



20 - 27 October 2013

More Than Enough

Vicky Thurtell

In October the Dorchester Benefice will be hosting the annual One World Week, between October 20-27th. Every year, people from all faiths (and none) take part in One World Week with the aim of building a just, peaceful and sustainable world. This year's theme is 'more than enough' and the venue will be St Peter's Church in the town centre.

I'm grateful to Kate Forrester and colleagues who are already busy making ambitious plans for the week, linking with Transition Town Dorchester, who have community orchards and a farm in Dorchester, and with the Communities Living Sustainably in Dorset programme, supported by the Big Lottery fund to help people in West Dorset live more sustainably.

They will be feeding lots of great ideas into the event to make it a really inspiring and thought-provoking week.

'Aspire not to *have* more but to *be* more', said Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador. We will be recalling these words as we consider during the week whether we:

- have had *more than enough* of consumer culture getting in the way of relationships with others in our communities
- have had *more than enough* of being defined by what we possess, and
- have had *more than enough* of seeing our planet irrevocably consumed
- take *more than enough* ourselves.

We will be showing films, holding discussions and there will be plenty to look at and interact with all week. If you would like to begin thinking about the issues involved, there are a couple of interesting websites to whet your appetite:

www.oneworldweek.org and <http://ew.ecocongregation.org>

We look forward to seeing you, with your aspirations for a better world, at St Peter's in October!

'Land Felt' Community Project

The *South Dorset Ridgeway* is an area rich in stories, ancient sites, diverse ecology and traditional crafts. The Dorset AONB has been awarded Heritage Lottery Funding to focus on this exceptional area, stretching from Osmington in the East to West Bexington in the West and north to Dorchester. Artsreach is an AONB partner organisation and we are seeking people interested in our community project '**Land Felt**'.

There will be a series of workshops leading participants through the processes of using dye extracted from plants **growing on the Ridgeway to colour local sheep's fleece, progressing to felting the fleece creating work that reflect some of the rich cultural heritage and stories of the Ridgeway.** The completed work will form part of a touring exhibition in the Spring of 2014 which will tour to 4 rural venues along the Ridgeway.

Workshops will take place in Upwey Village Hall, from Friday 4th October with Annabel Wilson leading a workshop on using natural plant dyes, with further Fri 18th Oct, Fri 1st Nov, Fri 15th Nov, Sat 18th Jan and Sat 1st Feb from 10am – 4pm.

Martinstown Village Hall will also host the '**Land Felt**' project with a series of workshops on Sundays throughout the winter commencing on 3rd Nov followed by workshops on Sun 10th Nov, Sun 24th Nov, Sun 1st Dec, Sun 12th Jan from 10am – 4pm

For further information and booking contact Artsreach 01305 269512

Editor

Advertising Manager

Production Editor

Margaret Morrissey OBE
9 Hessary Street, Poundbury
Dorchester DT1 3SF
01305 250366

Liz Green
7 Sydenham Way,
Dorchester DT1 1DN
01305 269610
greenliz@hotmail.co.uk

Lucy Connelly
15 Came View Road
Dorchester DT1 2AE
01305 751249

dorchestermagazine@hotmail.co.uk

magazine@lucy-connelly.co.uk

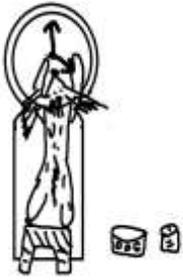
ST GEORGE'S FORDINGTON

MESSENGER



Church Correspondent: Margaret Morrissey 250366

Amy's Antics



It's October already, my first year in Dorchester complete, and where has the time gone? And thinking of time, the clocks go back an hour at the end of the month and we get a whole extra hour for free.

Trouble is my mistress uses it to have a lie in, so I get breakfast an hour late – which is a real hardship

for a poor wee spaniel!

Maybe I could just adjust the clocks a little.

Wonder what you'll do with your extra hour?

Lord, Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12 (NIV)

Lydia Elisabeth Johnson

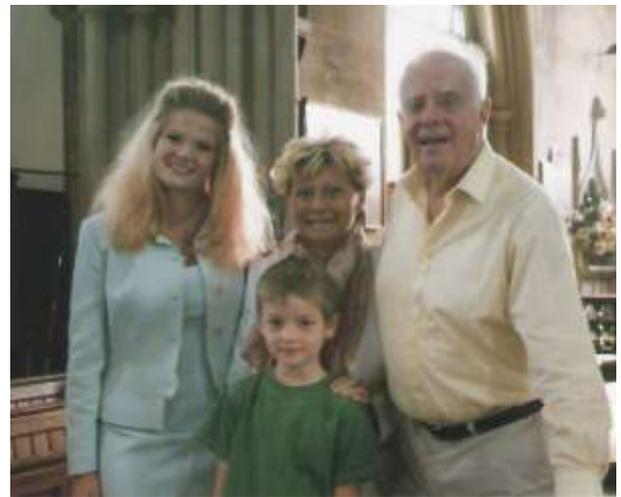


Lydia is the daughter of Mayvis and Brian Knowles's elder daughter Anne, and attended Lady Margaret's school in Putney, and is to read "History of Art" at York University this October 2013. She has RSM certificates with distinction in: piano, voice, violin and double base. Perhaps

uniquely she & her younger sister Rose play double-bass in the internationally renowned London School's Symphony Orchestra. During the summer they gave invited concerts featuring Richard Strauss's "Alpine Symphony" in two Polish cities. At her school's Holocaust's memorial service she played the theme from Schindler's List as a violin solo.

Lydia memorably sang "Abide with Me" at her great-aunt's (Beryl Mary Flaherty) funeral service on the 26th July in St George's church. Brian thought that we at St George's may like to hear it as well, the vicar agreed and so it was arranged. Lydia and her older brother Leo were baptised

at St George's during Brian's period as Church Warden. Lydia and Leo were baptised with water taken from the actual River Jordan which I collected on St G's pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Those of us remaining from the journey are now fewer in number!!



The church rang out with what the Archdeacon described afterwards as "The voice of an angel" there was hardly a dry eye in the place truly a beautiful hymn sang with a beautiful young voice.

It can be hard...

It can be hard keeping a straight face as a court reporter. These are true happenings.

Barrister: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

Barrister: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

Barrister: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

Barrister: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

New beginnings

A momentous occasion in September my youngest grandchild went to "Big School". After a couple of days I ventured to ask him if he was enjoying it, he will be 5 in May 2014. Well grandma can you help me; they keep saying I have to learn but "how do you do learning I don't know", try explaining that one to a 4 year old. Monday of the second week he told his Mummy I don't think I will bother this morning I would rather go to Grandmas. Trouble is I was in school from 5 to 15 and can honestly say I hated every single day, being left handed in the late 40 /50's held no joy just constant trouble to change, never did and understand how he feels. Sadly when I ventured out to gather blackberries this year in my usual place, I discovered all the brambles had been swept away with a digger and the foundations laid for new houses, much as we are told we need to provide more houses it was very sad to see another lovely hedgerow disappear not just the brambles but all the little creatures and birds who called it home, so its apple pie with no blackberries this Autumn not quite the same from the supermarket they lose their flavour . I just hope they have the decency to name it Bramble Lane!!

The Best thing you can give children, next to good habits, are good memories.

St George's Dragons

With joy we welcomed back our children to Sunday school some returning children and some new little ones. Lovely to see the children grow in confidence as the term goes on trotting in to give their offertory and at the end of the service to share their morning stories with us , oh and ask a few questions some of us struggle with.

Crime Does Not Always Pay

St George's flower team decided that they would enter the St Peter's flower festival. St George's is a favourite venue for weddings, so we decided that flowers to represent "Love Divine", which is often sung at weddings, would be our chosen hymn. Three of us had a meeting in Gould's coffee department. We decided "all white" flowers and off we went to Steve Bane to buy a piece of voile for the veil. Margaret had wondered if her own Headdress and Veil would have done, but age had got to it!! Ann said she had two wedding rings that could be used and I had a white wedding ivory covered prayer book.

On Friday 5th July we met at St Peter's and joined the many other people arranging their exhibits. Ann did the flower arranging on a pedestal. The veil material was draped artistically round the stem of the pedestal onto the ground and there Ann did another small arrangement for the bride's posy. The flowers looked really beautiful. My

Prayer Book was laid on the veil and the two rings were on the top of the book and it was done! Sometime during the Saturday someone removed the two wedding rings from our display, which made us wonder about the fate of the prayer book, having had it for fifty five years I would not want to lose it now, so it was removed from the church, thus something was lost from the beauty of our display, but crime does not always pay, as Ann's two rings were wedding cake decoration and not real gold. It reminds me of Shakespeare's verse in his Merchant of Venice. "All that glisters is not gold, often have you heard that told."
Rosemary Skevington



Altar Flowers in September /October

23rd September – Given by Viv Ford in loving memory of her husband Ben.

6th October – Given by Margaret Walters for her parents Edwin & Ida Walters, remembering their Wedding Anniversary 8th Oct

Future events for your Diary

12th October 10.30 – 12.30 – Craft Fair Saturday in the Church Hall. Entrance free, refreshments available.

26th October – Confirmation Day, Salisbury Cathedral

10th November 9.45am – Remembrance Day Service

16th November – Saturday Shopping Coach Trip to Bath – details in the diary. Early Christmas shopping!

23rd November – Bingo Evening, Church Hall, time to follow



St Mary the Virgin The Open Door



October services

Rosemary
Bassett

Sunday 6th October – 19th after
Trinity
8am – Mass
9.45am – Sung Eucharist

2.30pm – Baptism of Isabella Parvin
6.00pm – Taize service.

Sunday 13th October – 20th after Trinity
8am – Mass
9.45am – Sung Eucharist

Friday 18th October – ST LUKE
9.30am – Mass

Sunday 20th October – 21st after Trinity
8am – Mass
9.45am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 27th October – Last Sunday of Trinity & BIBLE
SUNDAY
8am – Mass
9.45am – Sung Eucharist

Weekday Mass on Tuesdays at 9.30am and also on
Festivals.

October dates for your diary

The Contemplative prayer group will meet each
Wednesday at 5pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and
at the Quiet Space at 7.30pm on 10th & 24th October

Thursday 10th October at 7.30pm the Licensing of Revd
Patrick King at St Paul's Wokingham. Names to be given
into the Parish office if you require transport.

Monday 21st October – The Monday Club will meet from
2.30-4.00pm in the church hall in Alexandra Rd when our
speaker will be Rob Curtis who will speak on “Dorset
Curoisities” Visitors and new members are welcome.

Church Cleaning – Church cleaning will take place on
Thursday 31st October from 10am – 12'o'clock; bring brass
cleaner, polish and dusters. Coffee & Doughnuts will be
supplied.

The Dorset Meditators will be meeting at Dorchester
Baptist Church on Saturday 26th October from 10am to
4pm when our speaker will be Patrick Woodhouse (retired
Canon of Wells Cathedral) who will speak on “The
Shaping of our Lives” – *In the light of the story of Etty
Hillesum*. For further information & application form
contact Rosemary Bassett 262615

Events at St Mary's in November

On Saturday 2nd - Tony Holt will give his postponed talk
based on the subjects of his recent books.

On Saturday 16th at 7 o'clock, in the hall – the QUIZ.
Teams of 6. Details will be in Pewsnews

Music as you drive

Robert
Potter

In one daily newspaper recently there
has been correspondence about the
best music to play (or have played for
you) while you are driving a car. The
original letter asked for calming music but subsequent
suggestions have varied greatly, depending on the
individual writers' tastes of course but also depending on
the intended speed.

As readers of the parish magazine, you might like the
suggestions of Professor Peter Davies who said 'hymns are
best'. He suggested 'Ride on, ride on in majesty' for
modest speeds, 'Eternal Father, strong to save' when above
60 mph, 'Nearer my God to thee' when above 80 and
'Lord, I'm coming home' if and when you reach 100 mph.
These seem to reflect an increasing anxiety! He didn't
mention hymns when lower speed limits apply.

Perhaps readers can come up with ideas in time for the
next issue of the magazine!

The fruits of the earth

Robert
Potter

By the time you read this our churches
will have held their harvest festival
services. We shall have sung the
familiar hymns and admired the flower
arrangements. If we're lucky, other parts of the church
will have been suitably decorated too. Tins and packets,
though, are not the same as real, live produce from farm

St Mary the Virgin



or garden. Only a few years ago at St. Mary's we had sheaves of wheat and a bale of straw (borrowed from Charles Norman at Winterborne Monkton) and lots of cabbages, potatoes, beetroot - a whole range of vegetables and fruit - and one year a bag of hops borrowed from Eldridge Pope which gave the church a rich brewery smell (in competition with the incense!) We had a horse-drawn single furrow plough which formed a base for other produce to be displayed. All that is now history. No one wants to be given real vegetables. Tins and packets are more practical and can be stored to fit in with planned future menus.

Is this symptomatic of our gradual but steady withdrawal from all things rural and seasonal, even in a relatively small town in a rural county? I wonder if churches in really urban areas have a harvest thanksgiving service? Increasingly we select our packaged food from supermarket shelves with little thought about where it came from or the work that went into producing it although the Adam's Farm part of Countryfile and the current TV series 'Harvest' do serve to remind us that food doesn't come from factories.

The maize crop remains to be harvested and cultivation and seed sowing are in progress in preparation for next year's crops so perhaps as we pass fields where work is going on it's not too late to say (or sing) to ourselves 'Come ye thankful people come' as we remember the harvest displays we used to know.

Sanctuary Lamp Candles

6th Oct Given by Janet and Gerry Comley in memory of their daughter Margaret Janet Comley-Nichols whose birthday was on 1st Oct.

13 Oct -

20th Oct Given by Di House in memory of her niece Rachael whose years mind falls on 20th Oct.

27th Oct Given by Di House in memory of her Mum whose years mind falls on 25th Oct.

Trading Standards Update — Staying Safe Online

Many of us have computers now and use the internet for shopping, banking, and social networking. But many of us might also be concerned when we hear reports about on-line fraud, and cybercriminals who send fraudulent email messages and set up fake websites.

www.getsafeonline.org is a website supported by the Police, Home and Neighbourhood Watch, and Citizens Advice. This website provides practical advice on how to protect yourself, your computer and mobile device against fraud, identity theft and other problems you may encounter online. It contains guidance on related subjects too, including how to **dispose of your computer safely when you've finished with it.**

Top tips for safe on-line shopping include:

- Paying for goods and services by credit card as this can offer greater protection than other payment methods.

- Never replying to unsolicited emails from companies you don't recognise.
- Research any online retailer unfamiliar to you to ensure they are genuine and establish a physical address and telephone contact details.

At Trading Standards, we also regularly see complaints about cybercriminals who call on the telephone and claim to be from Microsoft or Windows' Service Centre, Technical Department or Helpdesk, and offer to help solve your computer problems or sell you a software license.

Once they've gained your trust, they might ask for your user name and password or ask you to go to a website to install software that will let them access your computer to fix it. Once you do this, your computer and your personal information is vulnerable.

Do not trust unsolicited calls, do not allow the caller access to your computer and do not provide your credit card or other financial or personal information.

Paddy's Last Supper

Adrian
Downton

What a great evening we had when we said our farewells to the Rev. Paddy King.

The excellent meal, prepared by Audrey Litson and her marvellous band of helpers, was enjoyed by almost seventy people.



It was obvious that all who attended really valued Paddy as so many wanted to wish him well. He managed to speak to most groups and thanked them for their positive support to him, over the past years.

That maestro of the poetry word, Allen Knott, composed a brilliant ditty which Jean Saddington sang in her own gentle way and then other presentations were made.

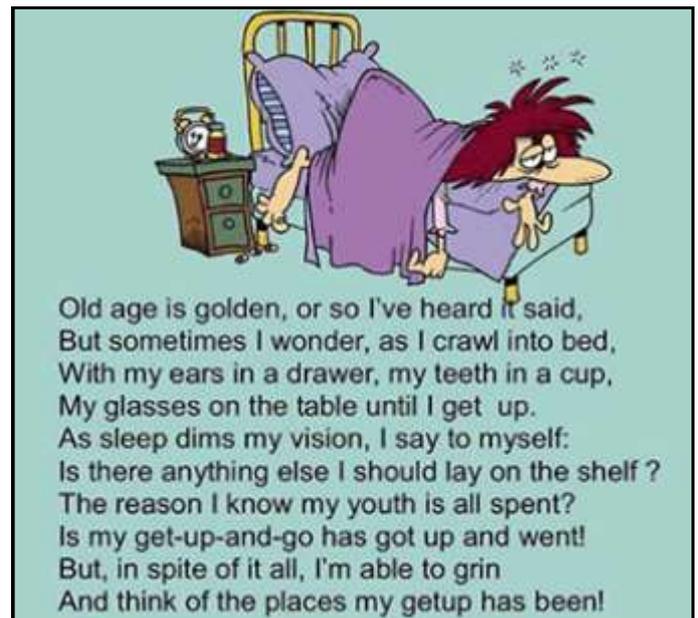
I think Paddy was overcome with the compliments paid to him but they were sincere and truly meant.

Paddy thanked everyone for their support, patience and friendship during his stay with us and wished us well for the future.

The next day on the Sunday, St Mary's was filled as he celebrated his last Eucharist with us. Confident and dignified, ably assisted by many other Clergy, he celebrated a memorable Eucharist. His sermon was

delivered in his own enthusiastic way, encouraging us to love one another as we move forward.

At the conclusion a presentation was made to him as a token of our thanks for his Ministry with us. However we reminded him that our true gift which we wanted him to take from us was that of our love and blessings in his future Ministry.

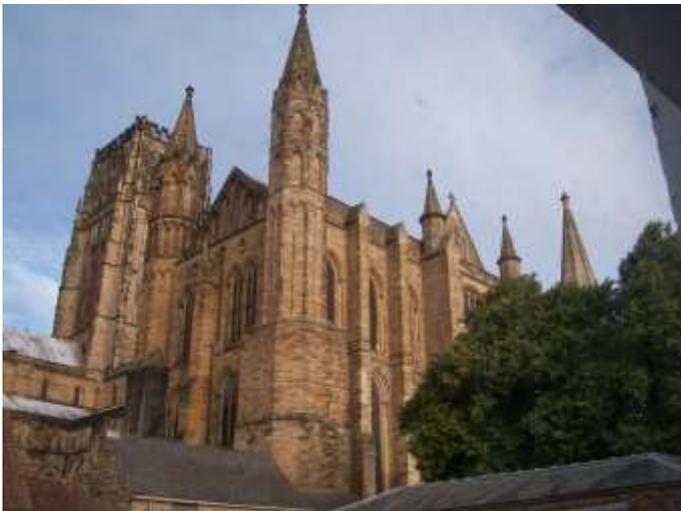


Durham Pilgrimage

John Good
and fellow pilgrims

Twenty-six people from Dorchester and around made a pilgrimage to Northumbria early last month. We spent a week travelling to Lindisfarne (Holy

Island) near the Scottish Border which is only accessible at low tide, where St Aiden built the first church and St Cuthbert was later Bishop. We also went to Hexham with its Abbey and Saxon crypt build of stones from Hadrian's wall and visited Jarrow, home of Bede and St Paul's Church, where he worshipped then Bede's World a detailed exhibition based on his life and times. We spent a day at Whitby, where Hilda presided over monastery of both women and men and took part in the pivotal Synod of Whitby; and Riveaulx one of the great Cistercian abbeys, presided over by St Aelred



Thursday was particularly memorable. Before our 11 am Eucharist in the Galilee Chapel of Durham Cathedral, we witnessed a moment in history as the new Bishop of Durham to follow Justin Welby now Archbishop of Canterbury was announced to excited crowds in the cathedral where Bishop Paul Butler and his wife Rosemary faced a battery of television cameras and journalists. The afternoon found us at the Lindisfarne Gospels exhibition, an amazing and comprehensive series of displays. At its heart was the handwritten book containing the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John with Latin script and stunning illustrations created over ten years by Eadfrith Bishop of Lindisfarne. In conjunction with the Cathedral the exhibition included a close view of Cuthbert's Cross and Episcopal ring. Possibly as amazing as the Gospels was St Cuthbert's personal copy of John's Gospel in its original binding, the oldest western document still completely intact. Tickets for the exhibition were sold out every day, clearly a sign of a wide interest in the early English Church and the significance of the Celtic saints, in particular Aidan and Cuthbert.

It was travelling, eating and drinking together which brought us close together as Christians. St Chad's college

was a welcoming venue where we were well fed and cared for. Some of us joined in early morning prayer before breakfast in St Chad's Chapel. We worshipped in St Mary's Holy Island, in St Paul's Jarrow, in the ruins of Whitby Abbey and in the crypt of Hexham where pilgrims once journeyed to honour the relics of St Andrew. We celebrated at Bede's Tomb in Durham Cathedral and were led in prayer at St Cuthbert's Shrine by the Dean.

Special moments on the Durham Pilgrimage

... clambering across the rocks on Lindisfarne, taking off my shoes and socks, rolling up my jeans, and standing knee deep in the clear water. As I looked up to my right, I saw the promontory with a cross on it, silhouetted against the sky, whilst ahead of me, a couple of seals were diving and surfacing for air...all was still apart from the gentle lapping sound of the sea around my knees...a sense of otherness; a glimpse of heaven and earth meeting in this 'thin' place.

Alison

The thought that the cloaks of the saints; Cuthbert Bede, Aiden, Hilda had brushed the same stones we touched and heard the same echoes of chanting we did.

The morning sun and rainbow over Durham Cathedral
The great love and welcome of the people of the North East

Liz

On the final morning in Durham I attended Communion in the Holy Cross Chapel on Holy cross Day. The Chapel represents the tomb of Jesus -beautifully constructed- with an illuminated cross over-looking the altar, very simple and meaningful.

Finding my way to the chapel was a pilgrimage in itself. First I asked the way in the Cathedral, then as I wended my way through the cloisters wondering if I had missed it I met the Dean praying before the service. I apologetically interrupted him to ask the way, He most graciously pointed me in the right direction. This made me consider



how I point people to Jesus in my every day life. Do I do it with clarity and graciousness recognizing where people are on the journey or am I abrupt and just point with a finger?

Esther

The whole week was a gift to a tired pilgrim. John's daily prayers and the liturgies that he had prepared for our services were both inspiring and comforting.

Deo gratias

Jenny

After visits to sites where saints from long ago still left a lingering presence, an unplanned visit was to the Angel of the North towering over the busy A1 at Gateshead. It was not at all ethereal with no halo or feathery wings but impressively solid and made of metal with a huge wingspan, powerful and strong, a sign of God's presence today

Jane

Having been in Durham cathedral in the morning for the Communion service and fortuitously hearing the announcement of the new bishop, that evening I climbed the 250 steps which led up to the belfry (the highest in the country) to ring the bells – a peal of ten. I left my cardigan, jacket and bag half way up as I was already “out of puff”!

I was made very welcome by the cathedral band of ringers and was most happy to join them, during their normal practice night, on such a “historic day” - to quote the Dean. I was then invited to the local pub for the “obligatory pint”. A special Pilgrimage indeed.

Janet



Tony
Wheeler

Life gets more and more complicated. Rules and regulations for a start, but also just ordinary living – the way that people expect life to be lived. I find this. Do you agree?

Nothing seems easy and simple like it used to be. It is more complicated – more difficult – less pleasant – more demanding.

It shouldn't be like this, I don't think. It is more horrid, not at all how I like it. What about you? Are you any easier with it?

I used to think it was just me. “You are getting old, old and miserable. It's just your imagination. Cheer up you silly old twit! Try a bit harder,” I told myself.

But then other people said the same. “Life is so complicated.” So it is not just me. We're being got at. It's them.

“Who's them?”

“Oh, THEM, you know.” Them that make you fill up forms, demand credit cards, ask where you were last Tuesday, grin at you insincerely while putting 4p on pork chops. Loving relations who tell you that Gran missed you. It's ten days since you rang her, doesn't your conscience trouble you? (They omit to say how long it is since they rang her).

Why do we put up with them? Let's give them waffor. Itching powder sounds like a good idea.

“No it isn't. Not the Christian answer at all. Anyway it's childish. You're a big boy of 90 now (see last month's magazine). WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GROW UP!”

“Oh! Well! What do we do then?”

There is a much neglected Christian virtue called Godly Simplicity. I suppose it is a special aspect of Humility. Nobody approves of humility these days. We've all to be bursting with confidence whatever we feel like, brush our teeth three times a day, and keep an eye on our personal hygiene.

I say! I'm glad I said that. It sums this article up nicely. Complicated Speak = Personal Hygiene, and self respect. Simple speak = Have a bath and don't pong. (You don't HAVE to be quite as blunt as that all the time, of course.)

Godly simplicity is speaking the truth so that others can understand it you. To do that you need three things:

1. You mustn't keep striving for effect. Stop feeling so wonderful. In fact, stop thinking about yourself at all. It doesn't matter what people think of you. You are here to explain a truth! Or a duty.
2. It helps if you know what the truth is. Make sure you do as far as possible
3. You need to love people. That doesn't mean you wish to cuddle them, though you can if it is appropriate. It means you have a settled desire for their good.

If you can do this you will do well.

Icons— A Brief Account of their History and Purpose

Janet
Ranger

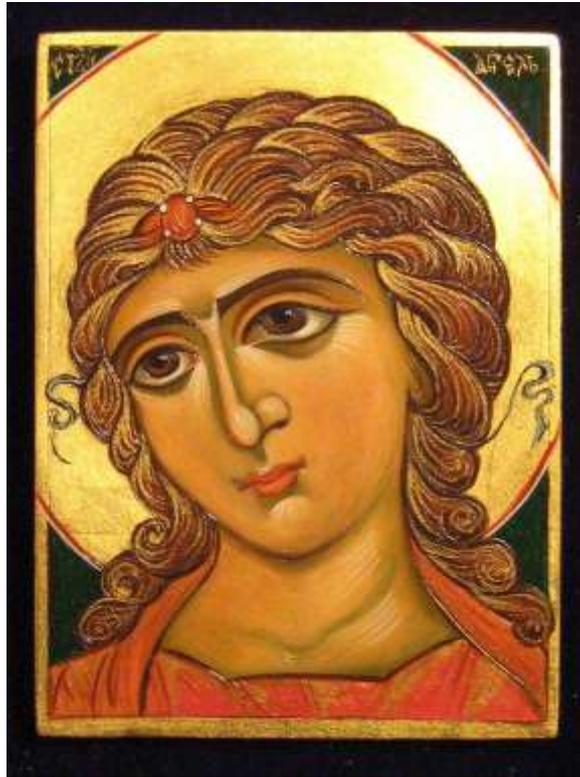
“Icon” is a Greek word meaning “image”. Icons are said to be “written” and not “painted” because they tell a story from Scripture, albeit in picture form rather than words.

They were originally created for those who could not read or write, and usually depict holy figures, saints or religious scenes. Today they are also used as a focus for prayer and contemplation.

A short explanation of
An Angel with Golden Hair
Novgorod School. 1130-1190
Russian Museum, St.
Petersburg, 0.48 x 0.39cm

“Written” by Janet Ranger
Displayed at the Quiet Space in
Poundbury

The composition of “An Angel with Golden Hair” is extremely simple, with subdued colours. Nothing detracts the viewer from contemplating the beautiful face of the angel, and from thinking



about the object of their gaze. The eyes are soft and seem to be looking past the viewer. There is a certain sadness and compassion in the eyes, possibly indicating the knowledge of the ills of this world, and a desire to ease the pain of the believers. This kind of detached look can

remind us that eternal life is promised to those who suffer for Christ, or remain faithful through many trials. The jewel in the hair may indicate that this is not an ordinary angel but could be one of the Archangels.

Technique

This icon was made using the ancient traditional methods, as first used by the Coptics in Egypt in the 1st and 2nd Centuries. It is written on a seasoned wood panel which is primed with a fine chalk powder & glue mixture (gesso). The natural coloured pigments (egg sienna, lapis lazuli) are mixed with egg yolk and water (tempera). Genuine gold leaf (24 carat) is applied onto a red lead oxide surface (gilding).

Dorchester Child Contact Centre

Alison
Cocks

On two afternoons a month, Dorchester United Church becomes home to a play session with a difference. This is the Dorchester Child Contact Centre in action. We

are a ‘supported’ Contact Centre, offering a safe, friendly and neutral place where children can spend time with a parent and sometimes other family members from whom they are separated. Some families come to us as part of Court proceedings; following recent changes in family law, increasing numbers are being advised to self-refer.

We can take up to six families at a time and are always full with a waiting list of parents wanting to arrange contact. The common factor for them all is a major breakdown in trust and our underlying task is to provide time and space for that trust to be rebuilt. We know we have succeeded when families recover the confidence to establish a more ‘normal’ pattern of contact and no longer need our service.

The Centre was established by the United Church, Dorchester in 2001 but is now a small free-standing

charity. Because of what we do, we tend to keep a low profile in the community but are always pleased to share information about our work with interested groups or individuals. Additional volunteers are very welcome, either on the door ensuring security and maintaining records (we often find that male volunteers suit this role well) or working in the playroom helping the children and non-resident parents make the most of their time together. No specific skills or background are needed to be a Centre Assistant, just an open-minded attitude, patience and a sense of humour.

At present, we should also like to recruit some additional members to the Executive Committee (especially those with relevant experience or a willingness to take on some administrative tasks). If you want to know more or would like to explore the possibility of joining our team, please get in touch with Brenda Blackler, the Centre Co-ordinator on [01305] 265914 or by email at brendou@tiscali.co.uk. She would be delighted to hear from you.

Alison Cocks is the Secretary of the Dorchester Child Contact Centre

What Do You See, Nurse?

What do you see, nurse... what do you see?
Are you thinking - when you look at me:
"A crabbed old woman, not very wise;
Uncertain of habit with far-away eyes,
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice 'I do wish you'd try.'"
Who seems not to notice the things that you do
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe;
Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you will
With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill.
Is that what you're thinking, is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse. You're not looking at me!

I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still.
As I move at your bidding, eat at your will:
- I'm a small child of ten with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one another;
- A young girl of sixteen with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon a love she'll meet;
- A bride at twenty, my heart gives a leap,
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep;
- At twenty-five now I have young of my own
Who need me to build a secure, happy home.
- A woman of thirty, my young now grow fast.
Bound together with ties that should last.

- At forty, my young sons have grown up and gone,
But my man's beside me to see I don't mourn;
- At fifty once more babies play 'round my knee
Again we know children, my loved ones and me...
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead.
I look at the future, I shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing young of their own,
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.
I'm an old woman now, and nature is cruel.
'Tis her jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart.
There is a stone where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass a young girl still dwells,
And now again my bittered heart swells;
I remember the joys, I remember the pain
and I'm loving and living life over again;
I think of the years, all too few, gone too fast
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last;
So open your eyes, nurse, open and see...
not a crabbed old woman.
Look closer... see me!

*Written in 1966 by Phyllis McCormack, then working as
a nurse in Sunnyside Hospital, Montrose*

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 October:
9am BCP Said Communion
1030am Sung Eucharist

TUESDAY 1st October 6pm – 'Extra' service of Evensong led by the Chapel Choir of Knighton House School [Durweston, Blandford.] Chapel Choir. Musical Director Philippa Hardy. In Paradisum from Fauré's Requiem; The Lord is my Shepherd by Goodall (Psalm 23); By the waters of Babylon, by Lin Marsh and more.



All welcome.

Barnes Society

On Sunday 13th October the 9am BCP Communion Service will reflect a celebration of poet William Barnes' life and welcome members of the local Barnes Society who will lay a wreath at his statue outside St Peter's Church.

*But now I hope his kindly feāce
Is gone to vind, a better pleāce
But still wi' vok a' left behind
He'll always be a-kept in mind.*



Rest in Peace

God speed to beloved friends who died and whose funerals took place at St Peter's last month: Colin Lucas, Dennis Carter and Harold Swain. May they rest in peace.

Christmas Bazaar

This will be held in St Peter's on Saturday 7th December and we will be looking for donations for the usual stalls

please. If you can start collecting items for red and gold, blue and silver, green and purple and book stalls it would be much appreciated. Please contact Val Beavis (01305 268756) or Beryl Shuttleworth (bshuttleworth04@aol.com)

Thursdays @ St Peter's

Can you spare an hour to provide hospitality and a welcome to the many visitors who come to St Peter's? Would you like a friendly place to sit and chat over a cup of coffee? We would be delighted to see you at St Peter's any Thursday morning between 10.30am and 1pm.

Calling sidespersons

This valuable and essential ministry of welcome at the 1030am Eucharist and major feasts – thanks to you all; thanks to James Michell for organizing the rota – there will be a meeting for existing sidespersons and anyone wishing to join the team is welcome too – Mon 14th October 7pm in the small hall.

One World Week

This year St Peter's will host the One World Week awareness days on behalf of the Benefice and town churches. Thanks to Kate Forrester for driving this initiative – look out for details in church, around town and in pews news. 20-27th October.



Dorchester Community Play—Drummer Hodge

David
Lang

St Mary's Church in 1985 witnessed the first of the current cycle of Dorchester's community plays.

Entertaining Strangers told the story of how the animosity between Henry

Moule the formidable vicar of St George's and the brewer Mrs Eldridge melted away as the two worked together to ameliorate the intense suffering of local people during the cholera epidemic of September 1854. The now well-known and highly regarded playwright David Edgar wrote the play and Ann Jellicoe the founder of the modern community plays movement directed it.

In the wake of the success of that play (and it was such a success that a reduced version of it was later performed at the National Theatre with Judi Dench as Mrs Eldridge) Dorchester Community Plays Association was formed and four further plays have since been produced, one roughly every five or six years.



A sixth community play will be performed in the first two weeks of next April: this one called *Drummer Hodge* is set in Dorchester around 1900, a time of enormous social, economic and technological change. That change is part of the story which contrasts the dire poverty of the labouring class Hodge family with the opulence of the multitudinous progeny of the brewer Alfred Pope. As many will recall, *Drummer Hodge* is the title of a moving poem by Thomas Hardy and young Will Hodge is the eponymous hero of the play. In 1900 the Boer War was in full swing and men from the garrison town of Dorchester played their part. In the second phase of the war the Boers took to guerrilla tactics and to contain them many women and children were herded into what we now know as concentration

camps. The suffering there was appalling and the play raises issues about the morality of war which most of us will recognise from much more recent conflicts.

What makes a community play so special is partly its size and partly its professionalism. In the last play there were well over a hundred actors and some thirty or so musicians. Participation is open to anyone and everyone. No previous experience of acting is necessary and the age range last time was from six to over eighty. So where does the professionalism come in? The answer is that the playwright, the director, the music director, the designer, the lighting director, the stage manager and others on the production side are all experienced people earning their living from the theatre. And because of that by the time of the performance many of the actors will have attained a standard which would not disgrace a professional. If you don't believe that come and see.

But although watching the play will be entertaining it will be even more fun to take part. And if you don't want to act then you can still get involved by helping with the numerous and essential front of house and behind the scenes activities. Introductory workshops begin in October and casting will be towards the end of November.



To find out more about the play and how you can get involved go to www.dorchestercommunityplays.org.uk or call David Lang on 01305 213444.

St Andrew's Church West Stafford

Church Correspondent: Revd Jane Culliford



Dates for October

- Oct 6 10am Parish Communion
- Oct 13 10am Morning Prayer
- Oct 20 10am Parish Communion
- Oct 27 9am Holy Communion
10am Come and Worship

Teddy Bear Parachute Jump

Around 50 bears had entered St Andrew's 1st Parachute Jump on Saturday 31st August. Excited bears collected their registration numbers and name labels were carefully checked (several were seen sporting British Bearways luggage tags). With a last hug for luck, the intrepid bears then began the long climb to the top of the tower.



Esther and Tim, the churchwardens, tried to keep order on top of the tower, while Allen Knott announced each bear in turn. Then came the moment we had all been waiting for – the first bear jumped from the tower clinging to



a home-made parachute. Every jump was timed and recorded by the Official Adjudicator, Nigel. The bear whose jump took the longest time would gain the prize!

In a nail-biting finale, two bears - Chewy and Teddy Long Legs – had to jump again as their first jump times were level. But first Chewy's Technical Backup (Freya's Mum)

had to spend a few minutes mending Chewy's parachute, before the "jump-off" could start.

In the end, attention to detail paid off handsomely as Chewy's second jump lasted longer than Teddy Long Legs' attempt. So Chewy and Freya won First Prize! All competing bears were awarded a Medal and an Official Certificate stating their flight times.

Eventually all bears and owners were reunited and a Teddy Bears' picnic ended the afternoon's fun. Technical Backup Teams spent some time sneaking a look at opponents' parachutes, and much discussion was heard about differing design features, material used (some supermarkets use superior plastic for their bags apparently), and construction techniques.

Watch this space for next year's event . . . in the meantime if you see any bears being flung out of upstairs windows, you'll know that some Technical Teams are on the job, trying to get ahead of the game by testing out new parachute designs!

Grateful thanks to everyone who helped and supported the event.



The Font

The font at St Andrew's as in most churches is symbolically placed near the main door, the entrance to the church. Baptism marks the start of the journey of Christian faith for each person whether a baby or someone older and so can be seen as an entrance into the life and family of the church. The font at St Andrew's tucked behind the door towards the west end of the church though in times past as old photos show it was in the middle of the aisle facing the door. Perhaps because it was in the way at weddings and funerals, the font was moved and put on a raised plinth. A faculty has now been granted to remove this plinth which had begun to be in the way, causing many to trip and so creating more space for wheelchairs and baby buggies and for extra seating at big services. There are two baptisms this autumn and we pray that the font in its less elevated position will continue to mark the start of lifelong Christian commitment for those who are baptised there.

St Simon & St Jude

Winterborne Monkton

Church Correspondent: Ursula Norman



The Manor House, Winterborne Monkton

Like many farms across the country this has been a hectic summer for us all. After a late cold spring crops were delayed and despite the heat wave in July, the harvest did not start until 4th August. With hardly a wet day it was then a race to get the winter barley, spring barley and winter wheat in the fields ripened at the same time. Hay making and further cuts of silage were slotted in to the work schedule and over half the 120 calves due at the dairy were born. The combine returned to the barn on 2nd September, and now field work has begun on the arable fields, along with harvesting maize for the cows.



A short service with action, story, songs and praise. There will be a shortened Holy Communion after the last hymn for those who wish to stay.

Come and Give thanks to God for all our blessings!!

Harvest Festival

Church life goes on and we are looking forward to our Harvest festival special service for all the family and with children in mind on , this will be on Sunday 6th October 11.15 a.m



CHURCHES TOGETHER DORCHESTER

Compiled by
Val Potter
264416

United Church Minister

Stephanie Jenner is the new Methodist minister at the United Church (and the Superintendent Minister of the Bridport and Dorchester Methodist Circuit). She grew up in a village on the Somerset/Dorset border with an older sister and various cats. From the age of 6 she knew she wanted to be an engineer and after university she worked for British Rail in their Leeds and York engineering departments.



She had always attended Sunday School and Church, had done some tentative preaching and after her third daughter was 6 months old she changed direction and worked for Methodist Homes, setting up a Live at Home Scheme in Bradford. She then started training for ministry; her son was born, and she felt that everything had come into place.

She helped sort out the finances for a busy Baptist community church and her early ministry was in Brighouse and Calderdale. She now returns to the county of her birth acknowledging that *'God has found ways to use all the skills and experience that he found for me on the way'*. She has already agreed to become a trustee of the Quiet Space and we wish her well in her ministry amongst us. She will be joined by URC minister Peter Clark in November.

Opportunities at The Quiet Space

As the Quiet Space has developed, the committed group of Companions have given their time and care in offering an unobtrusive welcome to all those who visit. Some Companions are now ready to stand down and a few have moved away. There is therefore an urgent need to supplement the list with a few more people. If you can commit to a 3 hour shift a few times each month, enjoy meeting people, but are comfortable with silence and are able to listen as well as speak, this may be for you. A nomination by your own minister will be required but further information is available initially from the Rev. Geoff Turnock, on 01305 757177.

There are also practical tasks to be done. The Trustees hope that their new idea of *'Friends of the Quiet Space'* may appeal to those who might like to assist with day to day maintenance of the premises, on an occasional basis. If you can, for example, varnish a door, assist with spring cleaning, scrub a patio or care for the garden, please contact the Warden, Alan Murray, on 01305 756517.

For those of you new to The Quiet Space, it is offered by the local Christian churches as a place of tranquillity available to anyone seeking space in which to reflect or meditate. It is situated near the Garden Centre in Poundbury and consists of a garden and associated building. The building contains a Quiet Room, a gathering area, a balcony area, a small kitchen and toilet. It is currently open on most weekdays 10.00-4.00.

Forum on Mission, 24th October

As Churches Together we say that we are about working and witnessing together, joining together to do what we believe God is calling us to do in and for our communities. In 2012 we had amazing opportunities with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics and now we can see what lessons were learned for how we might join together in mission in the future. Captain Jim Currin, Secretary for Evangelisation, Churches Together in England, spent the year travelling the country picking up examples of what was being done well - and what didn't work quite so well - and is coming to share his experiences and ideas with us at the Forum of Churches Together in Dorset on 24th October, 10.30am-3.45pm, at St Nicholas Church Centre, Corfe Mullen, (BH21 3LE).

This will also be the occasion for the handover of the Chair to Bishop Graham and the induction of the new County Ecumenical Officer (more of her background next month) No need to book places. Lunch provided!

Faith in Focus

Many of us go for a day out in Salisbury. Let me urge you to go this month (till 26th October) to see the wonderful Methodist Collection of Modern Christian Art. Lots of old classical artworks depict Christian scenes but modern artists are also exploring them in new ways. This brilliant collection has been used by churches, cathedrals and galleries around the country to offer fresh perspectives on familiar gospel stories. Faith is brought into focus. There are startling images of the crucifixion from Graham Sutherland and Elisabeth Frink. Some thirty works of art are displayed in the two centres of this unique exhibition. The collection can also be viewed on www.methodist.org.uk/artcollection

The exhibition is in the Young Gallery at Salisbury Library and in the Cathedral.

Earth Works Day: a success and a failure

Earth Works Day was about our response as individuals and churches to global warming and climate change. The day was a success and a failure.

It was a success in gathering many people concerned for our planet, who were delighted to have the opportunity to encourage and learn from one another. It was a success for the Churches in looking *outwards*, and not *inwards* to our own concerns.

It was a failure in attracting so few despite our publicity over many months. We need to know why this was and **what we could do better for our Earth's sake.**

The Sunday after the Earth Works day the Gospel shook me out of my reverie *I have come to cast fire on the earth and would that it was already kindled. (Luke 12v49)*. At periods in our history Christians interpreted fire as a sign of God's judgement. John White did about the fire in Dorchester. Natural disasters are 'an act of God' for insurance companies as well as fundamentalists. Although I cannot believe in a God who literally destroys with fire, nevertheless the association between the gospel and Earth Works day was a revelation.

Luke recalls Jesus' words that people refuse to recognise, *You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth but why don't you know how to interpret the present time?' (v54 -56)*. How do we interpret our present time? Will the lights go out and the petrol pumps run dry before we take the crisis seriously? The Churches Ecology group addresses the issues. Our churches will be full for Harvest and Christmas, but in Dorford Baptist Church on Earth Works day there was room for many more!

Do join us at one of our future meetings (see Pews News). or contact John on 264 955 or jfoskett@btinternet.com

Not just a spinster Aunt

Jean
Lang

If one counts the almost finished “Persuasion” Jane Austen wrote six published novels. Her reputation rests on that small number of books but those books form part of the canon of English Literature – even those who have never read her know of her through quotation (“It is a truth universally acknowledged”), through film and through TV adaptation (that wet Mr Darcy!). In the same way people know about the author – the spinster daughter of the Hampshire vicarage writing extraordinary novels reflecting widespread truths out of a limited and limiting life.

Paula Byrne seeks to widen our understanding of Jane Austen and in doing so make clear that her background, her relatives, her life were no means as constrained as is often assumed. She does so by taking 18 items, some belonging to Jane Austen or her family, some mentioned in her letters and linking them to the wider world she lived and grew up in.

It is a different approach and one which, on the whole, works well. Sometimes I found the links too tenuous but mainly the items chosen do indeed illuminate little known facets of Jane Austen’s life. I had no idea, for instance, of her family connections with Warren Hastings and the East India trade. In January 1772 Jane Austen’s Aunt Philadelphia was sent a “piece of a flowered shawl” from her husband in Calcutta and 70 years later her sister Cassandra refers to “a large Indian shawl” in her will. Lady Bertram in Mansfield Park reminds Fanny that her brother is to bring her a shawl if he goes to the East Indies.

Philadelphia was the Rev. George Austen’s elder sister and in 1752 (aged 22) she sailed to Madras to successfully find a husband, the Surgeon-General to the East India Company, and in 1761 she gave birth to Jane’s cousin Eliza Hancock. Eliza’s god-father (and some thought “father”) was Warren Hastings. She and her mother returned to England in 1765 and were the recipients (as were her brother’s family) of frequent gifts of seersucker,

muslin, chintz, flowered shawls, supplies of spices, curry, pickled mangoes and scents.

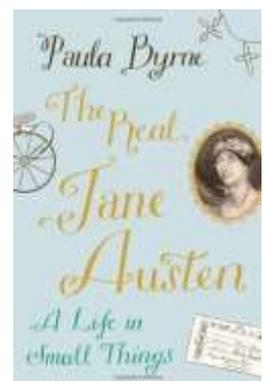
The young Eliza continued to introduce the Hampshire Austens to a wider world when, in 1780, she married Jean-Francois Capot de Feuillide who was guillotined as Prisoner 396 in 1794 during the French Revolution! So much for Jane Austen being shut away from the political upheavals of her time!

Through carded lace Paula Byrne introduces the fate of another Austen – this time her mother’s sister in law Mrs Jane Leigh-Perrot, tried and acquitted at the Taunton assize for stealing lace to the value of 20 shillings at Bath. Two topaz crosses given by their brother Charles to Jane and Cassandra and purchased with prize money won on the capture of the French privateer Le Scipio lead to an analysis of the naval and military background of the novels and Jane’s life – one of her brothers died an Admiral in 1855 and another a rear-Admiral in Burma in 1852. During Jane’s life they fought in the Napoleonic wars, sailed to the Caribbean, to China and to India and their experiences are reflected in William Price in Mansfield Park and in Captain Wentworth, his sister and her husband Admiral and Mrs Croft in Persuasion.

Paula Bryne makes each of her objects work to illustrate that Jane Austen was not the dried up unmarried woman with unexpected and unexplained genius but the product of a literate, well-connected and outward looking family with friends and relatives stretching well beyond Hampshire and interests that mirrored the political and social developments of her day.

The Real Jane Austen A Life in small things

By Paula Bryne
(Published by Harper press)



Editor’s Comment

As Autumn comes and another year rushes past, take time to sit and wonder awhile, what have I done with the year? Who have I helped? Who needs my help?

Sometimes we all feel better when we think of what we have and forget what we think we want, or think how we can make life better for others. It’s worth a try – that is of course if you do not already do it – it’s amazing how lucky you start to feel.