



Time to Say Goodbye

Paddy King

There comes a time when we all have to move on. Moving house, job, and sometimes even church. Often when we consider a change such as this, we'll contemplate doing one of these things

at a time, and fairly rarely even then!

Last month, when I accepted the post of Associate Priest of the parish of St Paul's Wokingham with St Nicholas' Emmbrook and Woosehill, I agreed to do all three - change job, move house, and leave behind the church communities of Dorchester which are so dear to me - ready to begin my ministry in Wokingham.

I take on a share in the responsibility for Woosehill Community Church; an Anglican/Methodist partnership, which has recently (due to a change of parish boundaries) found itself in the Parish of St Paul's: an Anglo-Catholic church in the centre of Wokingham. Together, with St Nicholas' Emmbrook, they are exploring what it means to be Christians together in the parish, growing and sharing their faith.

It barely feels possible that it has been three years since I came to Dorchester, and I thank everyone for their support during this time. It has been a time of great personal development and growth, and the support I have received in all forms, shapes and sizes, has helped no end. A curacy is a strange time, with new pressures and stresses, but thanks to the friendship shown by everyone here in Dorchester, both in the church communities and in the wider town, I feel ready to move on to my new post.

My last service will be on Sunday 1st September, 9.45am at St Mary's, and I look forward to saying goodbye properly then! There might even be a glass of something after the service...



Don't Forget !

There is no August issue of the Dorchester Parish Magazine, so remember to keep this issue handy until the next issue, which will be in churches on

Sunday 1st September

A happy summer to you all from

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ST GEORGE'S FORDINGTON

MESSENGER



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Have you ever seen a parent's face when their child recognises them and calls out 'mum, mum,' or 'da, dad' for the first time? The parent beams, and is full of pride, wonder and delight as their child recognises the unique relationship.

Just like a devoted parent, God listens out for our voice, longing to hear us and respond to us when we call. And even when we struggle, God helps us. **"We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."** (Romans 8:26)

And just as the child depends on their parent, so prayer reminds us we are dependent on Him.

"Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts." – Mother Teresa

Amy's Antics

I entered a fun terrier race the other day. As I stood in line barking with the terriers, people behind me kept saying, 'But that's not a terrier!' I ignored them, and when they said 'Go!' I raced with all my heart, over the jumps and right up to the straw bales. And guess what, I got fourth place!

It's a bit like Christians, who **"Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead... press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God."** (Philippians 3:12-14)

Don't worry if people are doubting your ability, keep your eyes on God and go for it!



Shirley & Marcy

A mother was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbour if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't

notice her. She said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, the neighbour and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbour girl he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the two kids walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?'

Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.' The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?'

'That's just Shirley Goodnest,' Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy.'

'Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us?'

'Well,' Timmy explained, 'Every night my Mum makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!'

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always

Provided by Rosemary Ellerby

Altar flowers in June

Altar flowers given by:

Dorothy Maggs for Dennis on his birthday

The daughters of Maeve Wilkinson for their Mother

Times they are a Changing

Delving into my memories for a talk to the Thursday Group reminded me of many things and highlighted how life has changed. I am left handed and as I did some searching I found a website with left handed gadgets – not so when I was a child. I had one teacher who would hit your knuckles with a ruler if you used your left hand, probably accounts for my hatred of school for ever.

I also remembered listening to the radio in school when the announcement came from John Snagg the King had died, the school was in shock, the BBC played nothing but solemn music until after the funeral, my how times have changed.

However, refreshingly, 15 year olds can still be embarrassed by their Grandfather. My granddaughter visited last week with a boyfriend, I asked how her GCSE exams were going. Out of nowhere up pipes Grandfather, "Did you have your bra checked as you went in?" A look of horror came over her and the young man, same age, blushed. There was no stopping him – he went on to say in Japan girls were taking answers into the exam hidden in their bra so were being frisked. It ended in hoots of laughter, imagining Thomas Hardy frisking all the young ladies going into the exam room.

St George's Dragons

St George's Dragons is the name for St George's Church Sunday School. We are a well established group and meet at 10.15am during term time in St. George's Church Hall, which is behind the church and has car parking space. We welcome children from 2 and a half up to their teens for as long as they would like to be part of the group.

The Dragons start their sessions in the Church and share the beginning of the Church service and then leave to have their own time in the Church Hall with the Dragons Leaders. They then go back into the Church at the end of the morning service to share with everyone what they have been doing. The children receive informal yet structured religious education, interspersed with games, craftwork, songs and prayers and any other activities. Occasionally, the Dragons stay in Church for the whole service, such as Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

Our Dragons Leaders are very experienced and they meet together regularly to plan and to review.

The sessions are designed to appeal to all ages and can include the following activities:

- Singing
- Drawing
- Painting
- Designing and making items
- Drama and plays
- Dancing
- Sports

Some families leave their children with the Dragons whilst they attend the morning service whilst others drop their children off and return later to collect them. There is no expectation that children will come to the Dragons every week as we understand that families have a wide range of commitments. Children are always welcome whenever they can come and activities are designed to fit different groups each week.

For further information please contact Rev Fiona Hall at St George's Church on 01305 262394 or email revfhall@gmail.com.

Fathers' Day

On Fathers' Day, St George's Dragons drew a lifesize picture of a typical Dad! Here it is at St George's altar.



St Mary the Virgin The Open Door



Interviews for New Team Rector

Adrian
Downton

First of all a really big thank you to all who worked so desperately hard in the quite difficult process of appointing a new Rector for the Benefice.

Meetings with Bishop Graham and Archdeacon Paul gave Benefice members of the P.C.C. an opportunity of sharing their ideas as to the sort of person suited to develop our church community in the coming years.

A profile of the Benefice was compiled, with once again all churches contributing. The mammoth task of producing this document was chaired by David Bowen, who spent many hours editing and refining the draft for our Archdeacon to agree.

The adverts were placed and a short list drawn up of candidates to be invited for interview. All churches of the town and wider Benefice were included on this selection panel.

Three very experienced candidates were invited for the familiarisation day on 3rd June and the interview on the 4th. Yet again our grateful thanks go to car drivers and escorts, who acted as thoughtful friends for candidates and their wives. This day, prior to the interviews, served to give candidates and their wives a clear picture of the Benefice and the people who have roles to play in it.

People gave their time to show them around individual churches and explain their role in our spiritual community and the ladies ensured that food was on hand at certain times. A very wide group of clergy, LLMs, P.C.C. members, office staff and others all had a chance to be involved, partake in informal discussion and contribute in a positive manner.

We were fortunate in being able to use Ursula Norman's home for the actual interviews. There are few places which have space and quietness and a big thank you to her and to her ladies who looked after everyone so well.

The interview day on 4th June started with thoughtful prayer and briefings to the panel, which then split into two. Two smaller panels conducted interviews in a thoroughly professional and positive manner and after lunch, with the candidates and their wives, summing up and decisions were made. This part of the process is, in most cases, the most difficult.

However, after a great deal of thought and deliberation an appointment could not be made and it was agreed to re-advertise this very important post.

We were all sad not to be able to appoint and I know many were puzzled as to the outcome of the day.

Our role now is to pull together and work in harmony over the next few months and pray that a truly positive outcome is achieved in the near future.

Social Events Coming Up

A Coffee Morning will be held at 3, Garfield Avenue on Saturday morning, 20th July.

~~Thursday 6th July~~ — **Wrongly advertised in last month's** magazine, the talk below is coming up in October:

Tony Holt will talk about his new books and share a wealth of anecdotes about life on board an aircraft carrier and in London clubs, telling us something about what the great and the good get up to. It should be an entertaining evening with plenty of laughs.

Sea Sunday

Robert
Potter

Sea Sunday this year is on 14th July. It is **the Sunday on which, at St Mary's, we remember the men and women who serve in the merchant navies of countries round the world and the work of the Mission to Seafarers.**

The Mission, founded in 1856, works in 260 ports providing help and support to the 1.3 million men and women who face danger every day to keep the global economy afloat. Care is offered to seafarers of all ranks, nationalities and beliefs. Through the global network of chaplains and volunteers it offers practical, emotional and spiritual help to men and women who spend many months away from their families and communities.

Despite modern aids, the life of a seafarer is not only lonely but dangerous. Accidents happen in port and the sea claims many lives through shipwrecks, few of which reach the news. The threats of modern piracy are an additional hazard.

The Mission is there to help and is worthy of our prayerful and financial support.

St Mary the Virgin



Hobbies and collections

Robert
Potter

I spent a lovely June evening watching my grandson, Alex, play in an under 10s cricket match. It was a perfect summer evening in a perfect setting. The village in north Devon where the boys were playing has a cricket ground set below a tree-clad hill and close to a small river – all very restful and picturesque.

There were fairly infrequent sounds of bat meeting ball with some purpose but generally you wouldn't describe the game as being exciting. There were probably more byes, wides and no-balls than actual runs but that didn't matter. The boys are all young, it was a first season and they enjoyed themselves. They were all kitted out in whites and they and the adults took the game seriously.

In the second half of the game Alex had two overs of bowling and then he was fielding, which seemed to be a not very exacting pastime and allowed time to look around.

On the way home in the car with three other boys and the father of one of those boys, Alex said that while he was fielding he looked at the wooden pylons in and near the field and saw that there were different types. That caused a great outburst of mirth – pylon watching was launched as a new hobby!

To make matters worse, the father admitted to having worked at one time for the Central Electricity Generating Board and proceeded to describe and give



names to various types of the big steel ones that you see around Dorset. The journey home was spent spotting new pylons and laughing as only a bunch of 10 year old boys can. Perhaps you'd like to take up pylon spotting?!

It seems a very specialist hobby but in the course of working at Duke's sales over a number of years I have come across all kinds of strange specialisms. A few years ago Duke's sold a collection of flat irons and collectors came from all over this country and from abroad to look at them and to bid for examples that they wanted to add to their collections. There was a huge collection of early gramophones and, a year or so later, a collection of Wagner memorabilia – programmes, records, sheet music, pictures, anything at all related to the composer. It was a lifetime's work of a husband and wife.

The interesting thing about the people who make these collections is their detailed knowledge of the subject - a narrow field known in depth. More recently there have been wine labels and menu holders and no doubt their owners derived much pleasure in tracking down items missing from their collection and in the process learnt a great deal about their subjects.

I can claim to have collected only postage stamps (from which I learnt a great deal of world geography) and engine names which led me to take an interest in history, geography, famous people and several other topics.

Standing on platform ends wasn't time entirely wasted!

Perhaps you have an interesting and unusual hobby involving a collection or recording things you see like birds or the weather – or even different types of pylon!! How about writing an article about it for the magazine?

Sanctuary Lamp Candles

7th Given by Di House in memory of her sister Linda whose years mind falls on 4th July.

14th Given by Eileen Dickson in memory of John whose birthday was 12th July, and also by Joan Hodgkins in memory of her husband Denys whose birthday was on 12th July.

21st Given by Adrian and Gill Downton to mark their wedding anniversary.

28th Given by Joan Hodgkins to mark family birthdays.

Dorchester Art Club

This friendly group meets
most

Monday evenings
and Thursday afternoons
at St. George's Hall,
Fordington.

£1 including refreshments.

New members always
welcome.

For details: see

www.DorchesterArtClub.co.uk
or phone: 01305 264568



In trading standards we hear a lot about unfair trading and sub standard service. Many of us will have seen various programmes on the television about the rarer, but more extreme cases, of rogue trading. From April to November last year over 200,000

complaints were received nationally about faulty goods and substandard services. That's a lot of unhappy customers. Choosing a trader can be a daunting and confusing exercise, especially then if something goes wrong.

How do you choose a trader?

How do you know if the person you have invited into your home to fix something is honest?

When making your choice we advise:

1. Get three quotes from different traders
2. Choose a trader from a recognised scheme.

Buy With Confidence is an approved trader scheme run by Dorset County Council trading standards service, since 2009. All the businesses on the scheme have been vetted by trading standards. They have passed stringent checks including financial checks and for those visiting your home criminal bureau checks. We also look to see if any complaints have been received about them, whether they are insured and if they are aware of their legal obligations to their customers.

Buy With Confidence: We check traders so you don't have to. Your choice should no longer be daunting or confusing.

Buying a Used Vehicle

Most of us will have had to go out and buy a second hand car at least once. It is probably fair to say that the majority of us don't know much about cars other than that when they go wrong it can be expensive, and there is a lot that can go wrong.

Second hand car sales from dealers were the most complained about purchase last year. It can be tempting when searching for a new car to travel far and wide looking for the right car at a bargain price, but what happens if that car goes wrong? If the seller is in trade, the law generally regards it as reasonable that he should be given the opportunity to fix the car. This may mean in practical terms that you have to take the car back to him, which is going to be inconvenient, particularly if he needs to hold onto it, and you are then left without a car.

The majority of complaints involve civil (as opposed to criminal) issues, and it is up to you and the trader to resolve them. A small percentage may relate to safety, or not having been told the truth when you bought the car. For example, being told that the car had done less miles than it actually had, which is known as 'car clocking' to most of us. Trading Standards will investigate where there is a breach of any criminal law.

If you have any consumer issues and need advice or want to make a complaint about a purchase or a service, call the national Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 08454 04 05 06.

Look out for the Buy with Confidence logo — trading **standards check traders so you don't have to.**

Visit the website www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 08454 04 05 06.

Meet Alina Jenkins, the voice behind the new BBC breakfast show in Dorset

If you can receive BBC Radio Solent on 103.8Mhz FM, you may be pleased to hear that the BBC is launching a new local breakfast programme, from Monday 8th July 2013, just on Dorset. It will be broadcast every weekday, with the usual Big Dorset Brunch continuing every Saturday morning. It doesn't yet cover the entire county, but we hope it will when BBC DAB is expanded across the country. Below is a press release from Julie Massiter, the manager/editor at BBC Dorchester, announcing another new appointment for the newly expanded and upgraded Dorchester studio.

Breakfast in Dorset is a brand new local BBC radio programme dedicated to bringing you everything you need to start your day – whether you're listening in the shower, on the school run, in the factory or office, on the farm, even on board one of the region's fishing boats. Presenter Alina Jenkins will host the show live from Dorchester, and she couldn't be prouder.

"I've been with BBC Radio Solent for 12 years working on early breakfast, afternoons, news and also presenting for both the regional and national weather teams. But I'm relishing this new challenge and incredibly excited to be involved. Dorset is an area my family and I have always loved and we are very much looking forward to living and working in this beautiful county. I'm working with a brilliant team and we are eager to get out and about and find the stories that matter to Dorset residents. I won't just be in the studio either - I hope to get around the county as much as I can too. Whatever your story, we want to hear it."

Broadcast on 103.8FM, *Breakfast in Dorset* will cover Weymouth, Portland, Dorchester, Wareham, Blandford Forum and many of the villages in between. The new show will be devoted to Dorset news, Dorset debate, and



Dorset people...with the distinctive flavour and fun of local life.

Every weekday from 6.30am, Alina Jenkins and the team will bring you all the latest news, putting decision-makers, bosses and politicians in the spotlight to get answers to the questions you'd want to ask – and hearing a vast range of the viewpoints and real-life stories that add to the richness of life in our county. They'll also let you know what's happening in Dorset, give you the most up-to-date travel information and help you plan for the weather.

To let them know your news please call on 01305 262512 or email dorset@bbc.co.uk

“Faith without action is dead... Let me show you my faith by what I do.”

James 2

The next three articles fall under a common theme—showing our faith by our actions. First, some philosophy from Tony Wheeler. If the thought of an article on philosophy makes you want to turn the page, just hang on a minute – Tony can make even *Existentialism understandable...*

Tony
Wheeler

Soren Kierkegaard was a Christian philosopher who had a new idea about faith. Is faith what you say or what you do? He contrasted nominal Christians who say they have faith but do not lead a Christian life with Socrates, the great philosopher (4th century BC) who died rather than give up his philosophy, though he had no belief in a heavenly reward. The man with real faith is obviously Socrates, Kierkegaard thought, not those horrible hypocrites. That was the beginning of:

EXISTENTIALISM

Many philosophers were much taken by the idea that what you actually did was more real than what you said or claimed about yourself. They called this new philosophy Existentialism.

There was more to Existentialism than the ethical desire for sincerity. As the name implied it is also a discussion about the reality of existence. However, for us, this aspect of it is of less importance than our attempts to lead a satisfactory life. So we do not discuss it.

THE NEGATIVE SIDE OF EXISTENTIALISM

A German named MARTIN HEIDEGGER is important here. He complained about what he called DAS MAN. Das Man is a bad thing says Martin Heidegger, and he is right, I think. Das Man is the way we all thoughtlessly agree with everybody else. Fashionable hats, fashionable celebrities, and fashionable loves, hates and opinions. Well, it is pretty feeble when you think about it. That brain thing between our ears is supposed to be used. We are supposed to have thoughts and opinions of our own, not just to take the easy way out and spend all our lives glued to Come Dancing on the television.

Admittedly it is not altogether our fault. Human beings are herd animals, and herd animals are, well, comfortable in a herd. If we think the same as most other people, it saves thought and argument, and makes us popular.

But it's not quite right, is it? We are Christians and this is not “the best that we can be, for Jesus, righteousness and Thee” as the hymn says. If we come across an obvious

injustice, for example, and do nothing about it because nobody else does, we feel a tiny niggle. We should have done something, or somebody should, anyway. Do you not feel like that sometimes?

We get quite a few such niggles because, unfortunately, the human herd instinct is often shallow and prejudiced, and not very nice. Das Man can be more than a bit evil. So everyone has an uneasy conscience. That's Das Man – well, roughly speaking. Heidegger is notorious for being obscure.

THE POSITIVE SIDE OF EXISTENTIALISM

Now we turn to a different philosopher, JEAN PAUL SARTRE, to discuss AUTHENTICITY. We get niggled by DAS MAN, you see, until we have a rush of blood to the head. We do something quite brave and positive. **Something which is “authentically” us at our best.** We might speak out against an injustice, or help out a poor old retired vicar with Parkinson's. “Oh, what a good boy (or girl),” says our conscience. **We are not used to this approval so we grow two inches and feel lovely.** We are really fulfilled at last.

Alas, we cannot keep it up. It is too hard. It is beyond our strength. DAS MAN never gives up. It whittles at us until we surrender. We sink back into its arms, switch on the telly and mindlessly watch Come Dancing as before. If only we were stronger we could be AUTHENTIC for ever and ever and collect enough halos to play Quoits. But we are only human, only a herd animal.

That is what Existentialism is about.

It is in the Bible, is it not? Matthew 7, 13-14. **“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many that take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and few there are that find it.”**

I think the best of the Existentialists is the first one, Soren Kierkegaard. He was so sincere. What do you think of his idea that faith is proved more by what you do than what you say?

“Faith without action is dead... Let me show you my faith by what I do.”

St. Osmund's Middle School is a Church school and so it is very gratifying to see how seriously it takes the duty of seeking justice in God's world. Led by Assistant Head Fiona Brady, the school joined enthusiastically in the recent IF campaign, sponsored by Christian Aid and many other charities, that lead up to the recent political summit in London. As a result of these efforts, five pupils and two members of staff went to meet the Prime Minister to express their concerns for the state of the world and their hopes for the future. David Bowen, Chairman of Governors

Fiona
Brady

This year, Britain hosts the G8 summit- an opportunity for campaigners to raise the issue of world hunger and demand action. As a community that strives to live in accordance with Gospel values,

we knew that this was an ideal opportunity for us to raise awareness of global poverty, and to put our faith into action.

We launched the IF campaign through a series of assemblies. Our actions culminated in our big 'IF' day, where we sold white bands, and formed a giant white IF on the grounds as the intrepid Mr Jenkinson was elevated by the fire service's ladder to take the photo.

It was these efforts, along with the 620 white plates, decorated with ideas on how to overcome poverty, that led to Christian Aid inviting us to be one of the schools chosen to hand over the nation's school children's white plates to the Prime Minister. Five of our most active campaigners were selected – and on Thursday 6th June we set off for Downing Street.



The nature of politics being what it is, an unexpected visit from the Columbian President meant that David Cameron was called away after our photo shoot- but was swiftly replaced by David Walliams (to the delight of the students!) and David Bull (head of UNICEF) who ably and most entertainingly, answered detailed and taxing questions from students on the best ways to eliminate hunger for good.



Our involvement in the 'IF' campaign, and particularly our chance to spend a morning in Number Ten Downing Street has made one thing clear to our students – you don't have to be a government minister to share your opinions on the outrage of global hunger – or even an adult. We have learnt that one of the world's most shocking problems, and possibly one of its toughest challenges is hunger. But IF we act together, the world CAN provide enough food for everyone.

“Faith without action is dead... Let me show you my faith by what I do.”

Minna St Aubyn and Laretta Kerridge were among thousands who travelled to London for the Big IF London rally. You can find out more about the campaign at www.enoughfoodif.org – including lifestyle changes that we could all make

A Journey on the IF Campaign Trail



Minna
St Aubyn

The ‘Enough food for everyone IF’ campaign was timed for the run-up to the G8 Conference, to persuade this group of the eight wealthiest countries in the world to include structural changes to aid

for poor countries.

A coach load of us from Dorchester left for London. Familiar faces and a variety of connections. Laretta Kerridge and I had travelled together to London and Edinburgh for the ‘Make Poverty History’ campaign in 2005.

On arrival we joined the various threads of other Christian

Aid campaigners, holding scarlet banners and spinning flowers, the suggested symbol for each hungry child.

And here we began to realise the size of the campaign. Vast crowds filed into the Hall to be pointed to different staircases. We walked to Hyde Park accompanied by police officers all the way. Laretta guessed they had to be cautious because of crowd numbers. “But vanfuls?” And then we realised it was rehearsal day for the Trooping of the Colour! Ah, so not just for us and our spinning flowers then!

Hyde Park was awash with green, yellow, blue t-shirts, representing the hundred charities involved. So much to watch as we ate our picnic.

Danny Boyle and then Bill Gates loomed onto the screens, speaking with warmth and making us optimistic about our campaign.

Have we made a difference? After seeing the photos of thousands and thousands of campaigners, walking peacefully through crowded London streets, I think we have.

The day had been a perfect example of the democracy, efficiency and global hopes of our country and countrymen.

Fingers crossed.



David Walliams, with pupils from St Osmunds and other schools, at No 10

Help Wanted

Every Sunday morning at 10.30 there is a Holy Communion service in the hospital chapel. We do not have enough volunteers to help bring patients from the wards.

If you could spare just one Sunday a month it would be a great help. Phone and have a chat if you wish (250456) or phone the Chaplain’s office and leave your number on the answer phone – we will get back to you.

Thank you – *Robin Bunce*

Hilary Harrold

The Young People @ Dorchester group started in 2011. The group is for young people (aged 11-18) who attend or have attended one of

the Anglican churches in the Dorchester Benefice (St Peter's, St Mary's, St George's and St Andrew's, West Stafford).

The group originally started meeting about once a month, either in one of the Benefice churches or in an outside location, to do a variety of things such as:

- Candle-making
- Walks
- Kite flying
- Bell-ringing
- BBOs
- Bowling

However the group has become so popular that the young people now meet every Sunday evening in term time from 7 - 8.30pm at St George's Church Hall.

Each week there is a different activity from sports to cinema nights, cooking together, quizzes and organising charity events. The group is looked after by adult leaders who belong to the Dorchester Benefice churches.

The purpose of the group is to allow young people (who may not know many other Christians) to meet up and have fun with other young people who understand about being a Christian and going to church.

New members are always welcome, and there is no requirement to come along every week – just join in when people are able to.

For more information go to our website at www.ypad.org.uk



Me behave? Seriously? As a child I saw Tarzan almost naked, Cinderella arrived home after midnight, Pinocchio told lies, Aladdin was a thief, Batman drove over 200 miles an hour, Snow White lived in a house with 7 men, Popeye smoked a pipe and had tattoos, Pac Man ran around to digital music while eating pills that enhanced his performance, and Shaggy and Scooby were mystery solving hippies that always had the munchies. The fault is not mine!

Ruth
Chipp-Marshall

People sometimes ask
“What’s the most unusual pet
you’ve seen at the surgery?”

There are a few examples to
choose from.

We see several different types of reptiles kept as pets the most common ones are Iguanas, Geckos, and Bearded Dragons. These are moderate sized Lizards that are native to Australia. They need specialist care, housing, environmental enrichment and food.

We also have a few clients who keep snakes. Corn snakes and Pythons are two of the most popular pet snakes and these also require specialist knowledge and care to stay healthy.

We have been known to see Tarantulas (not my favourite) but I am assured they make very interesting pets.



Although I’ve never seen them at the surgery I know a few people who keep Giant African Land Snails. They are a relatively new pet, but easy to look after.

Several years ago I was given an unwanted Degu. I knew very little about them and had to buy a book about Degu care. Degus are small rodents similar in size to a Gerbil and are sometimes referred to as a Chilean Squirrel. They are now more common and we do see them from time to time at the surgery. Gyp was 18 months old when I got her and she turned out to be a very friendly character.

Although Degus are really sociable animals and thrive in a colony or in pairs, I couldn’t introduce any others as she had been living on her own all along. We gave her lots of wooden chewing toys and a solid wheel to play in and she loved to watch the TV. Degus turned out to be relatively



easy to look after, but one thing they cannot tolerate is any sugar, they are very prone to developing diabetes.

I have recently become the proud owner of 3 new pets-Woody, Twig and Splint, a trio of Indian Stick Insects. Stick Insects belong to the family Phylliidae. The name comes from Ancient Greek meaning apparition or phantom. They are found all over the world especially in warmer zones such as SE Asia and South America. They come in many varieties and sizes ranging from half an inch to over 13 inches in length.



Stick insects moult many times before they reach maturity and need enough room to literally climb out of their skin. As a means of defence if they get caught they are able to shed a limb which will regrow although it may not be as long as the original leg. When all else fails, they play dead. A threatened stick will abruptly drop from its perch and fall to the ground and stay very still. This behaviour, called ‘thanatosis’ can put predators off, they may not be able to find the immobile insect or may prefer moving prey. One of mine did this the other day and I thought it had died only for it to leap into action much to my relief!

Sometimes they act like a preying mantis and will rock from side to side mimicking plants swaying in the wind – fascinating to watch.

Stick insects are able to reproduce almost entirely without the need for males i.e. parthenogenetically. Unmated females produce eggs that become more females. When a male does manage to mate with a female there’s a 50/50 chance their offspring will be male. A captive female can produce hundreds of all-female offspring without ever mating, and there are several species of sticks for which scientists have never found any males. That’s what I call Girl Power!!

So, just a few examples. If you have any unusual pets why not share them with us on our Facebook page, we would love to see them.

Ruth Chipp-Marshall is the receptionist for Fielding & Cumber veterinary surgeons

Images: Wikipedia.org / Sascha Grabow (tarantula), JSx (degu), Evanherk (stick insect)

ST PETER'S

High West Street • Dorchester

Vicar: *The Revd Vicky Thurtell* 268767
Churchwardens: *Mr Brian Hellin* 268844
and *Mr Mike Nisbett* 260983



For your diary

Vicky
Thurtell

Sundays during the summer:
9am BCP Said Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Choral Evensong
Sunday 21st July 6.30pm at St Peter's
Musical director: Neil Cuthill
Organist: Alan Hallett

Concert
Thursday 29th August 12.30pm Short lunchtime concert
in church – Alastair Simpson and singers – all proceeds to
Christian Aid.



Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Ellis and Julie who will be
married at St Peter's on Sat 24th August at 1pm

St Peter's Church
Dorchester

FLOWER FESTIVAL
6th – 7th July 2013

Theme: Hymns
Open to all – entries
invited from groups or
individuals*
Closing date: 31st May

For more information or
to book please contact:
Val Beavis – 01305
268756
bshuttleworth04@aol.com



*If you can put a bunch of flowers into a vase this is
for you!

Baptism

Baby Alfred Mason was baptised during the 10.30am
Eucharist on Sunday 16th June and welcomed to the
church.

Joan Norris

Joan died last month and her funeral was led by curate
Paddy King at St Peter's on 6th June. Thoughts and prayers
from the church community go to Joan's husband Derek.

Congratulations...

...to Barbara Lane (St Peter's) who will be installed as Lay
Canon of Southwark Cathedral on 11th July. Barbara
retires as Director of Education for the Diocese.

Flower Festival at St Peter's

We would welcome helpers for the flower festival on Sat
6th and Sun 7th July. If you are able to steward, serve
refreshments or make cakes please contact Val Beavis
(01305 268756) or bshuttleworth04@aol.com. Otherwise
just come and enjoy; your support will be much
appreciated.

Party!



Refreshments will be served in church on
Sunday 7th July after the 10.30am service in
celebration of Maureen Shaw's 80th birthday
and on Sunday 25th August for Rev Tony
Wheeler's 90th. Bubbly congrats to both and to all with '0'
birthdays this summer!

Golden congratulations also to Garry and Doreen Cooper
who (recently) celebrated their
50th wedding anniversary. *(Continued overleaf)*

Advance Notice – Harvest Festival

This will take place at St Peter's on Sunday 29th September with a bring & share lunch in church/halls afterwards. If you have any questions or would like to help then please contact Maureen Shaw: (01305) 261771.

Cream Tea at the Vicarage

Thanks to all who made this a super social and fund-raising occasion: £340 for church funds. Photos: G. Cooke (below), K. Hooper (top right), B. Hellin (bottom right)



St Andrew's Church West Stafford

Church Correspondent: Revd Jane Culliford



For your Diary

- July 7th 10 am Parish Communion
- July 13th 11am-4pm Village Fete
- July 14th 10 am Morning Prayer
- July 21st 10 am Parish Communion
- July 28th 9 am Holy Communion
10 am Come and Worship

Cream Tea and Songs of Praise

The Cream Tea held last month was a very pleasant afternoon with lots of people enjoying tea and cake, scones, jam and cream in the sunshine, as the pictures show. There was lots of laughter and debate about whether the jam

(Continued overleaf)



should be on top of the cream or vice versa! People from across the Benefice then joined in a Songs of Praise service reflecting God's presence with us through all the changing scenes of life from childhood until we are old and grey headed.



Village Fete

West Stafford Village Fete will be held in the closed off Main Street on Saturday 13th July from 11-am -4pm with stalls, entertainment and food. The church will have a stall on the day while the church will be open and have people on duty to welcome visitors with an animal safari quiz for

children and a quiz for adults, with more information about the forthcoming Teddy Parachute event.

Animal Safari

During the summer months there are many visitors to the church who come to see the beautiful building maybe drawn by the connections with Thomas Hardy. Visiting children will now have the opportunity to go on an animal safari around the church. Copies of this quiz will be available at the Village Fete and throughout the school holidays.

Teddy Bear Parachute Jump

Get your teddy ready for a big day on Saturday 31st August from 3pm and enter him (or her) for the Teddy Bear Parachute jump from the top of St Andrew's church tower. This is to raise funds towards the restoration of the weather vane that sits on top of the tower. Entry fee is £2.50 per bear with a reduced rate for families. There will be a prize for the longest timed jump and a certificate for all entrants. If required teddies can be hired if booked in advance and a simple parachute design is available from the church at the Village Fete and afterwards from the wardens. There will be tea and soft drinks available and a **Teddy Bear's picnic (bring your own food) with other teddy related activities.** This should be a great occasion for young and old and especially for your favourite teddy!

St Simon & St Jude

Winterborne Monkton

Church Correspondent: Ursula Norman



Festival Evensong 21st July

Remember this time last year? We were inundated in July, with floods so bad we had to move our Jubilee concert to Martinstown (where it was hugely successful and very well attended), and we had to postpone our meeting of the Friends of the Church which is always followed by Festival Evensong till the Autumn. Well, this year the Concert and the Meeting of the Friends are over the same weekend, with the Friends meeting at 4pm on Sunday 21st July in the Elworthy Hall with cream tea, followed by Festival Evensong at 5.30 pm in the Church. The Service will be led by the Rev Paddy King: it will be very special to have him, since he is moving on in the Autumn (see page 3), so it will effectively be our farewell to him. We are also very much looking forward to welcoming the Bishop of Sherborne as our preacher – his first visit to our Church. We invite everyone from our fellow Benefice Churches to come and join us (you only need to bring your wellies if it has rained recently as it can be muddy).

Summer Concert 20th July

You will notice that the concert advertised in this magazine for Saturday 20th July (see page 5) has not only a change of venue, but also a change of programme because of circumstances beyond our control. With the more intimate nature of our new programme, we decided it was more appropriate to have the concert in our own Church at **Monkton, rather than at St Mary's** - but thank you St Mary's for so hospitably welcoming us in the first place. So – now at 7.30 pm DUNCAN HONEYBOURNE (organ) and ELIZABETH POST (contralto) will be entertaining us with a programme of works by Vaughan Williams, Elgar, Holst, Faure, Walton and Bach, followed by light refreshments, in aid of church funds. We are very grateful to our soloists for giving us their time and this performance free. For tickets see page 5. We look forward to welcoming you: last year we were so well supported, it would be wonderful to have another happy, well-attended evening.



CHURCHES TOGETHER DORCHESTER

Compiled by
Val Potter
264416

Earth Works!

'Tread softly! All the earth is holy ground' - Christina Rossetti

We will be celebrating that the Earth Works, God sustains and creates it and we are here to look after it. 17th August 2013 will be a day of sharing, creativity and fun as together we learn to care for the Earth. Bring a picnic, make a World, circle dance at Maiden Castle, dance the night away in Martinstown.

The day begins in Borough Gardens at 11.00am with EARTHWORKS mini festival: music, craft, stalls, body painting, skittles and fun. Bring a picnic to share (in Dorford Church if wet).

At 3pm meet at the Maiden Castle car park to walk to the top carrying the World we have made, singing songs and blessing the earth. Kathryn Penny will lead us in Circle Dancing.

Join us to carry the World to Martinstown Village Hall, singing songs and blessing the earth. Dance the night away to the music of Jeroka, a Ceilidh Band, from 7pm - 10pm.

Come and join us for the whole day, part of the day or just an hour or two. The Festival and Circle Dancing are free; the Ceilidh tickets cost £7.50 from Dick Corbett Winder 01305 889410 or dickcorbettwinder@hotmail.com

This event is organised by Churches Together Ecology group, Earth Works.

Quiet Space

We welcomed the opportunity to take part in the open gardens day in Poundbury, giving people the opportunity to come and see the developing garden. We are now exploring ways to extend the use of the building, whilst keeping faithful to the original vision to offer a place of tranquillity to all. The Week of 24 hour prayer will take place again this year, in the first week of July.

An Ecumenical Journey: Reflections of a County Ecumenical Officer

'Glimpses of the Kingdom'. This helpful phrase, used in my commissioning service nearly 18 years ago in St Peter's

Church, calls attention to all the wonderful things we see happening now and yet yearns for something greater, in Dorset and in the whole world.

There have been so many highlights. A whole new Millennium has dawned, full of hope and resolution to work for a better world, despite the rain dousing all those candles! In 2005 we managed to go from Dorset to Edinburgh on a day trip to 'Make Poverty History'. Churches have been getting outside their buildings: services on beaches, cliff tops, agricultural shows (processing on a trailer pulled by a traction engine!) and on one memorable occasion in a Bournemouth nightclub. We now take for granted celebrating great occasions together: the Queen's Jubilee, the Olympics in Weymouth and Portland, and we also share in our response to disasters and hard times. The up-surge in Food Banks shows that we face the challenges in our local communities more effectively if we do it together. Acting together has helped us to get to know each other better. Getting to know each other better has helped us to see Christ in the other, despite our differences in doctrine and practice.

Over the years I have learned a lot about ecumenical structures and Constitutions. We have explored new ways of expressing our mutual commitment to God and each other and the local Covenants in Tolpuddle and Broadmayne are models which could be used elsewhere. The concept of 'Covenant' could underpin the common life of local groups of Churches Together. Their shared witness, study and prayer groups, worship and community projects combine to give an amazing picture of what it means to be Church in local communities across Dorset. I must pay tribute to the work of secretaries of local groups of Churches Together, who hold all this activity together, they are the unsung heroes of the ecumenical movement.

The more mission focused agenda has taken us from seeking to relate more closely to each other to asking how, together, we can relate to our local communities more effectively. This agenda has attracted a wider range of churches to share the journey and many independent evangelical churches are now bringing their fresh energies for the shared mission task.

The Five Marks of Mission have proved a useful framework for our ecumenical journey, including the last 'Mark', caring for creation. Dorset does not have large numbers of people of other world faiths but we have been blessed with the contributions of a Jewish Rabbi with an

astrophysics background so the focus for our inter-faith action has become seeking ways to conserve our precious God-given planet.

I have always appreciated the language of pilgrimage for our ecumenical journey. I love walking in the beautiful Dorset countryside, and stumbling over muddy patches and difficult ascents do not make us abandon the journey. There are hard things to tackle on the ecumenical way. There is still the need for the patient prayerful work that **will enable us to recognise each other's ministries and to be able to share together in the meal which our Lord has given to us all.**

I have also been privileged to play a part in the national ecumenical structures and a moment from a Forum of Churches Together in England (1997) sums up what we continue to strive for: participants placed pebbles from their own parts of the country around a plaque to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Swanwick Declaration which had led to the ecumenical structures we have today. The words on the plaque are:

'We commit ourselves to each other, under God. Our earnest desire is to become more fully, in his own time, the one Church of Christ, united in faith, communion, pastoral care and mission. Such unity is the gift of God.'

The postcard of this is on my wall - next to one of a dishevelled monkey with the text 'I've gotta learn to relax'!

Benefice Evensong at St George's

St George's were pleased to welcome the Rural Dean Janet Smith on Sunday 23rd June. Janet joined us for 10.15 Holy Communion and gave us a thought provoking sermon on the "share" – not an easy topic to make both holy and interesting but the Rural Dean did. Further pleasure came for Benefice Evensong. Fifty-two members of Dorchester Benefice gathered for the beautiful service. Evensong is something very poignant, comforting and deeply holy when a congregation sings the Nunc Dimittis.

Nunc dimittis (English: now you are dismissing) are the opening words of Simeon's song of praise on the occasion of the presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple. After seeing Jesus, Simeon joyfully proclaims that he has seen God's salvation. Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die without seeing the Saviour. (Luke 2:29-31)

Janet's sermon made each and every one question how we portray our faith, our belief and love of God to those around us every day.

Thank you so much to the Rural Dean, Allen Knott, Katherine Marr and Fiona our vicar and most of all those in the Benefice who came to share the beautiful service and of course to our choir and organist Evelyn Kingman for the lovely music.

Happy Birthday Bookworm!

Jean
Lang

This review marks the 100th that Bookworm has written!

I started with the detective novels of Donna Leone and since then have reviewed 54 novels, 20 history books, 15 biographies and sundry others! One of the 100 I have to admit was written by my daughter (the review of the last Harry Potter!). For those of my readers who are scientists, I apologise, save only for one book on the Natural History museum my choice has been almost entirely “Eng Lit”. I enjoy books on science but my background and training means that they come less easily to me and of those I have read (Roger Penrose on Quantum Physics) I have found myself just about able to follow the “ands” and “the” but not much in between. It is alarming how people will laugh about their failure to understand mathematics and science in a way they would never dream of doing with English literature or language!

Of the biographies the choice has been reasonably eclectic ranging from Madame de Stall to Thomas Beckett, Edith Wharton to William Pitt to Burghley to Bess of Hardwick. For the novels there has been both classics (Pride and Prejudice, Washington Square, the Alexandrian Quartet) to

Monica Dickens, Georgette Heyer, Salman Rushdie, Anne Tyler and Graham Swift. Robert Harris has appeared twice (Pompeii and Ghosts), as has Simon Winchester, Hilary Mantel and Diarmaid MacCulloch. I wish I had reviewed “Cranmer” before Professor MacCulloch’s History of the Reformation and History of Christianity. His biography of Cranmer is everything an historical biography should be, it has primary research, enormous depth of scholarship (with a bibliography which is worth reading on its own), and a readable and engaging style. I have his “Silence – a Christian History” to take on holiday with me.



I have learnt to enjoy my e-reader but there is nothing quite like the thrill of putting in the car a box of new books to be savoured over a holiday, to be read and discussed and to form the beginning of the next 100 Bookworms. There will be further histories (The Turkish Embassy letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montague sound fun!), more novels including the latest John Le Carre, some more Persephone reprints and biographies, an interesting look at Jane Austin through the objects she owned and many others. How grateful I am that people go on writing books and what pleasure I get from reading everything that comes my way!

Enjoy the summer and the books that fill it!



Editor’s Comment

In 1976 I was enrolled as a member of the Mothers Union. With two small children it was a huge help and support. Our church worked closely with Mary Sumner House. One project I was involved with was monitoring radio programmes and checking their content and suitability for children to listen to. Almost 40 years later, who would have dreamed of the dangers for our children, to view, hear and share on the World Wide Web. Why did we not realise it was all so simple then – and relatively easy to protect young vulnerable minds – and how could we have ever let this happen? No one could ever call the mess of today progress – and how we can ever put things right for them? I fear it is now out of the control of mothers or anyone else.