



From the Curate

The Reverend Sonia Marshall

Dear Friends,

As the old song reminds us, 'June is busting out all over'! After one of the hardest winters in recent years the colour and fragrance of garden flowers is so welcome.

In this special 'Deepings in Bloom' year our own Rose and Sweet Pea Show, welcoming many visitors, will have an important rôle to play. The day will include, in addition to our usual stalls and prize exhibits, special displays and a book launch: 'Gardening in Deeping St James - the story so far'. As I go about the parish I shall also be checking out front gardens for any unusual containers which are being planted up for the Parish Council's special competition!

When it comes to nurturing it's not only garden plants that need encouraging; there may be within our Church some budding talents which can be grown on into special blooms, particular rôles which can help with the mission of our parish. The scheme goes by the name of Parish Lay Ministry. After an initial 'Foundation Course', those who feel called to help in this way can take further short courses to prepare for their rôles in, to name just two, parish visiting or children's work, depending on where their gifts lie and the needs of the parish.

For more information see my article in this month's magazine and the leaflets available in church. If you would like to discuss lay ministry in further detail without obligation and perhaps see a copy of the course handbook, please do get in touch. Your contribution is vital in meeting the needs of the Church's mission in the 21st century.

With every blessing,

Sonia Marshall.

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in this month's priory news ...

Dear all,

At the time of writing we are enjoying a mini heat wave; let's hope it continues until the Rose and Sweet Pea Show on 26th June. Please remember to let Liz have your Tombola contributions as soon as possible.

Have you had a look at the Church Hall garden recently? If not, it's certainly worth a peek. Linda, John and Chris have really worked hard and achieved a great result. Thanks to all of them.

The Youth Group looks like an exciting new venture and we look forward to hearing about their exploits.

Congratulations to Philip and all involved in last month's Railway Weekend, which was a great success.

Warmest wishes,

Bet.

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Hear Our Prayer: Could you help? (P11).	Youth Group: First report from our new Youth Group. (P9).
Children's Church: What our younger members have been up to. (P10).	Memories of the CLF: Nancy's history reaches Rev Stanley Hawarth. (P15).
Church Hall Garden News: Linda's update on progress in the garden. (P13).	Cover picture: Rose & Sweet Pea Show 1912. [Photo courtesy of DSJ FHS via Judy Stevens.]

Thank you to those who have sent in articles for Priory News. Contributions and suggestions are very welcome. Please let us have your prayers, poems, comments, reminiscences and anything else you'd like to share. Please send copy to:

priorynews@dsj.org.uk

Please let us have your contributions for the **July** edition of Priory News **BEFORE** the deadline, **Friday 18th June**. Thank you for your help.

CHURCH CALENDAR JUNE 2010

1 st	Tuesday		<i>Justin, Martyr of Rome, 165</i>
3 rd	Thursday		<i>Corpus Christi</i>
		9:30am	Holy Communion followed by Home Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship
4 th	Friday		<i>Practice Night:</i>
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
5 th	Saturday		<i>Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Martyr, 754</i> <i>(Deepings Show weekend)</i>
6th	SUNDAY		FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 5)
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong
8 th	Tuesday		<i>Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath & Wells, Hymnwriter, 1711</i>
9 th	Wednesday		<i>Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597</i>
		11:00am	Clergy Chapter at Gosberton
10 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
11 th	Friday		<i>Barnabas the Apostle</i>
			<i>Practice Night:</i>
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
13th	SUNDAY		SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 6)
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
16 th	Wednesday		<i>Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253</i>
17 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship
18 th	Friday		<i>Practice Night:</i>
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
20th	SUNDAY		THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 7)
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
22 nd	Tuesday		<i>Alban, first Martyr of Britain, 250</i>
23 rd	Wednesday		<i>Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely, 678</i>
24 th	Thursday		<i>Birth of John the Baptist</i>
		9:30am	Holy Communion
25 th	Friday		<i>Practice Night:</i>
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
26 th	Saturday	1:00pm	Rose and Sweet Pea Show
27th	SUNDAY		FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 8)
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
28 th	Monday		<i>Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Teacher, 200</i>
29 th	Tuesday		<i>Peter and Paul, Apostles</i>

1 st Jul	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship Strawberry Supper
2 nd Jul	Friday		<i>Practice Night:</i>
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
3 rd Jul	Saturday		<i>Thomas the Apostle</i>
		1:30pm	Wedding of Carl Robert Bradshaw & Sally Greatrex
4 th JUL	SUNDAY		FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 9)
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong



REGISTERS FOR APRIL 2010

WEDDINGS: *We congratulate:*

- 3rd Steven Ashley Bannister and Danielle Marie Wilson
16th David Russell Bisley Martin and Valeriya Blackmore
17th Colin Ian Beard and Diane Louise Garratt

FUNERALS: *We commend to God's keeping:*

- 1st Kathleen Joan Addy



HOUSE GROUP

7:30pm Wednesdays
at 45 Crowson Way, DSJ.
All welcome!



A Letter to the Editor of Priory News

Dear Editor,

The PCC continues to support giving away the vast majority of your collection money to the diocese by way of the Parish Share. (£32,000 last year)

What do we get for that money?

- We do not get a salaried Priest.
- We get our vicarage taken from us with the intention of selling it and the profit going to the diocese.
- All we get are patronising sermons telling us that we should do more of the ministry ourselves and be amateur priests.

If we do get a new Priest, it will only be part-time and his/her job will be to further soften us up for a merger with Market Deeping. The Parish Share will not be reduced because we will only have a half time Priest.

Elizabeth and I give our collection to primarily support this Parish where we have worshipped and served for 27 years. We have had enough of our contribution being used for the benefit of others outside the Parish (not to mention the lack of pastoral care from outside the parish over the last 15 months of interregnum).

Sonia has been a tower of strength and we have nothing but praise for her tireless work in this parish. She is being taken advantage of by the hierarchy.

Therefore, we are suspending our donations from the general plate and giving an equivalent amount to the (restricted to the parish) Fabric Fund. This fund is not very large and needs boosting to pay for a new roof on the South Aisle as the old one is leaking badly probably causing the damp and dry rot. If we let the building fall into disrepair, we won't need a Priest.

If the PCC won't act, it is up to individual parishioners to decide where their money should go to best support The Priory Church of Deeping St James.

Elizabeth and Chris Halley.



Annual Parish Meeting

22nd April 2010

Approximately 30 members of the congregation attended the Annual Meeting in the Church Hall. Refreshments were provided by Bill and Margaret Flegg and were, as always, a very pleasant addition to the meeting and helped the

business discussions go with a swing!

Tony Masters and Adrian Hallam were elected as Churchwardens and they have since been licensed by the Bishop of Grantham and have taken up their duties. Our thanks go to them for the important work they do on our behalf. Our retiring Churchwarden, Richard Gamman, will continue to concentrate on the Church's work with young people, and expressions of appreciation were made for his tireless efforts as Churchwarden over the last six years.

The new PCC was elected – Martin Jones and Andrea Gamman were welcomed as new members and thanks were given to Ian Templeton who had decided not to stand again. John Worthington and Doris Bellairs were elected as Assistant Churchwardens, and membership of the various PCC committees, Sidesmen, Deanery Synod and Churches Together was reviewed. Roger Bridegeman, while continuing on the PCC, was standing down as Assistant Churchwarden and was thanked for all his hard work in that role over the past few years.

The Treasurer's report showed that our financial position looked reasonably healthy, although this was largely because we had not paid all of our parish share during the year - £32,000 out of an anticipated £40,000. The Treasurer had been successful in achieving a substantial rebate on our gas bill and he was thanked for the strenuous efforts which had gone into this.

The main part of the meeting was taken up with discussions about the Vacancy and the extensive discussions that had taken place with the Diocese on how this should be resolved were explained in some considerable detail. The agreed position was now that a part time Priest-in-Charge would be appointed for a period of five years, during which the parish would work towards a closer relationship with St Guthlac's, Market Deeping. This priest would work for four days per week (including Sundays) and the Diocese was in the process of identifying a house for his or her use. Some frustration was expressed at the time taken to arrive at this position – the twists and turns involved had been tortuous, but a way forward now seemed reasonably clear. The Archdeacon of Lincoln (Tim Barker) and Bishop Tim were now actively beginning the process of identifying candidates – which will of course take some time to complete.

Reports on many of our Church organisations were received and all those members of the parish who work so hard, particularly to maintain “normal service” during the Vacancy, were extensively thanked. Not least among these was our Curate Sonia, who reported on her year as the leader of our worship. It was recognised that the main burden of looking after the parish had fallen on her and the meeting congratulated her – and expressed its gratitude – for the way in which she had risen to the challenge! Without her, our parish would have been very different in the last year, and as a small token of our appreciation, Richard Gamman presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

The full minutes of the meeting will be displayed on the notice board at the back of church.

Martin Fisher.

Parish Lay Ministry

Parish lay Ministers are people who have been selected by their parish to serve alongside recognized ministries (e.g. priest or Reader) within their communities for a period of five years. They work collaboratively under the authority of their incumbent/priest in charge. These are just some of the areas in which parish ministers work: visiting, children's work, baptism and marriage preparation, welcoming people to church, leading small groups, parish administration, non-Eucharistic worship.

Those who are interested will need to have or develop a habit of prayer and bible study and a basic understanding of scripture, Church tradition and mission. They will need to understand both themselves and those to whom they minister, have confidence in the mission of the parish and their part in it, and be able to communicate their faith to others.

The Parish Foundation Course involves a two-hour meeting once a fortnight. There are seventeen units split over three terms. The next course in our deanery begins on September 9th. The venue is the church lounge at St John's, Spalding and the tutor is Captain Paul Whiteley who has preached here on several occasions.

On completion of the course individuals obtain clearance to work with children and vulnerable adults. With the permission of the bishop they are authorized for ministry in the parish by the Rural Dean. They then take further short courses in the areas they are to specialize in.

Further details of course dates and times can be found in the leaflets available in church. A course handbook is available for inspection; please contact me.

Sonia Marshall.



News from the Tower

The tour around Rutland Water area was a very good day out and many thanks to Brenda who organised the event. We rang at five different churches with tenor bells that varied from 5cwt to over 15cwt and we all gained from the experience of ringing these bells. We are delighted to report that the two junior ringers with us handled these different weight bells with great

confidence. Well done to both of them.

We look forward to seeing you at the "Rose & Sweet Pea Show" at the end of the month. We intend to have several trips up the tower to see the bells and how they function. If you fancy this then don't forget to book early on the day at the Bell Ringers stand. We will also be running our normal raffle.

We welcome anybody who has rung in the past or who wishes to learn. Please contact: Richard, Brenda or Mike.

Mike Gentle.

Roll up! Roll up!

Any donations for our Tombola Stall at the Rose and Sweet Pea Show will be gratefully received. Your surplus could be our money-spinners. Please put donations in the box at the back of the church.

Many thanks.

Liz Spratley.



Youth Group

On the evening of Sunday 9th May a new Church youth group had its first full meeting at which 11 young people attended. Despite much discussion about names with various attempts to work friendship and God into something that was not too cheesy we decided to postpone a decision and live with the 'working title' of 'youth group'.



Alistair, Ali and Georgina relaxing at the Youth Group barbeque

(Picture courtesy of Richard Gamman. Permission to publish obtained by Richard Gamman.)

We have planned what we hope will be a really enjoyable Summer schedule which will enable us to have some fun together and get to know one another better, share some discussions about our values and what is important to us and spend at least one evening doing something to benefit our community. Anyone from school year 6 to 11 is very welcome (ages 11 -16); we had originally thought to restrict the age range to 11 - 14 but effective canvassing from some older members of the Church community persuaded us to change our minds and it has been wonderful to have them involved. We'd love to hear from anyone in this age range who is interested in joining us, or adults who might like to join the helpers' rota.

Youth Group Agenda

Date	Activity	Location	Leaders	
June	6 th	Treasure Hunt	Churchyard and immediate area	Paul Richard
	13 th	Rose and Sweet Pea Show Display / Games	Church Hall and Gardens	Richard Kim
	20 th	Games night with Market Deeping group	Market Deeping Rectory Gardens	Richard
	27 th	Walk / Sponsored litter pick	From Church Hall	Ted Richard
July	4 th	Discussion (topic to be confirmed) / Games	Church Hall and Gardens	Richard Kim
	11 th	Outing	To be confirmed	Richard Kim

Richard Gamman.

Children's Church

During the last month the children's groups have been learning all about Joshua and his adventures leading his people to the Promised Land. The egg boxes collected for us by members of the congregation were built up by the children into a fantastic model of



Cake making at last month's Good Friday activities.

(Picture courtesy of John Marsh. Permission to publish obtained by Richard Gamman.)

Jericho with lots of kitchen roll turrets on top of the walls. Better still, they all fell down perfectly on cue when we walked round making as much noise as we could and stamping on the floor as the Israelites did in the Bible story!

We have made animals to go on the Churches Together stand at the Deepings Show; the children from different Churches have worked on a display based on one of our favourite songs, 'Who put the colours in the rainbow?' Do look out for it if you visit the Show.

Of course, this month brings the Rose and Sweet Pea Show and we'll be working hard to finish off exhibits for the children's classes. As usual at this time of year we're all wondering who will be the Rose Queen and her attendants on the big day.

Richard Gamman.

Rose and Sweet Pea Show 26th June

The annual Rose & Sweet Pea Show and Garden Fete, dating back to 1912, will take place as usual on the last Saturday in June in the Vicarage Garden and in the Priory Church, Deeping St James. The horticultural show, from which the event takes its name, includes competitions for displaying a variety of exhibits from a single rose to a vase or bowl of sweet peas as well as awards for fruits and vegetables and baking a cake. There are competitions for children as well as for adults with those for children including making a robot from recycled materials to designing a theme park ride.



Entries, however, are limited to residents of the Deepings, those on the Priory Church electoral role and members of the Priory youth and children's groups.

An added attraction this year will be a *Deepings in Bloom* award for the most innovative planting in an unusual container. For the Garden Fete there will be many of the usual fete activities including displays of sword, hip hop and country dancing and, for the first time this year, a performance by Bourne Grammar School Jazz Band. There will, of course, be the crowning of the "2010 Rose Queen".

Again this year the bell ringers will be treating us to trips up the tower and all this will be supplemented by an array of stalls selling such things as plants and cakes as well as stalls for tombola, white elephant, bottles and, as they say, much, much more!

There is also the **Grand Prize Draw** which will be drawn on the afternoon with some magnificent prizes including a cash prize of £100, meals at local restaurants (Chesters [*courtesy Landis & Gyr*] and Maharanis), Tolethorpe theatre tickets, entry to Burghley House, hampers, vouchers for John Lewis, Stamford Arts Centre, Grasmere Farm, Morrisons, Waterside Garden Centre and Tesco; fish and chips at the Boundary Fish Restaurant and Linfords, a bird feeder from the Pet Shop at Market Deeping etc etc etc. Tickets are already on sale (50p each/£2 a book) and can also be purchased on the day. Our thanks go to the Co-op for sponsoring the printing of the tickets and to the many local firms and individuals that have donated prizes.

Gates to the show open at 1pm and you can find more information, including the full list of competitions, via roseandsweetpea@dsj.org.uk Come along on the day and you will be assured of a **BIG** welcome!

Contacts:-

Garden Fete	John Marsh
Grand Prize Draw tickets	Sue Marsh
Horticultural Show	Richard Gamman

Sue Marsh.



Hear Our Prayer

We are urgently in need of a few more people to lead our intercessions on Sunday mornings. Now that Richard is running the Youth Group, we are down to just five lay intercessors. This gives us no slack, especially during holiday periods and when people are sick.

We need some volunteers now. Don't worry about that feeling of dread when you stand in front of the congregation. Your nerves will soon pass. Most people really enjoy the experience when they get on and do it. In any case, John, Niccy, Martin, Bet or I would be happy to help you prepare, rehearse and lead your first session, so you wouldn't be on your own.

You may have noticed that we each have our own way of tackling the prayers, which is good. We are given guidelines but, apart from that, it is left to our own inclinations.

Please give this some urgent consideration. This is your opportunity to really contribute to Priory Church services – and it is nothing like as frightening as you may think!

For further information, please contact me (smartlady02@aol.com), John (dsj.marshes@btinternet.com), Niccy (nafisher@mail-central.com), Martin (mwpfisher@mail-central.com) or Bet (priorynews@dsj.org.uk).

Thank you.

Anne Smart.

Christian Aid



This Year's collection in the Deepings raised a total of £4,616.80. Many thanks to all who collected or donated.

Sonia Marshall.

Coffee Morning

After the service on Sunday 16th May coffee was served in the hall, it was held this year instead of a lunch towards Christian Aid. It proved to be a success with just over £130.00 being raised.

Thanks to those who helped and supported this worthy cause.

Bill Flegg.

Gardening in DSJ: The Story So Far ...

From the glorious picture of the Rose and Sweet Pea Show, part of which is shown on the front cover of this issue of Priory News, taken in 1912 and graciously lent by the Deeping St James Family History Society, to the snaps taken of the planting of the snowdrops in the Churchyard earlier this year and with some little known but fascinating facts thrown in for good measure - this book, published by the Parish Council in honour of the first year of entry into the *Britain in Bloom* competition, will be launched at the Rose and Sweet Pea Show with a flower festival in the Church.

Flower arrangers: Pat Abel, Pauline Adkins, Jan Fisk, Jo Moore, Cheryl Nuttal, Jackie O'Hare and Christine Babbs have each taken a chapter of the Book and illustrated it with the carefully planned and gloriously executed flower arrangements for which they are renowned. The Festival will be open to the public during the Rose and Sweet Pea Show and on Sunday afternoon, 27th June from 1-4:30pm when refreshments will be served.

The beautifully illustrated book will be available for just £2.99 but, if you would like a copy but are unable to come to the Church then please contact me (see below). Buy early for Christmas! - Perfect for posting overseas.

And if you would like to participate in this historic event yourself, then all you have to do is plant an unusual container in your front garden, from a watering can to a saucepan, a tyre to a bath. And then let us know about it! We will enter it into the Rose and Sweet Pea Show (don't move it - our judges are roving!) and we will include it on the judging route for the Britain in Bloom competition - just by planting

up the container you will help us nearer the coveted prize, as we will be able to demonstrate excellent community involvement!

So join us this summer to make Deeping St James really bloom! Please contact me (judy.stevens1@btopenworld.com).

Judy Stevens.



Andy's unusual planter
(Picture courtesy of Judy Stevens.)

[Thank you for the perfect cover for our June edition. Bet.]

Church Hall Garden News

Spring has at last arrived and everything in the garden is growing very quickly including the weeds. John, Chris and I work every Thursday morning - weeding, tidying and planting. The small pond area has been re-lined and edged and now looks very smart. It was hard work for Chris and John but well worth their efforts. I have planted two new crab apple trees which were grown & donated by my son-in-law.

We have also had a very generous anonymous donation of a wooden garden bench. A huge thank you goes to the person concerned and we hope that he or she will take pleasure in using it for a few minutes of peace and quiet.

Chris & Elizabeth have very kindly donated a second bench and Chris has assembled and stained them both. The seats are there for all to use so please do so whenever possible.

All three of us look forward to our Thursday mornings and although it can be hard work it is very enjoyable being in the peaceful tranquil garden.

Linda Sellars.

Project Hosanna

Thanks to everyone who has supported Project Hosanna with donations to their drop-in centre for the homeless. These gifts have helped the homeless by providing for their needs in practical ways with food, clothing and other essentials. All your donations of clothing, bedding and food have gone directly to the project; any bric à brac or similar items have been sold in the Open Door charity shop to raise funds.

With increasing demand for volunteers and the difficulty in organising, the decision to end the project was reluctantly taken earlier this year. However, the end of the project does not mean that the Priory Church can no longer help the homeless in Peterborough.

Please continue to donate as generously as before to support the Open Door Church, whose members still go out to help the homeless every Tuesday evening with sandwiches, clothing and hot drinks. Volunteers are also going out every Saturday evening to support the homeless at the open area near Railworld.

Doris Warner.



(Picture courtesy of Gerry Balding)

Railway Weekend

On behalf of the Social Committee catering team I would like to record our thanks to Philip Spratley for his splendid organisation of the very successful Railway Weekend, it was a pleasure to work with him and his exhibitors over the two days. The comments received from those we fed with home made food at sensible prices proved the reputation of the Priory Church continues to be held in high esteem for its catering.

Thanks Philip.

The "C" team.

From the Archives: June 2000

From the Vicar

Of Roses and Queens

June is almost upon us as I write - or at least it must be if the magazine team is baying for my writing - and thoughts have for some time been on the arrangements for this year's Rose & Sweet Pea Show and the selection of the new Rose Queen.

The Show is probably the most time-consuming thing we do and is our most significant single community event as a parish church, and yet one may well ask where it touches our work as the Body of Christ: why is the Church involved in an event like this?

It generates income, of course, which can be used for the rest of our mission and ministry, but it is more than a fund-raising exercise and is something to which many of us enjoy contributing a lot of time and hard work. It is a tradition in itself, and with value of its own, quite apart from the funds it raises. In a village like ours there are still some of us engaged in agriculture and horticulture, and there are many who enjoy gardening, and if the Church is to be effective as a community Church then it must be involved in these areas of life and celebrate them with the people. God has given us the world to enjoy, and to enjoy it with others is our privilege as his Church.

Aside from the horticultural show, the garden fête is a party to which we welcome all the community to celebrate God's gifts to us in creation and just to be the community eating, drinking and playing together. Now I must be off: I have a lawn to cut and some shrubbery to tidy

Mark Warrick.

Priory Church Coffee Group



The Coffee Morning Workers

*Back row L-R: John Marsh, Margaret Flegg, Bill Flegg, Carole Mills, Anthea Wray
Front row L-R: Jean Clarke, Doris Bellairs, Pat Abel, Beryl Stratton, Jane Thompson
(Picture courtesy of Bill Flegg.)*

On Thursday 13th May, on a lovely sunny morning, the Church Coffee Group held their spring coffee morning at the Priory Church hall. Those attending were treated to home made biscuits with a choice of tea or coffee. There was a cake and plant stall, also a raffle. The treasurer, Margaret Flegg, distributed monies raised from the previous year's events towards the hall refurbishment, the lighting of the church spire and the Deeping St James cub pack.

The day's event raised £191.80 towards next year's gifts. The group would like to thank those who supported the event and also those who helped during the morning.

Margaret Flegg.

Memories of the Church Ladies' Fellowship

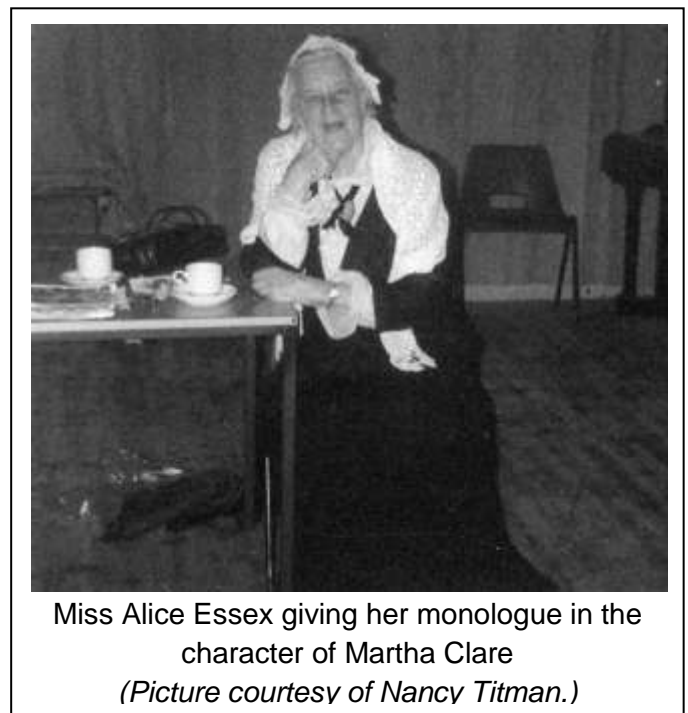
Our next Vicar was Rev John Galbraith. He was an Army Padre and he and Mrs Galbraith were used to the good life of the Officers' Mess. Mrs Gaibraith was happy to belong to the Fellowship but preferred to leave us to our own devices. She was not used to village life, which must have seemed crude to her, for when she entertained the Fellowship members in the elegantly furnished Vicarage, she expected us to mingle with a glass in one hand and a pitta bread cone in the other. In those days we had never heard of pitta bread, and were astounded when our hostess offered mini sandwiches from a scooped out loaf with a ribbon bow around it!

They were very kind, charming people but Deeping St James was not the country parish they expected, so they left after a few years.

Our next Vicar was Rev Stanley Haworth, who came to Deeping in 1981 with his wife and two small daughters. Mrs Haworth was a musician and choir mistress and had no interest in the Fellowship. The new Vicar had. He thought he could turn it into a thriving ready-made branch of the Mothers' Union. In that case only communicant members of the C of E could belong and we had always welcomed any lady as a member. We refused to change, so the Vicar established his own Mothers' Union Group, which flourished for several years.

The stalwart committee of the Fellowship carried on, the Chairperson changing every third year. A varied and interesting programme was presented and some memorable events took place. One was a visit to Stamford Town Hall, where we were told the town history and shown the fantastic Town Silver. We even met royalty on one of our mystery tours. The late Mrs Cicely Tribe arranged a visit to the gardens of Barnwell Manor, (the home of the Duchess of Gloucester) by virtue of her son, who was the policeman guarding the premises being a friend of the gardener. We had a tour of the lovely gardens and had heard about their romantic history, when the diminutive little lady who was pottering about near the house came over to meet us. Of course it was the Duchess herself, who wanted to know where we were from and chatted to us for several minutes.

Miss Alice Essex was another very welcome speaker. She was well into her 70s and loved to come to Deeping as she had once taught at the Cross School. She wore a Victorian dress and a lace cap and gave spell-binding monologues, putting herself in the place of people close to famous historical figures. In one she was Martha Clare, wife of poet John Clare. In another she was a Stamford lady who had served with Florence Nightingale. In yet another she was an assistant to the Dress-designer Worth, who was born at Bourne. She had no notes and talked without stop for at least an hour without losing the thread once, thoroughly enjoying herself at the same time.



Another fresh idea was to hold a mini Antiques Roadshow. A dealer from Bourne brought along curious items for us to identify and also valued objects that we had brought along.

Mrs Haworth, the Vicar's mother, always enjoyed taking part in our meetings. She was an expert at the art of tatting and was pleased to demonstrate the skill and encouraged us to try it.

We look forward to the meeting of each session when we have a “Cooking with Margaret” evening. Mrs Flegg is so professional and well organised that it all looks so easy. We watch as the mixing is done, the saucepans filled, the tins greased, and soon, behold, there is a delicious tasting for everyone to share. Sometimes a Chinese meal, sometimes an Italian one, or perhaps a feast for Firework night, but it is always perfect. We appreciate Margaret who has made such a difference to the Fellowship.

To be continued ...

Nancy Titman.



Harp Concert Review

The concert on Friday, May 21st. began with music played by Mark Harmer on the small harp associated with Celtic music and consisted of pieces from the mid-1600s by the Irish harpist, Turlough Carolan. The first of these, “Carolan’s Dream”, I am listening to again (and again) on YouTube* as I write and its haunting and atmospheric melody and sensitive arrangement by Mark set the scene for the whole candlelit programme. Other pieces which he played had colourful titles such as “Squire Wood’s Lamentation on a Refusal of His Halfpenny” and an “Ode to Whiskey” and his part of the programme, full of beautiful and magical moments came to an end all too soon.

After drinks and nibbles, the second half of the evening began with one of David Watkins own compositions, “Welsh Landscape”, a series of short pieces including a Nocturne, a Galop and an arrangement of “David of the White Rock”, all held together by a recurring, sweeping Interlude and demonstrated well some of the techniques and resources of the larger pedal harp. David’s programme had a good mix of music, continuing with a baroque sonata movement by William Croft (yes, he of hymn-writing fame) preceded by a ghost story from Leven’s Hall, and moving on to an Allegro by the 18th century blind harpist, John Parry. Two Russian pieces followed: a Nocturne by Glinka and “Sad Marguerite at the Spinning Wheel” by Tchaikovsky. “La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin”, an arrangement by John Thomas of “Watching the Wheat” and a piece by Marcel Tournier led us again all too soon to the final pieces, again compositions by David: “Nocturne” and “Firedance”.

What a delight it was to be present at this concert in which the performers introduced the music with short, often witty, anecdotes and our thanks go to the two soloists, to the Social Committee who arranged it and also, of course, to Margaret, Bill and their helpers for the refreshments.

John Worthington.

Cooking with Margaret

Gammon in Cider (Serves 4)



Ingredients

- 4 gammon slices
- 1 tbsp English mustard
- 25g Demerara sugar
- 300ml dry cider
- 15g butter
- 25ml plain flour
- Chopped fresh parsley to garnish

Method

1. Put the gammon side by side in a large oven proof dish. Mix the mustard, sugar with some cider to make a smooth paste, Spread over bacon and leave for 30 minutes.
2. Bake for 15 minutes in a 200°C/400°F/Gas 4 oven.
3. Meanwhile, put the butter, flour and remaining cider in a saucepan. Heat, whisking continuously, until the sauce thickens, boils and is smooth. Simmer for 1-2 minutes and season to taste.
4. Pour the mixture over the gammon and bake for a further 15 minutes until cooked through. Garnish before serving.

Margaret Flegg.

ROTAS FOR JUNE

		Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessions
SUN 6TH	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles & Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am	Chris Halley Simon Marshall	Team E: Liz Bridgeman, Bill & Margaret Flegg	Bet Washbrooke
	6:00pm	Geoff Armstrong		
SUN 13TH	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles & Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am	Chris Halley Paul Boswall	Team F: Doris Bellairs, Christine Masters, Val Wilde	Niccy Fisher
SUN 20TH	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles & Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am	John Sellars Paul Boswall	Team A: Doris Bellairs, Mary Hamilton, Vivien Hamilton	Sonia Marshall
SUN 27TH	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles & Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	Team B: Joy Cunningham, Ann Meekings	Tony Masters
SUN 4TH JUL	8:00am		George Knowles & Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am		Team C: Cled Bennett, Adrian Hallam, Tim Hitchborn	Bet Washbrooke
	6:00pm			

		OT	Readers	NT	Bread & Wine
SUN 6 TH	10:00am	Joy Cunningham		Trevor Harwood	Pat Feek Doris Warner
SUN 13 TH	10:00am			Martin Fisher	Martin & Niccy Fisher
SUN 20 TH	10:00am	Bill Flegg		Roger Bridgeman	Bill & Margaret Flegg
SUN 27 TH	10:00am	Liz Bridgeman		Simon Marshall	Dick & Anthea Wray
SUN 4 TH JUL	10:00am	Niccy Fisher		Peter Wilde	Peter & Val Wilde

	Sunday Coffee	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning	Brasses
SUN 6 TH	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Joan Dyke		
SUN 13 TH	Ann Bennett Penny Hebblewhite	Carole Mills	Liz Spratley Sandra Jones	
SUN 20 TH	Bill & Margaret Flegg	Sonia Marshall		Christine Masters Doris Bellairs
SUN 27 TH	Liz Spratley Linda Sellars	Eileen Day	John & Linda Sellars	
SUN 4 TH JUL	Val Wilde Doris Bellairs	Vacant		



READINGS FOR JUNE

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 5)				
SUN 6 TH	Morning	1 Kings 17: 17-24	Galations 1: 11-24	Luke 7: 11-17
	Evening	Psalm 44	Genesis 8:15-9:17	Mark 4: 1-20
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 6)				
SUN 13 TH	Morning	2 Samuel 11:26-12:10,13-15	Galations 2: 15-21	Luke 7:36-8:3
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 7)				
SUN 20 TH	Morning	Isaiah 65: 1-9	Galations 3: 23-29	Luke 8: 26-39
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 8)				
SUN 27 TH	Morning	1 Kings 19: 15-16,19-21	Galations 5: 1,13-25	Luke 9: 51-62
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (PROPER 8)				
SUN 4 TH JUL	Morning	Isaiah 66: 10-14	Galations 6: 1-16	Luke 10: 1-11,16-20
	Evening	Psalm 65	Genesis 29: 1-20	Mark 6: 7-29



Bishop's Letter

Dear Friends

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