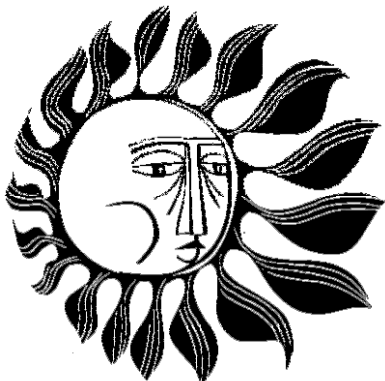


The Vicar Writes...

July 2009



Dear Friends,

A sunny summer day in *this* parish inevitably brings people flocking to the beaches, of which Poole – and *our* area in particular – is justly proud. On Sundays, ‘defending’ the church’s parking spaces (for the 10.30 am service) can be a

seriously dangerous job for a long-suffering churchwarden!

The presence of so many visitors should keep alive the sense of privilege that we share with all who live in this part of God's kingdom. Poole is indeed ‘a beautiful place’ (as the Town’s *logo* proclaims); and – however much we might moan when the roads around the Harbour are full – we should remember how fortunate we are to have such beauty on our doorstep all the year round.

In a similar vein, it can be all too easy to lose perspective on the other *gifts* we enjoy in life. Our Church fellowship is one such ‘*gift*’, which – for those who realise it – adds yet another aspect to lives that are already blessed with so much. It should be treasured; for there is strength in numbers.

This is amply illustrated when individual members of the fellowship die. Sadly – in this parish - we have lost too many good Church friends in recent months. Not only do we miss them personally (for the qualities and gifts they brought); but their absence reminds us of how *individuals* matter to the wellbeing of the whole.

The death of those we have known and loved is just as much an emotional challenge to Christians as anyone else; but it is important that we also remember to live as a community of faith that professes to gain strength from each other.

The term '*Christian name*' reminds us that God knows each of us *by name*; and we are called into his fellowship. He loves each of us as individuals, and will continue to care for us...even beyond the mortal lives to which we cling so dearly.

In liturgical terms, the Easter season - that professes faith in the resurrection - may formally be over; but its message of '*Alleluia!*' remains the clarion call of the faithful that it has always been. May we live by the faith we profess; and may our lives together always be seen by others to reflect its wonder.



In order to get two very important dates and times into your diary, I would commend the following AUGUST events for your consideration.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL WEEKEND – The 1st weekend in August sees two important events in the life of our church and parish: firstly, the Summer

Fête...and then the following day, our celebration of the *Transfiguration* which gives our parish church its' name:

- **SUMMER FÊTE** – *Saturday 1st August from 2 pm.* On Pg 11 of this magazine, you will see a list of stallholders, all of which depend upon YOUR goodwill in providing items for sale. It seems churlish to say that we only need good quality items in good condition; but only such is what people will buy! People support our Fête in large numbers for two reasons: the congenial atmosphere...and the possibility of a bargain! Please think what you might be able to donate.
- **PATRONAL FESTIVAL PARISH COMMUNION** – *Sunday 2nd August at 10.30 am.* Our celebration this year will be enhanced by the presence of a guest preacher. The Revd. Canon John Armson was the Chaplain and Vice Principal of Westcott House, Cambridge where I trained for the ordained ministry between the years 1975 and 1978. John joined us for our Glastonbury sojourn at the beginning of June (*See pg 4*); and will be joining us for the 1st weekend in August. In July 1978 I was made a Deacon; a year later I was made a Priest in Leicester Cathedral. As such, this year is the 30th anniversary of my full ordination as a priest, and John's presence will make it even more of an occasion for me. There will be wine and nibbles (and doubtless some cake as well!) after the service. Please be sure to join us.

Let us pray for good weather as well!

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verenny Baker." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.



ABBAY HOUSE, GLASTONBURY 2009

Monday 1st June dawned bright, sunny and very warm for our journey to Abbey House, Glastonbury. 23 of us were looking forward to the annual mixture of fellowship, study and tranquillity in the setting of the wonderful Abbey House.

The Vicar had invited the Revd. Canon John Armson to help lead our gathering during our time away; and he led us in three sessions under the title, '*The Gospel in the Psalms*': looking at how our Lord's intimate knowledge of the Old Testament book of *Psalms* had helped to mould the Christian Gospel.

It was not all study! On the first afternoon, some of the more energetic of our number managed the walk up to the top of the Tor that gives a wonderful view over the Somerset 'Levels'; while others explored the garden, the town, or just enjoyed the tranquillity of the grounds.

On Tuesday morning, we shared Communion together in the chapel. The birds singing in the garden - and the sun shining through the windows - made our time of worship very special. We were reminded of the greatness of God in creation echoed in the sacrament.

In the afternoon, we were 'free' to do our own 'thing'. Some went to Street to *Clarks Village*; while others explored the town...or just rested. In the evening 14 of the group went to Wells Cathedral for Choral Evensong; whilst the remainder stayed behind and shared in *Common Worship* Evening Prayer. After supper, the Vicar tested us on what we had learned from the Post Easter readings from Acts! Wednesday morning came all too quickly, and - after a group photo - we made our farewells to Glastonbury for another year.

(Mo Willis)

NEWSROUND



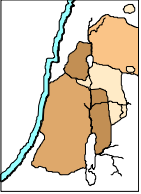
Baptists to Bournemouth for 400th anniversary celebration - Baptist Christians have just celebrated 400 years of Baptist witness in Europe. 2009 marks the 400th anniversary since the establishment of the first ever Baptist congregation in the world, founded in Amsterdam in 1609. The Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) and BMS World Mission, a Baptist-based global mission organisation, focused on the anniversary as part of their annual Baptist Assembly being held at the Bournemouth International Centre.

Audited results for 2008 – Church Commissioners - The Church Commissioners intend to continue planned levels of support for Church of England dioceses through to the end of 2010, despite a year of declining asset values. Audited results published today in the 2008 Annual Report show a negative total return of 19.6% in 2008 - an improvement on earlier unaudited figures, released in February that indicated a negative return of around 22%. The Commissioners' total expenditure in 2008 was £192.7 million (£177.8 million in 2007).

Half a million to be invited 'Back to Church' - Churchgoers are set personally to invite up to half a million people to services on Back to Church Sunday, *27th September 2009*. Every one of the Church's 44 dioceses are taking part in the initiative this year, by encouraging churchgoers to invite someone they know who used to attend church to come back on a particular Sunday. Churches will focus on extending an even warmer welcome than usual on the day, supported by 'Back to Church Sunday' resources such as special red 'welcome' T-shirts and subsidised 'party packs' of fairly-traded catering products, produced in partnership with *Traidcraft*. Up to 16,000 Church of England churches could be taking part.

CHILDREN OF THE BIBLE

TIMOTHY



Timothy is one of the most-mentioned young people in the New Testament. The son of a Greek father and Eunice, his Jewish mother, he became a Christian when he was young and soon after joined Paul as a helper and travelling companion. Paul sent him to Thessalonica to encourage the new Christians there and he was with Paul in his missions to Corinth and Ephesus. He was imprisoned for the sake of the gospel and it was to him that Paul wrote his very last letter.

Timothy is a wonderful example of how young people can serve the Lord and his Church. He had two spiritual experiences that prepared him for God's work. Firstly he had the advantage of family faith and religion. Paul reminds Timothy of the faith of his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. Although his father was not a Christian, clearly his mother's influence, and no doubt her prayers, had much to do with him becoming a Christian. He also had a personal experience of conversion to Christianity. Timothy was probably converted when Paul preached for the first time in his home town, Lystra.

Although Timothy's age is not given, the impression is that he was a young man. Paul counsels him, 'Let no one despise your youth' and warns him against the temptations that face young people 'Shun youthful passions and aim at righteousness, faith, love'. Paul directs the Corinthian Christians to receive Timothy warmly and not to despise him, another obvious reference to his youthfulness.

This young man, who was timid and fearful by nature who was physically weak and advised to drink a little wine for his 'frequent ailments', was yet a promising leader in the Church and destined to be Paul's successor.

ST SWITHUN

(St Swithun will be remembered at the midweek service of Holy Communion on Wednesday 15th July)



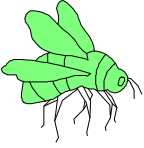
St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for forty days after that. It all began when he was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the ten years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years but, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15th July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral. That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun.

Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation, and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

THE SWEETEST CURE FOR HAY FEVER



Does the onset of summer with its soaring pollen counts reduce you to a snivelling wreck? If so, you've probably tried all the usual cures. You might barricade yourself indoors or you could spend the summer high on antihistamines. Some people try steroids, and then look in the mirror a lot, worrying about what the drugs are doing to them.

There is an easier way: have you tried swallowing a spoonful of honey a day? So far the evidence that this really works is only anecdotal – no medical studies have proved conclusive but thousands of people in the UK have tried it, and say it has transformed their lives.

The principle behind the honey-taking is simple: desensitisation. For while the pollen that the bees set out to collect is the heavy-grained variety that doesn't cause problems, mixed up in that are small amounts of the light, windblown grass and tree pollens that inflame the lining of your nose and eyes.

So – if you suffer from hay fever, why not reach for the honey jar? Try a spoonful a day this summer, and begin again next April, well before the pollen season, to give yourself time to adjust to the pollen again.



GOD'S GIFT TO DRIVERS?



A teenager was always asking his father if he could borrow the family car. Pushed to the limit, the father asked his son why he thought God had given him two feet. Without hesitation, the son replied, *"That's easy, one for the clutch and one for the accelerator."*

ON THE DAMASCUS ROAD

THE CONVERSION OF GEORGE WHITEFIELD

For thirty years George Whitefield was the most famous evangelical preacher in Britain and America. He was one of seven children born to an innkeeper and his wife in Gloucester in 1714. As a boy he loved to read plays and this was reflected in later years when he developed his dramatic gifts for public speaking.

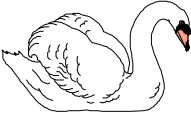
He worked diligently at his lessons and entered Pembroke College, Oxford, when he was seventeen. In Oxford he was befriended by Charles Wesley who had founded the 'Holy Club,' whose members were soon called 'Methodists.' Whitefield joined the Methodists, now led by John Wesley, and shared with them in their regular devotions, study, conversations and ministry to the poor but he was still seeking for spiritual assurance and it was Charles Wesley who came to his help.

Charles and John's mother, Susanna Wesley, had recommended her sons to read a book entitled *The Life of God in the Soul of Man* by Henry Scougal, a professor at Aberdeen University. Charles Wesley loaned the book to Whitefield who read it with great interest. It showed him the inward nature of the kingdom of God and how a man or woman needs to be born again to enter that kingdom.

Whitefield wrote later of how '*a ray of light divine instantaneously darted in upon me, and from that moment I knew I must be a new creature*'. He sought the Lord with tears and prayers and found acceptance and peace at Easter 1735. He was the first of the Oxford 'Methodists' to experience spiritual conversion, followed three years later by the conversions of the Wesley brothers.

He became a tireless evangelist and partly as a result of his long, non-stop itinerant ministry, he died in the USA in 1770 at the age of fifty-six.

GO SWAN UPPING



Here is a delightfully English annual event that dates back to the 12th century, and which nowadays must keep the Americans and Japanese busy with their cameras: swan upping. The phrase may conjure up visions of everyday folk sneaking down to the Thames to grab a swan and whoosh - turning it upside-down - but the reality is nearly as colourful, and perhaps less of a struggle!

Swan upping is the annual ceremony of marking and counting the Queen's swans. A big deal is made of this each year, from Sunbury-on-Thames in West London to Abingdon in Oxfordshire - all 55 km of the river. Swan upping is done in some style: traditional rowing skiffs, complete with flags and pennants, carry the Queen's Swan Marker and Swan Uppers, easily recognisable in their scarlet uniforms.

The boatmen stealthily surround the birds, and then carefully lift them into the boats to be inspected and tagged. It has always been the duty of the Sovereign's Swan Marker to count the young cygnets each year and to ensure that the swan population is maintained. With the assistance of the Swan Warden, the swans are also given a health check.

If you would like to be there when the swans are upped, please visit the Swan Upping website for details, because different bits of the river are done on different dates: www.the-river-thames.co.uk/swupping.htm.



BRILLIANT

First man: *"Did anyone in your family ever make a brilliant marriage?"* **Second man:** *"Only my wife."*

SUMMER FETE 2009



A pre-fête meeting was held on 6th May when we were able to plan for this year's Fête. We welcomed one or two new stallholders and requests were made for others to come forward to take charge of a stall. Please give all helpers your support and respond to requests for items for sale if you can (which should be delivered in good time for pricing and preparation.) Please remember that this is a fête and not a jumble sale! As always, assistance will be required in setting up and dismantling the Fête. A final pre-Fête meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15th July at 11.15 am.

<u>STALL</u>	<u>STALLHOLDER</u>	<u>TEL</u>
Craft & Toiletries	Chris Jeandren	706107
Books	David Fenton	701880
Raffle	Michael Bond	708938
White Elephant	Edwina Warburton-Gray	709603
Handbags	Tessa Yeoman	707629
Jewellery	Brenda Dyer	767568
Cakes	Pamela Ogg	700058
Nearly New Clothes	Tove Taylor	707018
Floral Arrangements	Susanne King	707265
Fruit, Veg & Plants	Christobel Beattie	757337
Home Produce & Sweets	Janet South	768900
Toys & Bran Tub	Julie Bailey	701020
CDs, DVDs	Margaret Hutchinson	707180
Tombola (bottles)	Elizabeth Walker	701112
Teas & Cakes	Alison Oakes	700341
Art Group	Tony Ogg	700058
Car Park	Colin Allsopp	709545
Gate	Bob Garratt	706792
Publicity	Simon Allsopp	731460
Treasurer	Michael Wright	707735

CALENDAR FOR JULY

Wed	1	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
Thu	2	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
Sun	5	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Parish Communion <i>(Sun Club in church)</i>
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tue	7	10.00 am	Gardening Group
Wed	8	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
Sun	12	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.15 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
		10.30 am	Matins <i>(Sun Club in church room)</i>
		3.00 pm	Cream Teas <i>(in church room)</i>
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tue	14	10.00 am	Gardening Group
Wed	15	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
		11.15 am	Pre-Fête Meeting
Thu	16	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
Fri	17	3.00 pm	Visit of MU President
Sun	19	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.30 am	Family Service
		10.30 am	Parish Communion <i>(NO Sun Club)</i>
		6.00 pm	Choral Evensong
Tue	21	10.00 am	Gardening Group
Wed	22	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
Thu	23	4.00 pm	Magazine Collation
Sun	26	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.15 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
		10.30 am	Matins <i>(Sun Club in church room)</i>
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tue	28	10.00 am	Gardening Group
Wed	29	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>(at St Nicolas)</i>
Thu	30	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
		12 noon	Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer
Fri	31		Fête Preparations
		4.15 pm	<i>NO 'Reflections' Prayer Group</i>



CREAM TEAS – With the installation of the new boiler and refurbishment of the kitchen now complete, please note that the revised date for cream teas to be served in the church hall will be Sunday, 12th July at 3 pm.

SUMMER FÊTE – This year's Fête is on Saturday, 1st August. All stallholders would be grateful for items in excellent condition for their various stalls. To contact each individual stallholder please see the list of their names and phone numbers on page 11 of this magazine.

MOTHERS' UNION 'WAVE OF PRAYER' – Our parish 15 minute 'slot' begins at 12.30 pm on *Thursday 30th*. It will be followed by a *Ploughman's Lunch (£2)* after which there will be talk by Mrs Margaret James, from Wimborne, about her *'Early Life on the Stage'*. All welcome, especially to the lunch and talk, but also to join in with praying for families overseas in Sudan, Malawi, Bendigo and Gippsland.



"It's not quite as bad as it looks – they're only withholding payment until we publish our expenses."

MU WORLDWIDE PRESIDENT

– Our parish will be hosting a visit from Rosemary Kempshall (the world-wide President of the Mothers Union) on the afternoon and evening of *Friday 17th July*. We are also expecting a large number of members from across Dorset to come for a service and shared supper in and around the Church grounds. As part of the service, Rosemary will be hearing about local projects and admitting new members. Please speak with Alison Oakes if you would like to know more about the visit.

SUNDAY BEST!



Near Ålesund on the coast of Norway there still stands a row of 18th century Kyrkjebuer (shacks) where local country folk once kept their Sunday best clothes.

By law, Norwegians had to go to church and, as this involved many of them in long and arduous journeys, Kyrkjebuer were built next to parish churches so the people could rest and change their clothes before the service.

The Kyrkjebuer also played a romantic role; it was here that many a Norwegian caught the eye of their future wife or husband. (*Anna Castley*)



WELL DRESSING IN DERBYSHIRE



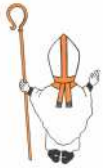
If you are out and about in Derbyshire this summer, keep an eye out for any well dressing in the villages. This ancient annual custom of decorating the local well is popular all over Derbyshire, and probably dates back to Celtic times.

The wells are 'dressed' with large framed panels which have been decorated with elaborate mosaic-like pictures made up of flower petals, seeds, grasses, leaves, tree bark, berries and moss. The well dressing season spans from May through to late September. Any tourist office in Derbyshire could give you the dates of the various well dressings.



Q: *Why do people think Noah wore a wig?*
A: *Because sometimes he was seen with Aaron and sometimes without Aaron.*

ARCHBISHOP TOPS POLL



The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, has been nominated as *"the most respected living Christian"* in a national poll of churchgoers.

The poll, conducted by *ComRes* for Premier Christian Radio, asked, *"Which living Christian, currently in the public eye, do you respect the most?"* with the majority of respondents suggesting the Archbishop of York.

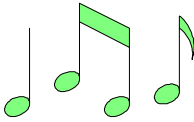
The founder of Christian Charity Oasis Steve Chalke secured joint second place in the poll alongside American Evangelist Billy Graham. US President, Barack Obama and Christian rock star Bono also appeared in the poll.

Responding to the poll results, the Archbishop of York's spokesman said: *"Dr Sentamu believes that he is an unworthy servant of a most worthy Lord. He often quotes the old African proverb that 'those who stand out, only do so because they are being carried on the shoulders of others'."*

Chief Executive of Premier Christian Radio, Peter Kerridge said, *"The Archbishop of York is a nationally respected figure by Christians and non-Christians alike. He is a role model for many Christians as one who lives by what he preaches. He offers a message of hope to us all, that there are Christians prepared to live by their faith, however difficult it may be to do so. Our faith is not about taking the easy route but about standing for truth, Archbishop John Sentamu embodies that message."*

Archbishop John Sentamu is known for speaking out on matters of justice of both domestic and international concern. He is well known for his work with young people, his passion as an evangelist and for his concern for those facing poverty both at home and abroad.

FUNERAL MUSIC GOES POP!



If you attend a funeral nowadays, you are much more likely to hear chart hits, anthems from the talent show X Factor, or even TV theme tunes rather than the traditional hymns such as Abide with Me or Amazing Grace.

A survey carried out by Co-operative Funeralcare of 30,000 funerals last year found that hymns were most popular at only 35% of services, down from 41% in 2005 and 58% of all requests were for contemporary songs, with only 7% of requests being made for classical music.

'My Way' by Frank Sinatra is overall most favourite. Next comes 'Wind Beneath My Wings' by Bette Midler, and 'Time to Say Good-bye' by Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman. Other, more unusual requests have included Radio 4's 'Shipping Forecast', and the themes from 'Only Fools and Horses', 'Top Gear' and Channel 4 'Racing'.



CHOCOLATE CAN HELP YOU DO MATHS!



Eating chocolate can help you solve maths problems, a new study at Northumbria University has found. This delightful news comes because compounds found in chocolate, called flavonols, have been found to increase the mind's ability to do mental arithmetic. Flavonols are part of a group of chemicals called polyphenols. They work by increasing the flow of blood into the brain. Dark chocolate contains the highest quantities. So next time you need to sort your finances, do it with chocolate! It won't increase your bank balance, but it may help you figure out where all the money went...

CHARITY SHOPS BUOYED BY RECESSION

Those left cash-strapped by the recession are turning to charity outlets in a bid to make their budgets stretch further, a new survey has revealed. The bleak economic outlook has prompted 13% of people to shop in charity shops and some six million are now reliant to some degree on them, according to the survey of more than 2,100 adults by charity insurer Ecclesiastical.

The recession has, however, also encouraged more people to give away their unwanted items, with one in five donating more goods. Women come out on top in the giving stakes, with just over 51% of the women questioned saying they were charity shop donors before the recession and another 23% saying they have started donating since the economy took a turn for the worse.

The survey found that charity shops have experienced something of a mini boom, with more customers coming through their doors and an increase in donations, while existing customers are stopping by more frequently, with almost one in five shoppers visiting more often than they did two years ago. When asked what motivated them to buy from charity shops, two thirds of respondents said support for the charity (66%), with low prices (47%) and value for money (44%) also being important factors.

Steve Wood of Ecclesiastical Insurance said the number of new charity shoppers was *"a reflection of the pressure the recession is putting on people's spending power. We're simply not hitting the high street like we once were so we're turning to better value and cheaper alternatives. This should be good news for charities seeing a decline in cash donations. It also appears that more people are giving goods to charity shops and that those who have always done so are giving more. This should also offer charities more support in difficult times"*.

WHAT LAUGHTER DOES TO YOU



When the writer of Proverbs observed that "*a cheerful heart is good medicine*", he was really onto something. Doctors have now discovered that 'mirthful laughter' can quite literally reduce people's risk of having a heart attack.

In a recent study at Loma Linda University in California doctors asked half a group of people with problems ranging from diabetes, high blood pressure and cholesterol to watch comedy programmes or films that they found funny for at least half an hour a day for one year whilst the other half just took medication.

Now the results are in. The half of the group which watched comedy TV have had a 26% rise in their good cholesterol whilst the level for the group that took medication without the laughter rose by just 3%. Good cholesterol in the blood is known to protect against heart disease.

So it seems that laughter is literally good for the heart. As one doctor put it, "*there is an intrinsic physiological intervention brought about by positive emotions such as mirthful laughter, optimism and hope*". In other words, a cheerful heart is good medicine!



TOOTHLESS WARNING



"*Lead a righteous and spiritual life,*" admonished a minister to a young rascal he caught causing trouble, "*for there will be weeping, wailing and a gnashing of teeth among the wicked who pass on to the next world.*" "*What if you haven't got any teeth?*" said the boy. "*Teeth will be provided!*"

PIRACY ON THE HIGH SEAS!



It started like any other day for the Revd Stephen Thanapaul, the Mission to Seafarers chaplain in Tuticorin. He had been visiting ships in port when news broke that a chemical tanker (with 22 crew members on board) had been hijacked by pirates off the coast of Somalia.

Within hours, families of the crew had descended on the local seafarers' centre seeking help from The Mission to Seafarers and so began daily visits by Stephen to their homes, telephone calls to the shipping company for news, and petitions to the Indian Government for help in securing the ship's release. *"I would pray and talk with them. All of them had a strong Christian faith and I believe it was this that helped them through some of the darkest times."*

Piracy has been high on the news agenda in recent months and there are warnings that it is on the increase. In 2008 49 ships were hijacked with 889 seafarers being taken hostage. It is with the victims of piracy, as with all seafarers, that The Mission to Seafarers reaches out with a message of love and hope in a harsh and often inhospitable environment. For over 150 years, it has faithfully carried out an international ministry which now covers 230 ports around the world.

Port chaplains visit seafarers of all races and creeds on their ships, offering them a welcome and fighting for their rights when they have been ignored. In over 100 ports, The Mission to Seafarers offers a practical seafarers' centre where crews can relax away from their ships, and find help with any problems they might have onboard or at home. The Mission also provides telephones and the internet for seafarers to keep in touch with their families at a reasonable price.

POINTS TO PONDER



Charles Baudelaire: *"It is by universal misunderstanding that all agree. For if, by ill luck, people understood each other, they would never agree."*

Segal: *"A man with a watch knows what time it is. A man with two watches is never sure."*

Barbara Tober: *"Traditions are group efforts to keep the unexpected from happening."*

Christopher Fry: *"Poetry is the language in which man explores his own amazement."*

Marcus Tullius Cicero: *"Times are bad. Children no longer obey their parents and everyone is writing a book."*

Saul Bellow: *"Death is the black backing on the mirror that allows us to see anything at all."*

Unknown: *"Astronomers say the universe is finite, which is a comforting thought for those people who can't remember where they leave things."*

Dante Gabriel Rossetti: *"The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank."*

Isaac Newton: *"Tact is the knack of making a point without making an enemy."*

Oscar Wilde: *"What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing."*

Plato: *"Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something."*

Otto von Bismarck: *"When a man says he approves of something in principle, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it into practice".*

SUNDAY READINGS IN JULY

Sunday 5th July – Trinity 4

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 5.1-5,9-10

David was chosen by God to rule Israel and thus became more and more powerful, building a fortress called the City of David

NEW TESTAMENT: 2 Corinthians 12.2-10

Paul boasts about his weaknesses which are a powerful asset and a source of great strength within his ministry.

GOSPEL: Mark 6.1-13

Jesus returns to Nazareth and is rejected by the people. He then sends out his disciples with practical instructions for a healing ministry.

Sunday 12th July – Trinity 5

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 6.1-5, 12b-19

When God's ark is brought to the City of David, there is rejoicing and the people are blessed in the name of the Lord and each given bread and cakes.

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 6.14-29

Hearing of the wonders performed by Jesus, King Herod fears that John the Baptist, who he had put to death, has come back to life.

Sunday 19th July – Trinity 6

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 7.1-14a

Nathan is ordered to tell David of God's plans for Israel's greatness and the protection of its people.

NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 2.11-end

In his letter to the Ephesian church, Paul speaks of the unity and oneness with Christ that is offered from the Cross to all men, Gentile and Jew.

GOSPEL: Mark 6.30-34, 53-end

Jesus takes pity on the crowds of people gathered and teaches them. In Gennesaret, Jesus heals the sick that are brought to him.

Sunday 26th July – Trinity 7

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 11.1-15

The story of David and Bathsheba whose husband Uriah is put in the front line of battle so that he might be killed.

NEW TESTAMENT: John 6.1-21

Following the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand with five loaves and two fishes, Jesus walks on water to rejoin his frightened disciples.



ON THE TREADMILL



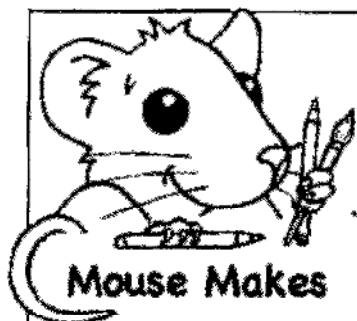
On The Treadmill is a saying relating to Victorian hard labour, one the great writer Oscar Wilde was subjected to during his prison sentence in the late 1800s.

Today it is used to describe exhausting, never-ending work that is usually without even acknowledgement. In Oscar's day a treadmill was a primitive version of modern-day step machines found in every gym or fitness centre. It was a row of evenly spaced wooden planks joined at each end by a large round cog.

Poor Oscar and his fellow convicts were forced to walk the treadmill all day long, akin to walking up an endless staircase but without actually leaving the bottom step. As the playwright himself said at the time, "*If this is the way the Queen treats her prisoners, she doesn't deserve to have any*". Needless to say none of his clothes still fitted when he eventually left Reading Gaol and today in fitness centres, they all pay to do it.



People with clenched fists cannot shake hands.

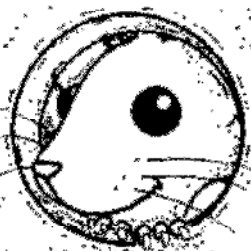


Mouse Makes

If you make a promise do you keep it? **GOD** always keeps his promises!

"The LORD your GOD has given you all the good things that he promised. Every promise he made has been kept, not one has failed."
Joshua 23:14

God helps you



"GOD is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble" Psalm 46:1

Cut out and keep these cards to remind you of God's promises.

God hears you



"The LORD is near to all who call on him" Psalm 145:18

God knows what you need



"Your FATHER knows what you need before you ask HIM" Matthew 6:8

God cares for you



"Leave all your worries with HIM because he cares for you" 1 Peter 5:7

God is with you



"Be strong and courageous... for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

June 7th

Catherine Lucy BRUNT

WEDDING

June 13th

Graham John KEW &
Caroline Frances HALL

FUNERAL

May 27th

Lore MEREDITH (87)

June 12th

Olga GRIFFITHS (93)

June 16th

Doris Alice MITCHELL (81)



ALTAR FLOWERS

July 5th

Transfiguration

Mrs J Kingston

July 12th

Mrs J Kingston

July 19th

Mrs A Davis

July 26th

Mrs A Davis

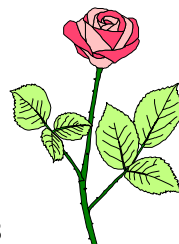
St Nicolas

Mrs D Watts

Mrs R Parsons

Mrs R Parsons

Mrs M Hutchinson



*Take a moment or two to look upward
When the morning is newly begun;
Looking down you will merely see shadows –
Looking up you will see the bright sun!*



DEADLINE

The deadline for the **August** edition of
the Church Magazine is 10.00 am on
Wednesday, **15th July 2009**