faith in mind...**

The noblest revenge is to forgive. Thomas Fuller

All but God is changing day by day. Charles Kingsley

We expect our young people to lay down their lives for our nation, but most of us are not willing to lay down our bank accounts for God.

We trust not because 'a god' exists, but because THIS God exists. C S Lewis

Our life is scarcely the twinkle of a star in God's eternal day. Bayard Taylor

God's gifts put man's best dreams to shame. Elizabeth Barrett Browning

God loves his children as well in adversity as in prosperity. Thomas Watson

Grace is the sum and substance of New Testament faith. J I Packer

The great of this world are those who simply loved God more than others did. A W Tozer

We must lay it down as an elemental principle of religion that no large growth in holiness was ever gained by one who did not take time to be often alone with God. Austin Phelps

Most men pray more for full purses than for pure hearts. T Watson

History is the long story of man trying to be God. V Havner

God cares not for phrases but for affections. Joseph Hall

You never have to drag mercy out of Christ, as money from a miser. C H Spurgeon