

GROUP LIVE

Services at St George's Crosby

9.15am Sunday
Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday
Parish Eucharist

10.30am Third Sundays only
All Age Parish Eucharist

6.45pm First Tuesday in the month
Holy Communion

9.30am Wednesday
Holy Communion

4pm Thursday
Evening Prayer at 17 Chatterton Crescent

For seasonal variations refer to the weekly Newsletter which is issued at both Sunday morning services.

Services at St Lawrence's Frodingham

Sunday

8am Eucharist

10.30am Parish Eucharist
(3rd Sunday Informal Worship)

10.30am Sunday School in the Church Hall (on second and fourth Sundays)

6.30pm Evening Prayer
(except third Sunday)

6.30pm Holy Communion (sung)
(third Sunday of the month only)

Monday-Saturday

8am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

Monday

7pm Informal Prayer

Thursday

9.30am Eucharist

Church of the Resurrection Mirfield Road

Berkeley, Hilton Avenue,
Lodge Moor and Skippingdale areas

9.30am **First Sunday of the month**
Morning Worship led by Congregation (not a Communion Service)

9.30am **Second Sunday of the month**
Service for People of All Ages (an informal service which normally includes Holy Communion)

9.30am **Other Sundays**
Parish Communion

Wednesday

7pm Holy Communion (said)

The All Age Service is particularly suitable for children, but on the other Sundays, we will try wherever possible to provide special activities for any children to attend.

St. Barnabas Guinness with Burringham

11am

Sung Eucharist each Sunday

Gunness Methodist Church

10.30am

Service each Sunday



St Barnabas'



St Lawrence's



St George's

Church of the Resurrection

FROM THE REGISTERS

Contact details for St George's Crosby

Vicar
Rev Jonathan Thacker
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Eva Young
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PCC Secretary
Jennifer Coman
jennifer.coman@btopenworld.com

Contact details for St Lawrence's Frodingham

Vicar
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Assistant Curate
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Parish Office (Tower Room of church)
(open Tuesday 6pm - 7.30 pm)
Rachel Dixon

Church Wardens
Judith Barrow
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Clarice Coley
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PCC Secretary
Julie Dyke
Telephone 869036
juliedykeintheuk@f2s.com

www.stlawrences.com

St George's

Funerals

January 30th Ida Kremin

St Lawrence's

Holy Baptism

January 18th Ella Rachel Rowson
Hollie Mai Barnard

25th Isabell Katie Bedford
Kimberley Marie Pook
Corey Lea Mitchell

February 1st Adam Michael George Neal
Lily Mae Taylor-Wainman

Weddings

January 24th Adam Russell Creighton to
Annabel Frances Parker

Funerals

January 19th Mrs. Vera Spottiswoode

22nd Mr. Robert (Bob) Hunt

22nd Mr. William Jeffrey Wright

28th Mrs. Thelma Cowan

February 12th Mr. Maxey (Max) Enderby
Pexman

Contact details for Church of the Resurrection

Vicar
Rev David Beverley
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davejbev@aol.com

Parish Office n/a

Church Wardens
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Vacancy

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Church of the Resurrection

Holy Baptism

Daisy Olivia McVeigh

Funerals

Tom Barker

St Barnabas

Funerals

Elsie Dann

Contacts for Group Magazine articles

Rev David Beverley, Peggy Bowe, Jennifer Coman, Liz Hanson, and Tina Veall (tina@veall.net)

THE KNIGHTS OF ST GEORGE PRESENTED ALADDIN

- By Jennifer Coman

Oh yes they did! What an achievement! Despite the recent bad weather the talented cast performed in front of enthusiastic audiences on three consecutive evenings, 5th, 6th and 7th February.

This was the 16th pantomime by the group and the third time it had performed Aladdin. Rehearsals and preparation of props and costumes started as early as last October. It was a traditional pantomime which contained lots of songs, audience participation and all the usual bits of slapstick which kept everyone amused, from the smallest child to the elderly group from The Lilacs.

Some of the original cast from the first pantomime are still performing, although several of the stars this year were people who had joined in as youngsters in the chorus and progressed over the years to take the starring roles.



Photographer Pete Swift

The cast obviously enjoyed taking part immensely and the audience reaction was very heart-warming.

How many churches can say they have a Genie in a Lamp for Churchwarden? Or a Fairy who acts as Treasurer to the North Scunthorpe Group of Parishes? Or a Grand Vizier in the congregation? How many congregations could watch Widow Twanky organising the music for hymns on the following Sunday morning?

A great many people also work very hard in the background to support the cast. This included the making of all the colourful costumes, set construction and arrangement of lighting and sound. We were also able to hold a raffle each night thanks to the generous donations of prizes from the congregation and refreshments were served in the interval by yet another team of helpers.

These pantomimes are great fun and an ideal opportunity for church members to interact with the community in the Crosby area. The Foxhills Technology College is an ideal venue and the enthusiastic support of their staff is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2010!



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BISHOP'S LETTER MARCH 2009

Let's give it up for Lent

We give up things for Lent, but at the same time Lent is about never giving up. It sounds as though we have got ourselves into a bit of a muddle about what Lent is for, but if we have then there is a good reason why.

On the one hand, Lent recalls Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness where he lived on very little, kept himself to himself and concentrated on preparing body and soul for the journey ahead of him. The least we can do is walk with him on wilderness way as a token of our commitment to follow him even at some cost to ourselves. So we use Lent as a time to give up something which matters to us in order to identify with Jesus in his period of abstinence.

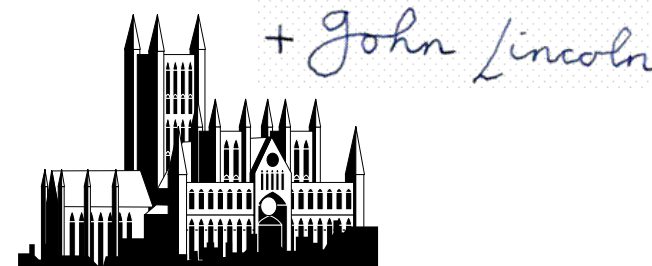
On the other hand, the story which emerges most powerfully from Jesus' time in the wilderness is the story of his temptations. Tormented by hunger, he was tempted to turn stones into bread; teased by the prospect of power, he was tempted to pay the devil homage; tested by the opportunity to put on a spectacular demonstration of his divine nature, he was tempted to throw himself off the Temple parapet into the arms of his guardian angels.

But he resisted all these temptations to give up on his allotted task and so give in to the allure of power, possessions and prestige which so besmirch the image of God in those he was sent to save.

That is why Lent is also a time to strengthen our resolve and reinforce our defences against "sin, the world and the devil" - to use the time-honoured words of the Baptism Service. It is sometimes tough to live the life of true discipleship, but the lesson of Lent is that we must never give up.

Of course, giving up and not giving up are not mutually exclusive alternatives. By joining Jesus in his time of abstinence, we are also joining with him in his campaign of resistance. We give things up so as to concentrate on the spiritual resources we need to never give up on his call to carry our cross and follow him through the valley of death and onwards to the gate of glory.

We give up things for Lent, but at the same time Lent is about never giving up.



"Lent people"

If someone said that they were feeling fragile, until recently we would perhaps assume they were unwell, or had perhaps been over-indulging the previous night! However in recent years, and especially in recent months, we have all become aware of the fragility of our lives and of the knife edge on which humanity is poised.

We are more than ever conscious of the reality of climate change as we learn of ice caps melting, species in danger and the world experiences unusual repetitions of extreme weather conditions.

The new millennium brought with it not the bug, but a heightened awareness of the threat of terrorism in our midst, and there is an acute sense of how vulnerable life for innocent bystanders at home and across the world has become.

The reality of recession and the possibility of a global depression have added to the sense of gloom with the spectre of unemployment and uncertainty facing many people and those reliant on savings suffering a catastrophic drop in income.

Then, in the last few days, the weather has brought the bulk of the country to a standstill and reminded us yet again how little it takes to totally disrupt "normal life". In so many areas of life, the things we take for granted seem uncertain and there is a pervading feeling of vulnerability and fragility in so much of life today.

This might lead us to ask how our faith helps in such a situation. Some might say it gives an inner sense of peace and security in the midst of the turmoil raging outside, or holds out the promise of eternal life. However to focus on this leaves faith as very much the opiate of the masses, for which its opponents have criticised it.

Instead we should perhaps focus on Jesus, and remember that the world in which he lived was one like ours where life was not simply fragile but perilous for many. He had a vision of a new community and a new humanity, the kingdom of God. This was not a place but a situation where the rule of God, the rule of justice and of peace was lived and recognised. It was a vision in which the needs of the poor set the agenda, where there was fullness of life for all, and the obstacles to abundant living were removed. His was a life in which care of the neighbour, sharing life, fun, food and drink were at the very heart of existence. Like the prophets before him, he condemned the obsession with wealth and the pain that obsession caused and called for a new understanding of wealth and community.

Many would argue that our problems today arise from greed, and the self-centredness of individuals, groups and indeed nations. The message of Jesus is that there is an alternative! It is an alternative for which people deeply yearn. It will become a reality not as a result of dogma, faith as an opiate or by dogged insistence on formal worship or historical institutions and practices, but rather when we live the vision of Jesus and use it to foster the life he proclaimed. This new life is the Easter Hope, but before that comes Lent and the Cross, when we challenge our lives, values and faith, when we reject the false certainties, when we face the cost of embracing his vision and only then become part of the new humanity. If we deny the reality and pain of his challenge our hopes can quickly become opiates or day dreams. Let us reflect in this month, in the midst of all our problems, on Jesus' vision and the need to be Lent and Holy Week People before we can be Easter People.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



Friday, 6th March
2009

In Christ there are many
members yet one body

A Service prepared by Christian Women of Papua
New Guinea

The afternoon service will be held at
The Salvation Army Centre
(Ashby High Street)

2 pm
Speaker: Rev Renée Howling

There will be a Traidcraft Stall available for the
purchase of Fair Trade goods

The evening service will be held at
St Bernadette's Church
(Ashby Road)

7.30 pm
Speaker: Mrs Karen Stephens

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - 6TH MARCH 2009 - PAPUA NEW GUINEA



**'IN CHRIST THERE ARE MANY MEMBERS YET
ONE BODY'**

On Friday, 6th March more than three million
people worldwide will be praying and worshipping
together during an annual day of prayer, using a
service prepared by Christian Women in Papua New
Guinea.

Emma Wilcock, President of the National
Committee for Women's World Day of Prayer in
England, Wales and Northern Ireland, said:

*'This is always an exciting day. The extent of
unity in prayer is shown by the fact that the first
service will begin at sunrise in Tonga and travel
around the world until the sun sets in neighbouring
Western Samoa. By then, the Day will have been
celebrated in over 170 countries and throughout
England, Wales and Northern Ireland alone over
5,000 services will have been held.'*

Papua New Guinea is a land of many ethnic
groups and more than 800 distinct languages of
which more than half are unrelated. As a result,
there is great cultural diversity, yet the women of
Papua New Guinea have emphasized the oneness
there is in Christ.

In spite of gender inequality, women in
Papua New Guinea are beginning to take their place
in professions previously closed to them. There are
now women who are pilots, engineers, doctors,
lawyers, judges, lecturers and also officers in the
military forces. In this way, they make a very positive
contribution to their nation. Further information and
resources can be found on the Women's World Day
of Prayer website at www.wwdp-natcomm.org

STIRLING PHOTOGRAPHY

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David Stirling

www.stirlingphotography.co.uk
email: d.stirling@btconnect.com

ST. LAWRENCE'S EVERYWOMAN

By Sheila Robinson

We began our meeting with a prayer,
followed by the Lord's Prayer. Apologies were
received from several members and a full house
began with a short meeting, the only thing under
discussion was next month's pancake & poems
party. All members were asked to bring their
favourite pancake topping and we would all cook
our own pancake and enjoy it (we hope) as long as
it didn't end up on the floor during the tossing. We
were also asked to bring a poem to read during the
evening.

Our speaker this evening was Jan Martin
who was to talk about 'her life with Olive'. Much to
our amazement we discovered that 'Olive' is her
artificial arm, named by a boyfriend of times past.

We learned of how Jan copes with every
situation and will not be beaten at any of the tasks
that two handed people can do. When she was
born, Jan's mother was told that she had a
disabled daughter but was not informed what her
disabilities were until she was able to take her
home and insisted on seeing her before she took
her back to meet the rest of the family. On seeing
her, she declared that she was the most beautiful
baby she had ever seen with only half an arm
missing and a twisted foot which was soon put
straight.

Jan was fitted with her first artificial arm
when her mum insisted that she tried one aged 4
years, before she went to school. Her fight to go to
a normal school was won by her mum who stood
by her through her learning years and insisted she
should be treated as any other girl of the same age
and so was able to knit, make lace, embroider,
type and so much more, bringing with her samples
of her beautiful work.

While she was at junior school everyone
kept asking how she lost her arm and when the
reply was "I was born without it" she received very
little response so one day she decided to tell the
next one who asked that like 'Albert' she had put
her hand in the lions cage at the zoo and it was
bitten off! This prompted a much more
sympathetic response!

On another occasion a little later in life she
was determined to prove her skills as a cook and a
shrivelled up artificial arm was the result of not
feeling the heat on the stove. At age 16 years she
was offered an electric arm but she didn't think the
slight benefit of finger & thumb movement was
worth the extra weight it involved so she declined.
During her working life she has been a typist, a
yoga teacher and also a teachers' aid for disabled
children as well as flying a glider and becoming a
mum which she coped with very well.

Among other facts Jan told us that all used
limbs go to Sri Lanka to be re-used.

All funds raised by her talks that she gives
to many different groups go to breast cancer.

While we enjoyed refreshments Jan
answered any questions that we put to her and
was then thanked for a very enjoyable and
interesting evening. Jan was a very positive
person who never gave in to a challenge, like
learning to swim and had achieved more with one
arm than many of us would be able to do with two.

We ended our meeting by saying the
grace.

"The stork visits the Barkers!!"

Congratulations to Emma-Jane (Barker)
and James Spicer on the birth of their son
Benjamin Christopher on November 21st.
Lauren is delighted with the arrival of her
brother and also more recently her "baby
cousin" George William who arrived on
Saturday January 31st. George is the son of
Christopher and Alexis Barker.

Margaret and Jeff, the grandparents, are
thrilled with the new arrivals. More helpers no
doubt for David at
St Barnabas!!



February Share Club

The winners are:

133 Mrs J Ashley £30
151 Mrs E Balderson £20.
21 Mrs D. Barker £15
191 Mrs Beresford £10.
50 Mr R. Smith £4.50

We have 41 spare numbers to bring us
back up to 200.

Cost is £12 per year (£1 per month). Half
the money is given in prize money with the
remainder going into church funds.

**ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH
HALL** may be booked by church groups and is
also available for general hire. For details or to
make a booking, please contact Jim Balderson on
343931

Gunness and Burringham Advertisers and News

A couple of the advertisers in the former Gunness & Burringham Magazine have asked why their adverts were not included in the new magazine.

This happened because originally it was thought that the Gunness and Burringham Magazine would continue as a separate publication. We were delighted when the Church Council decided to join with the Group Live Magazine. Unfortunately by that time the advertising had been arranged and the magazine went out with those adverts. We have now included the advertisers who approached us, but if there are others who want to be in the Group Magazine, could they contact Jennifer Coman or David Beverley. [Addresses inside front cover]

We want to provide full news coverage of both villages, but can only publish what we receive, so please send or email articles for inclusion to David Beverley.

Allotment

An allotment behind the church has become available. Would anyone interested in taking it over contact Kathleen Wall or David.

"The Cold Winter"

While we face the current cold snap, I am aware of stories I have heard in Gunness and Burringham of how the Trent froze and people walked across the river on the ice. If anyone has stories like this, perhaps they would let us know and we would try to publish them.

Many will know that the heating in Gunness Church chose this cold time to break down, but we have been fortunate to remain cosy in the Coleman Hall for our services. We have now received all the necessary permissions to replace the faulty system and hope to be back in church by Sunday February 15th.

Our thanks go to all who have helped with setting up the Hall and carrying things to and from church.

We hope now to be able to give people a real warm welcome back in church!



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Forthcoming Events

St. Georges:

1st March - Fairtrade Lunch at St George's after the 10.30 am service

6th March - Women's World Day of Prayer (see opposite page for more details)

7th March, 7.30pm - Quiz night in the Greeson Hall

16th March - PCC

22nd March - Mothering Sunday

23rd March, 2.30 pm - Ladies Rally at the Salvation Army, Ashby.

23rd March, 6 pm - Scunthorpe and District Christian Aid Committee meets in the Greeson Hall

St. Lawrence's:

4th March, 2pm - Mothers Union.

4th March, 7.30pm - Standing Committee meets in the Vicarage.

13th March onwards - Each Friday in Lent Hunger Lunches will be held in the church hall, 12pm - 1.15pm

17th March, 7.30pm - Everywoman

18th March, 12.30 - Lunch Club.

23rd March, 7.30pm - Floral Group

Church of the Resurrection:

2nd & 16th March, 7.15pm Kurling

5th & 19th March, 2pm - Thursday Club

29th March, 10.30am - Group service.

2nd April - APM

Gunness and Burringham:

8th March, 10.30am - Chapel Anniversary at the Methodist Church, Gunness.

10th March, 7pm - Women's Institute meet in the Coleman Hall, Gunness.

The last date for articles to be included in the group magazine is **Sunday, 15th March**. Please ensure any articles to be included in the next magazine are handed in or forwarded to your group contact by this date. Thank you.



Events at Lincoln Cathedral

7th March 2009 - Discover Greater Lincoln Weekend, with free admission into the Cathedral.

19th March 2009 - BBC ONE's ever popular Sunday evening programme ANTIQUES ROADSHOW will be filming for its 32nd series at Lincoln Cathedral, on Thursday, 19th March, 2009. The doors open at 9.30 am and close at 4.30 pm. This will be the first venue of the series.

This will be presenter Fiona Bruce's second year with the Roadshow and she says, "Presenting the Antiques Roadshow is, for me, one of those rare and very lucky coincidences in television when you get to work on a show that you already love to watch. Exploring the human story behind every object is what makes Antiques Roadshow so fascinating. And everyone loves the agony and ecstasy of the 'what's it worth?' moment. The AR isn't just about antiques - its history, beauty and drama all wrapped up in one."

Some of Britain's leading antiques and fine arts specialists will be on hand to offer free advice and valuations to visitors, who are invited to raid their attics and bring along their family heirlooms, household treasures and car boot bargains for inspection by the experts.

People with large pieces of furniture or other big items can send details and photographs of their objects to: ANTIQUES ROADSHOW, BBC, Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LR or e-mail them to: antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk. It may be possible to arrange to look at the item in advance and organise transportation to the venue.

Series Editor Simon Shaw says: "The team are all looking forward to visiting Lincoln Cathedral. It's always exciting to see what will come to light on the day. We regularly see between 1500 and 2000 visitors on the day. Despite the high turnout everyone will get to see an expert."

www.lincolncathedral.com



Lent group details:

Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm at the Congregational Church - same time, day and place for 5 weeks

Wednesday 4th March at 2.30pm at Centenary Methodist church - same time, day and place for 5 weeks

Thursday 5th March at 10am at St Lawrence's - same time, day and place for 5 weeks

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Gardening Column

- By Ron Simpson

March is acknowledged as generally the beginning of the gardening year. We are like the plants stimulated by the extra light and warmth that comes with spring.

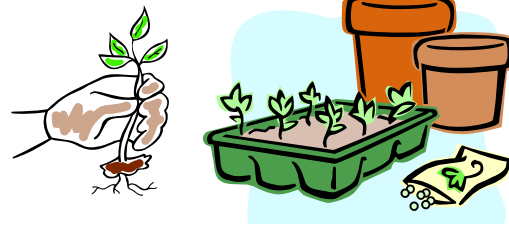
Jobs to do; there is always a job, here are a few suggestions to keep you occupied.

Protect the tender shoots of lupins and delphiniums with crushed eggshell or fine grit. The slugs and snails hate the gritty particles sticking to them.

Clear out the corners of the garden where leaves have drifted as they harbour pests.

Hard work on the lawn will pay later in the season. Scarify or raking followed by spiking and then a dressing of autumn feed and finally a mixture of sand and peat worked into the grass. That should take off some of the winter good living.

In the greenhouse or conservatory plant the seeds of summer bedding plants and tomatoes.



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Innocents (or idiots?) Abroad

By Peggy Bowe, Berkeley Parish Church

No Signs along the Way. . .

INSPIRED by a talk from our English teacher, a group of us (all girls, the boys didn't seem interested) joined the Youth Hostels' Association. And a few weeks later, three of us, all a few months short of our 16th birthdays, set off on a circular tour to visit three youth hostels.

This was the spring of 1945. Although the war in Europe was virtually over, the signposts, which had been removed at the beginning of hostilities to confuse the expected enemy invaders, had not yet been replaced. Neither was it possible to buy maps.

All we had was the YHA small-scale map, which showed the main roads and some B roads and the hostels; and the YHA handbook which gave directions for finding the location from the nearest town.

We were cycling, carrying rucksacks on our backs. Mine was lightweight canvas, made by my mother; but Jane and Kathleen shared a large, framed and therefore very heavy rucksack belonging to Jane's brother. We stopped roughly every 30 minutes for them to change over!

Our first hostel was Farforth (very aptly named) about eight miles on the other side of Louth. Apart from a slight dispute after leaving Howsham, and some confusion in Market Rasen, we reached Louth mid-afternoon. No one seemed to know which road we should take from the Market Place but eventually we met someone who set us on the right way and we set off rather wearily on the last leg (with a little help from a farmer with an empty wagon for the last three miles)!

The handbook instructed us to collect the key from a cottage opposite what had once been a splendid manor house but was now very dilapidated.

I suppose we ought to have realised from the handbook that Farforth, in a tiny hamlet without much in the way of 20th century conveniences, did not have a resident warden, and as we were the only visitors (i.e. no male youth hostellers) no one came down from Grimsby to supervise.

There was no hot water on tap and there were just two Primus stoves for cooking. We hadn't a clue how to light them.



We were rather tired, hungry and bit apprehensive about the youths, who had amazingly materialised from the three cottages, which comprised Farforth, and gathered outside the kitchen window, making disconcerting noises. We had no option but to ask them to show us how the Primus stoves worked. And then, not surprisingly, had difficulty getting them to leave!

Upstairs, we pushed three bunk beds together and slept on the top – not sure what good we thought it would do but I suppose there was reassurance in the close proximity of friends.

The next day, there was surprisingly no suggestion of returning home but we set off gaily for Grantham which turned out to be completely different - we had to remove our shoes before stepping onto the polished wood floor! Then on to the last hostel, Tickhill,

That was the beginning of a succession of weekend trips and holidays all over England for several years and a bond among six of us which has lasted to the present day, even though we are scattered all over England.

A Different Sign . . .

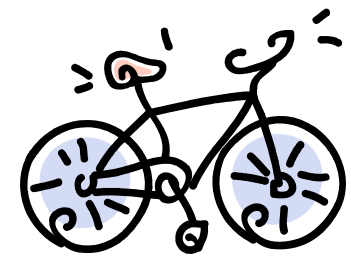
Jane and I are very close and with two other friends went to Canada in 2000. After watching, awestruck, the tonnes of water cascading over the Niagara Falls, we walked across the Rainbow Bridge into the United States and stood on a paved path, looking at the River Niagara flowing peacefully past. It was only a few inches below the grassy bank, just two or three feet away.

The other two walked away but Jane and I stayed on for a few more minutes, in silence. As we turned away, Jane said "I really felt the presence of God." And I knew exactly what she meant.

She told me that she had confided to her Vicar that only on a few occasions had she had that feeling: nothing earth-shattering, not a Road to Damascus, or Epiphany, and had been reassured when the Vicar had said perhaps the occasional sense of God's presence in a fairly routine situation was just as important and rewarding as one great experience.

I, too, found that reassuring.

As I have not consulted the others, the names have been changed.



Mothers' Union Notes

By Pat Marshall

It was very pleasing to see so many of you at our AGM and faith tea. You all seem to enjoy the opportunities of meeting together and catching up with news of friends. It wasn't surprising that there were quite a few apologies for illness. We send our very best wishes to all members ill at home or in hospital. We look forward to seeing you soon.

There were quite a few dates for your diaries but these are the ones for the next two months:

March 4th – Our Curate Graham speaks plus 'soup kitchen' for members who make soups. Please package in approximately 1 pint & labeled to sell for £1. We will sell these to start our fund raising for 'The Smile Train'

March 6th – Women's World Day of Prayer, 2pm at the Salvation Army, High Street, Ashby. Please wear your M.U. badge.

March, 22nd – Mothering Sunday. At our March meeting we will have a collection for this.

March, 23rd – Salvation Army Rally at 2.30pm.

March, 24th – Area Day at St. Mary's, Barton, 11am. Bring & share lunch. This sounds an interesting day, please try to go. Let me know if you need a lift. Banners needed.

April 1st – 'Poetry Please' speaker Kath Wall.

April, 23rd – Cake stall in the market (donations needed please)

Hostesses for March are: Irene Beverley, Iris Briggs, Tricia Campagna and Pat Cole.

Please pray for our link in Australia as they are very close to the dreadful forest fires.



"O Lord, you know how busy I must be this day. If I forget you, do not forget me."
Prayed by Sir Jacob Astley, before the Battle of Edgehill, 1642.

A simple prayer but one that can summon reinforcements of comfort and courage to all who may be facing great challenges in life.

Continued from page 6

After last months gardening article I understand some of the readers are getting the bug and counting in the kitchen, hope your friends think that you are still normal. However it does lead to economies.

This month by way of a change I recommend a recipe for Pineapple Pickle, it's delicious. Originally printed in the Saturday Telegraph and tried and tested by the family. One word of caution cut the pineapple into smallish chunks to avoid comments and I quote "I've only two pieces of pineapple in my portion and you have more in yours".

Chop the flesh of 1 medium pineapple and 5 bramley apples into chunks and put into a large pan with 4 chopped white onions [1lb.2ozs.] 500grms of golden sultanas [I got mine from Julie with the fairtrade stall at church] 500ml white wine plus the same quantity of cider vinegar.

Simmer over a low heat for 15 mins. then add 500grms of light brown sugar, 1 chopped red chilli de seeded 2 tblsp. of yellow mustard seeds and 1 tbsp. of salt. I cut back to suit taste on this item. Bring back to the boil then lower and simmer for 1 hour. At the end stir in 3 tblsp of fresh mint then put into jars and store until needed. I omitted the fresh mint as there was none available.

It's great with ham, gammon or cheese.



Scunthorpe and District Christian Aid Committee

The distribution meeting for the collection of materials for Christian Aid Week (19th to 17th May) will be at the Greeson hall, adjacent to St George's, Crosby from 6 pm on Monday 23rd March.

There will then follow at 7pm an OPEN MEETING for anyone interested in the work of Christian Aid. The speaker will be James Atkins from Lincoln who will talk about his recent experiences in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Humber Bridge Cross this year will be on 9th May and we would welcome walkers, sponsors and those able to steward the event.

Further details from your church's own Christian Aid representative or from Jonathan Thacker on 843328 or jon@han195.freeserve.co.uk

Your representatives are:

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Church of the Resurrection: Betty Walters
St. Lawrence's: Michael Cropper

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????????

Judith's Jottings ST. LAWRENCE'S FLORAL GROUP

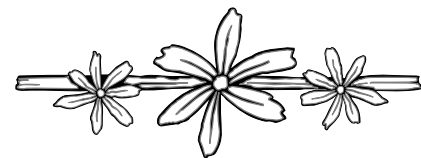
Hi,

Christmas is long gone and the festive season over for another year, so to our January meeting and guess what, we had our Christmas social evening (busy, busy people flower arrangers with all that holly and ivy to arrange!) so the end of January was as good a time as any and a great night was had by all, some very funny drawings mind, but an excellent demonstration of a wheelbarrow and not forgetting plenty of food with scrummy puddings to finish the night off nicely.

Now I know everyone says it, so I shouldn't but I will, didn't last year go quickly?! It practically flew by and for those who say it's a sign of age when time flies I say no, no, no, not I, just a full programme and great fun nights. Speaking of which, our March meeting is our AGM. Do I hear groans in the background? No, not from our Floral Group members. It will be full of ideas and suggestions for our new programme of events and challenges. We all need a good challenge or two to test us, sorry they're opportunities or so I'm told.

So with the opportunities awaiting, my jottings will have to end and the thinking begin.

Ideas, ideas, the wheels turn slowly but never mind, we have until March!



Advance Notice

A Bingo evening will be held in the Coleman Hall at Gunness on Saturday, April 4th with proceeds to St Barnabas' Church. As well as Bingo, there will be a raffle and a chocolate board. Doors open 6.30pm, "Eyes down" at 7.00pm

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Mothering Sunday Revisited

By Margaret Dyke

I'm fifty-ish and I'm not a mother, and I guess I'm not going to be now. A few years ago a friend at his daughter's wedding thanked me for being the person who had looked after the bride morning after morning when she had screamed all night and both he and his wife were exhausted. When she started school she confused the teacher by explaining that she had two mummies, a normal mummy and a mummy "Urgit". At the moment I'm "Ma-grat" or something similar and my partner is "Eassa". We are significant others in the life of our friend's child. So although I have some tentative and distant experience of the role "mother". (Actually, at 5.00am a screaming child doesn't feel either tentative or distant), I have nothing that qualifies as the real thing. So what is the relevance of Mothering Sunday to me and others who, like me, are childless?

Have you ever noticed how many of our kind fail to turn up at church on the fourth Sunday in Lent? For years I hated Mothering Sunday. I know the theory; how we celebrate "mother church" and her nurturing of us, or we visit the "mother church" or Cathedral, or the parish church we were brought up in. Rubbish. We celebrate human motherhood. We give posies to children to give to their mothers and then when there are some left over we give them to the childless ones. Don't think this is a pain experienced only by the single and the non-heterosexual; look out for the childless wives who long or longed to be mothers, and dads bringing up children alone. But motherhood is precious and valuable, without our mother we would not exist and without her love we would be damaged. So it is important to celebrate motherhood, but could we look more widely to see the breadth of love and nurturing that happens through all sorts of relationships?

Mothering Sunday is often confused with Mother's Day, a celebration originating in America and beloved of Hallmark and other card companies.

It has little to do with the church, Lent, mother church, local church or Cathedral. Mothering Sunday's origins are rapidly becoming lost and irrelevant. So how else could we celebrate this feast in the middle of the fast, this holiday (holyday), this Victorian revival, this day of Simnel Cake? How else should we rejoice on Laetare Sunday or be refreshed by Refreshment Sunday. How can we make this a Sunday of meaning and value to all? A Sunday which celebrates and values the many ways in which we have experienced God's love for us through our mothers and fathers, our families, our friends, people we meet on the bus or at work and sometimes through completely unknown strangers. A Sunday which celebrates the human capacity to love, to nurture, to build, to give others support when needed and to allow them to develop and to grow. I don't know. I don't know how to change years of tradition. Also, I don't know that I want to destroy something precious to those who value the current arrangement, especially as it is one of the occasions when people who are not part of the regular congregation visit a church.

So I suggest a private change, but a change which may sneak up on you and influence how you celebrate the day.

This Mothering Sunday, I challenge you to think of:

- Five gifts your mother has given you.
- Five people who have helped and supported you in difficult times.
- Five people outside your immediate family, who you love and care about.
- Five times you have known God's love in the actions of a "stranger" or someone you hardly know.

and

- Five ways in which you can show God's love in the world in the following week.

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Gunness and Burringham Women's Institute

meets of the second Tuesday of each month at 7.00pm in the Coleman Hall, Gunness.

All are welcome, for further information contact Sue Ward on 782878.

At the next meeting on Tuesday 10th March, Irene McWeenie, a local woman, will be talking about her travels in Uganda.

The Methodist Church in Gunness will be celebrating the Chapel Anniversary on March 8th. This is its 80th anniversary and the service will be led by Revd J.D Robinson and will be at the usual time of 10.30am.

Coffee Morning

A Coffee Morning will be held at 4, Neap House Road, Gunness on **Tuesday March 17th** from 10.30am to 12 noon. Proceeds will be for St Barnabas' Church funds.

Fairtrade – a Christian response to poverty

Imagine if every time you enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee, bit into a biscuit or indulged in some chocolate it could make a difference to the lives of others. If you choose fairly traded products then that's exactly what you do – whether you are serving them at a church event or in your own home.

Each one of us can make a difference. By choosing fair trade we know that our purchase is helping to provide decent livelihoods for the people who grow the ingredients or make the products.

To make a lasting difference to producers and their families, people need to be encouraged and reminded about the benefits of buying fair trade all year round. Many churches see running a Traidcraft stall as part of their Christian response to poverty.

Traidcraft, the Christian-based fair trade organisation, was formed by a group of people concerned about issues of Christian witness through trade. Christians are called to love the poor – but also to ask questions as to why they are poor.

Fair trade is not about charity, it's about giving people the dignity of working their way out of poverty, providing opportunity and hope for the future. It's about developing a different way of buying things, whether we're choosing coffee or cards, tea or t-shirts.

Unjust trading systems are not new. Proverbs 13:23 says *A poor man's field may produce abundant food but injustice sweeps it away.* But in 1 John 3:18 we are told *"My children, our love is not just to be words or mere talk, but something real and active."*

Miguel is a coffee farmer who benefits from fair trade as his crop supplies cafedirect and Traidcraft. "If it had not been for the fair trade buyers it is likely that we would have had to give up this business altogether," he said. "Those of us small farmers who have survived are very grateful to those who have participated in fair trade and we hope these links will continue."

We can all do something - and it can start with something as simple as a cup of coffee.

FAIRTRADE RECIPES



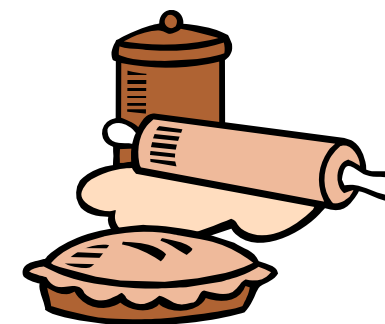
Crumbly Banana Squares

Ingredients

- 175g Fairtrade sugar
- 175g margarine
- 225g self raising flour
- 100g porridge oats
- 2 medium Fairtrade bananas, mashed
- 25g Fairtrade sultanas (or similar)
- Caster sugar

Method

Warm your oven to 200°C
 Cream the sugar and margarine together.
 Cut in the flour and oats to make a crumbly mixture, sprinkle half into a baking tray (12 by 8 inch) and press down lightly.
 Spread over the bananas and sprinkle the dried fruit.
 Sprinkle the rest of the mixture over and again press down lightly.
 Bake it for 25 to 30 mins until golden.
 Sprinkle with caster sugar.
 Wait until it cools (if you can) and cut into appropriately-sized chunks.



Mango & Avocado Salad with Sticky Balsamic Vinegar

Serves 4

Ingredients

- Generous handful of pine nuts
- Olive oil for toasting
- 2 small Fairtrade avocados (not too ripe)
- 3 small or medium, ripe Fairtrade mangoes
- 1 ripe Fairtrade lime
- Good quality balsamic vinegar

Method

Mix the pine nuts with a little olive oil and place in the oven on a baking tray to toast for five minutes, or until nicely golden.
 Meanwhile, peel the avocados and mangoes and slice them lengthways into generous pieces. Mix and arrange them on a plate – but avoid damaging the delicate fruit.
 Add a generous squeeze of lime juice, a drizzle of the stickiest balsamic vinegar you can get your hands on, and scatter the toasted pine nuts on the top.

This recipe is reproduced with the kind permission of Joanne Harris.



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Consultation day report

- By Jonathan Thacker

As part of the process at looking at the future of St George's and with the financial support of the Church Urban Fund, Crosby Parochial Church Council in the autumn of last year commissioned Ann Hindley to produce a Feasibility Study. Over the last few months Ann has put a lot of hard work into meeting potential and actual stakeholders pulling together the various possibilities that St George's might consider.

As the process was drawing to a close it was time to give the people of Crosby the opportunity to respond to some of the ideas we have and maybe more importantly the opportunity to offer their own thoughts and ideas. Thanks to the Probation Service, most houses in Crosby were leafleted and posters were displayed in shops and local gathering points.



In all about 50 people attended on Saturday 24th January which for those who have experience of consultation events in Crosby is a respectable number.

People were given the opportunity to record their views and ideas and even design a new building. There was a display of photographs and other memorabilia which was very popular and which prompted many reminiscences. Peter Johnstone provided a Fairtrade stall and there was food!

It has been interesting to read some of the comments that people made. Some were very keen for St. George's (or its site) to be put to good community use; others (a minority) were keen to see that St. George's remains exactly as it is (but gave no ideas how that might be achieved when we face increasing costs and a diminishing income). One person was keen that our stained glass windows not be destroyed (but in over 12 years at St. George's I haven't actually found any stained glass at all - one of us has defective eyesight!).

Ann is now drawing all this up into her report and in the next few weeks St George's PCC will look to see where the future might be.

Thank you to all who were involved in the Consultation Day and those who spent time setting it up and providing the delicious food.

A nice cup of tea...?



One of the enjoyable things about worshipping in church on a Sunday is thinking of all the different churches that are doing the same.

Some of them are in our neighbourhood, some are in other parts of the country, and many of them are across the globe – all of us united with our common love of Jesus and our desire to worship him.

But we are connected to those communities by more than just our faith. Our trade – and the way we trade – has a direct impact on people we will never know and never meet but whose lives can be made richer or poorer by the choices we make when we go shopping.

When we change our shopping habits so that we buy things like fairly traded tea, coffee, sugar or bananas, our actions change things for people on the other side of the world.

Sometimes, it is both worship AND what we buy that are our common connections

That link between our faith and our actions seems to be what the prophet Isaiah had in mind in Chapter 58 of his book.

It's a blistering attack on meaningless gestures and empty observance devoid of genuine commitment. We cannot claim to love and serve God if we do not also love and serve His world by seeking justice for the oppressed, freedom for the enslaved, and shelter for the lost, says Isaiah.

“Tea is one of those things we all take for granted. After all, what could be nicer - or easier to make - than a simple cup of tea?”

It's also an interesting challenge in this season of Lent when traditionally we give up things as a mark of our Christian commitment. Here's Isaiah telling us to *take up* things as part of that commitment, things like justice, righteousness and love.

And you know what? It's not as difficult as you might think. So just pop the kettle on while you read how.....

Take, for instance, tea. Just as we make time away from work on a Sunday to come to church, so do communities in the tea-growing communities of Kibena in Tanzania, and Sahyadri, in Kerala, India, two of Traidcraft's suppliers.

Tea is one of those things we all take for granted. After all, what could be nicer - or easier to make - than a simple cup of tea?

Yet for small-holder tea growers and estate workers across Africa and Asia, tea is proving the key to a better life and a more hopeful future for them and their communities.

Which is why tea is a major feature for the next five years for both the Traidcraft trading company and its associated charity, Traidcraft Exchange.

Traidcraft Exchange has been working in the Indian tea industry for several years to address the crisis which has seen falling tea prices and estate closures. Small tea growers and tea workers have lost income, increased their debt, and face an uncertain future.

The *Just Tea* project is helping more than 230,000 small holder tea growers to realise fairer terms of trade through an assessment of opportunities in the domestic market, business development support and advocacy aimed at improving legislation in the industry.

Meanwhile, Traidcraft plc, working with Teadirect, is increasing market opportunities and improving the livelihood of growers and workers in Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Sri Lanka and India, through its tea purchases.

Tea has some great qualities:

- Approximately 40% of the UK's fluid intake today will be tea
 - Tea without milk has no calories. Using semi-skimmed milk adds around 13 calories per cup, but you also benefit from valuable minerals and calcium
 - Tea with milk provides 21% of daily calcium requirement in 4 cups
 - Tea contains some zinc and folic acid
- Tea with milk contains Vitamin B6, Riboflavin B2 and Thiamin B1
- Tea is a source of the minerals manganese, essential for bone growth and body development, and potassium, vital for maintaining body fluid levels
 - The average cup of tea contains less than half the level of caffeine than coffee. One cup contains only 50mg per 190ml cup
 - Tea is a natural source of fluoride and drinking four cups makes a significant contribution to your daily intake

But all of this goodness stays within a teabag as long as you keep it in the box and don't add water.

It's the same with us as Christians and as a Church. We can sing and pray and preach about justice and good news for the poor, but we really need to take action, to be a catalyst for God's love.

Great if we decide to serve tea in our churches – we are releasing some of the goodness and the benefits.

But if we don't do the same in our homes, in our work – and encourage more people to do the same – then we keep the potential trapped in a box. And that potential has far-reaching effects, because it can mean better healthcare, better education, better homes for people involved in the tea industry.

We know that Jesus described himself as living water, and one of the ways of bringing his love and justice to the world's poor is to be a catalyst for him.... Like water in a teapot.... releasing the goodness and benefits of tea... and fair trade.

Can you think of a better reason for making yourself a nice cup of tea?

To find out more about Traidcraft and its work call 0191 4976465 or go to www.traidcraft.co.uk.

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