

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday in the Month	8am	9.30am	5.00pm	6.30pm
FIRST	CW HC	Family Worship with children - Choir -	<i>cu@5</i>	Evensong
SECOND	CW HC	Morning Worship - Choir -	<i>cu@5</i>	CW HC - Choir
THIRD	CW HC	Morning Worship	<i>cu@5</i>	Evensong
FOURTH	BCP HC	Holy Communion (CW) - Choir -	<i>cu@5</i>	Evensong
FIFTH	-	-	-	-

CW = Common Worship. BCP = Book of Common Prayer. HC = Holy Communion

Sunday Mornings

SENIOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP: School years 7, 8 & 9

OTT: 8-11 years

SUNDAY CLUB 3-7+years

CRÈCHE: 0-2 years

all in the Church Centre during the 9.30am service, except on first Sunday when in Church

Sunday Evenings

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

Second, third and fourth Sundays in the Church Centre at 6.30pm

FROGS

11-14 years, first Sunday of month 6 p.m. in Church Hall

Weekdays

HOLY COMMUNION Every Wednesday 10.00 a.m. (BCP)

Saints Days and Holy Days as announced

If you would like to book a baptism or wedding, please contact the Parish Church Office.

VICAR'S REST DAY: Monday

SIDESMEN and WOMEN

Messrs Bailey, Beasley, Brackett, Crawley, Dunning, Finley, Fleetwood, Grogan, Howie, Johnson, Lattimer, Lea, Matthews, Sherwood, Vigis, Wickham, Wood, Worssam, Wragg, Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Beasley, Mrs. Crawley, Mrs Dunning, Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Kelsey, Mrs Marchant, Mrs J. Matthews, Mrs Mills, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs Richardson, Mrs. Twallin and Mrs Wood.

PARISH MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

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OCTOBER 2008

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Morning Prayer will be said in Church on Tuesdays each week at 8.15 a.m.

- 1 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
8.00 p.m. Ecumenical Committee (18 The Old Walk)
- 4 - 9.30 a.m. Churchyard Working Party
9.00 a.m. onwards Decoration of the church for Harvest

- 5 - **The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity: Harvest Festival:
Poverty & Hope Sunday**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
9.30 a.m. Morning Worship with children (CW) and baptism of
Hattie Pope
12.45 for 1 p.m. Harvest Festival Lunch in the Church Hall
6.00 p.m. FROGS (Church Hall)
6.30 p.m. Festal Evensong
- 6 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 7 - 9.30 a.m. Harvest Festival: Otford Primary School (in Church)
8.00 p.m. "Living Stones" – Talk 1 in the Church Centre: "From the Romans to
the Middle Ages": The Vicar
- 8 - 9.30 a.m. 'First Steps' (Otford Methodist New Hall)
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) followed by coffee
- 12 - **The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
9.30 a.m. Morning Worship (CW)
5.00 p.m. cu@5 (Church Centre)
6.00 p.m. Deanery Evensong at St. Martin's, Eynsford
- 13 - **Magazine material by today, please, to David Matthews, "Beech Coppice",
London Road, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. matthews.dg@lineone.net**
7.45 p.m. Coffee and chat (1 The Butts)
- 15 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
8.00 p.m. Standing Committee (The Vicarage)
- 19 - **The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
9.30 a.m. Morning Worship (CW)
5.00 p.m. cu@5 (Church Centre)
6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 20 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 21- 8.00 p.m. "Living Stones" – Talk 2 in the Church Centre: The Impact of the
Reformation and the Book of Common Prayer: The Vicar
- 22 - 9.30 a.m. 'First Steps' (Otford Methodist New Hall)
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) followed by coffee
- 25 - **British Summer Time ends: Put clocks BACK one hour**
- 26 - **The Last Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 23 (BCP): Bible Sunday**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
5.00 p.m. cu@5 (Church Centre)
6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 27 - 7.45 p.m. Focus evening (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 29 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- Some early November dates**
- 2 - **The Fourth Sunday before Advent (Trinity 24): All Saints**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
9.30 a.m. Morning Worship with children (CW)
5.00 p.m. cu@5 (Church Centre)
6.00 p.m. FROGS (Church Hall)
6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 3 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 5 - 9.30 a.m. 'First Steps' (Otford Methodist New Hall)
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9 - **The Third Sunday before Advent (Trinity 25): Remembrance Sunday**

Vicar's Viewpoint

Since the beginning of the year the price of food in supermarkets has risen by 8.3% - so proclaims the BBC website top news story on the day that I am writing this article. For some food items it has risen substantially more: the cost of fresh fruit and vegetables has risen by 14.7%, and for meat and fish the figure is 22.9%. It would seem that the era of cheap food is over. But it is worth putting our troubles into a global context. Also amongst the same batch of headlines is the warning from Oxfam that over 10 million people in East Africa are now at risk of severe hunger.

The beginning of October is traditionally the time that churches and schools celebrate harvest festival. This year is it more poignant than ever. It is very easy to take the basics of life for granted in a consumerist society in which we are bombarded with messages to augment our lifestyle with the benefits of modern technology. But now our attention is being refocused on the basics. We cannot forever exploit the resources of the earth in an unsustainable fashion. The very act of bringing up an apple or a carrot in a harvest box is a reminder of our dependence on the fruitfulness of the earth and our need to care for our world.

Different decades may be remembered for particular ideas which became dominant. For example, the sixties marked a radical change in social values and family structures; the eighties can be thought of as the Thatcherite era; in this first decade of the new millennium we have finally become much more aware of ecological issues. Terms such as "carbon footprint" which were unknown ten years ago are now part of our common vocabulary. The fragility of the earth and our responsibility for the stewardship of creation have now become part of our everyday outlook. Perhaps the image which best sums this up is the NASA photograph of the earth taken from space, picturing our global home as a delicate ball with pastel shades of blue, green and white in the darkness of the swirling universe.

The imperative to care for our world has always been part of the Christian tradition. For example, Psalms 8 and 104 are meditations on the beauty and wonder of our world; we are called to acknowledge God's hand in creation and to accept the responsibility that is placed on us to be wise stewards.

Keats famously wrote of autumn as a "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness". This year, as I pick the apples and pears from the fruit trees in the vicarage garden planted by my predecessor Mr. Bunch, I'll be reflecting on how such simple gifts affirm my connectedness to the earth and the importance of the basic things in life. Harvest-time encourages us not to take such things for granted, but to work for the flourishing of all creation.

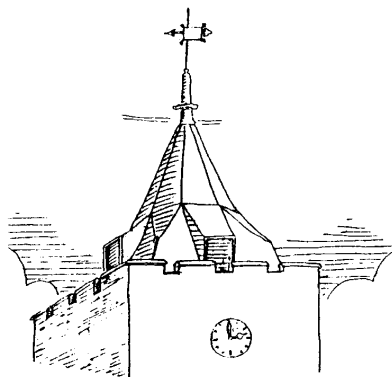
Your friend and Vicar,

Richard Worssam

FROM
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

Ecumenical Meeting

Representatives from the Roman Catholic, Methodist and our own church meet regularly to review past events and to plan for new ones. Their next meeting is on **Wednesday 1st October**: please feed in any ideas to representatives Susan Reid and Margaret Lidbetter.



Trek Challenge in Nepal – From 3 to 19 October 2008 I shall be putting my hiking boots on again and taking part in one of the most spectacular and varied treks in the world,

The Annapurna Experience, to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Annapurna Experience will be the climax of many years of trekking. I will face some of the most remarkable landscapes in the world. It will be tough in parts and a personal challenge but cancer is a disease that will affect all of us at some point in our lives and knowing I can make a difference and help people living with cancer makes all my efforts worthwhile.

Please pray for a safe journey for all of our Macmillan Cancer Support trekkers on this challenge. Thank you to all those who have sponsored me.
Tony Grogan

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Churchyard Working Party

A reminder that the final churchyard working party of the year will take place on Saturday 4th October, between 9.30 and 11.30 a.m. Any support will be most welcome.

Harvest

This falls on Sunday 5th October. This year we are supporting the Diocese of Rochester's Poverty and Hope Appeal 2008. The Bishop of Tonbridge writes, "The projects supported by this year's appeal take us through the stages of life, from infancy to old age. From babies being delivered safely in Bangladesh to older women learning something new in Tajikistan, we are working to bring hope and new life for many. Your support for this appeal declares your hope that there remains good news for the poor. St. Paul wrote, 'Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.' Let us hope joyfully, giving generously and pray continually for the work the appeal supports in developing countries."



Harvest Lunch – Sunday 5th October – 12.45 for 1 pm in the Church Hall

You are warmly invited to join the whole Church Family for lunch as we celebrate harvest together. This special occasion provides an opportunity for all the members of St. Bart's who attend different services to enjoy time together. Tickets (which are free) are available at Church after services, or from the Church Office.

Living Stones

Tuesdays at 8pm in the Church Centre on 7th & 21st October and 4th November
A series of 3 talks on alternate Tuesday evenings given by the Vicar, Richard Worssam, on church history, theology and ministry and their impact on worship and architecture.

Talk 1 – From the Early Church to the Middle Ages

Talk 2 – The Impact of the Reformation and the Introduction of the Book of Common Prayer.

Talk 3 – The Influence of the Oxford Movement and the Modern Ecumenical Movement.

You are warmly invited to come along and discover more about the factors which have shaped our historic church of St. Bart's over the centuries.

'First Steps'

This lively group for babies, toddlers and their carers is always pleased to welcome new members. It is run by the Methodist and our own church and includes the opportunity for chat, refreshment, and also a short Bible story, with singing and activities for the children, including games and craft. It meets at the Methodist Church New Hall and the next meetings are to be held on Wednesday 8th and 22nd October, from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Deanery Choral Evensong. This will be held on Sunday 12th October at 6.00 p.m. (not 6.30 p.m.) at St. Martin's Church, Eynsford. This service will feature the combined choirs of the Deanery, including our own. cu@5 will take place in the Church Centre as usual.



'Team Ellis', Andrew Hill, Clive Southgate, Bill Lattimer and Steve Vigis will be joining Sir Ian 'Beefy' Botham on a leg of his 'Nine Town Walk' raising awareness and funds for Leukaemia Research. Our involvement was sparked off by the story of Ellis Andrews. Ellis is four years old and lives in Otford, and comes to our church with his parents and his 9 year old brother Robert. In April this year, he complained of pain in his hip. Mum and Dad took him to the local GP who immediately sent him to Farnborough Hospital where Ellis was diagnosed with Leukaemia. Ellis was then later re-diagnosed with Philadelphia Chromosome Positive Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, which only affects around 1% of infant sufferers.

If you would like to help Team Ellis raise their target figure of £2,000 and help Ellis, children like him and their families, you can do so by sponsoring us through our webpage at www.justgiving.com/andrewhill4, where you can also find out more about Ellis' story. Donating through Justgiving is quick, easy and totally secure. It's also the most efficient way to be a sponsor: Leukaemia Research gets your money faster and, if you're a UK taxpayer, Justgiving makes sure 25% in Gift Aid, plus a 3% supplement, are added to your donation.

Hope you can help.

Team Ellis

Correction: we regret that in the item, Mission Matters - Hospices of Hope, in last month's edition Alex Bache was described incorrectly as the Chairman.

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The following notes have been issued on the Lambeth Conference Official website, www.lambethconference.org, and form a summary of the fuller document, 'Reflections on the Lambeth Conference', which can be found on the website, along with other material.

Notes on 'Reflections on the Lambeth Conference.'

The very name "the Anglican Communion" tells you something about the expectations of the Anglican family – that they are trying to live out to the fullest possible extent the fellowship, the communion, that we are brought into by our baptism into Christ. In Section A of the Reflections Document, the bishops explain something of the time spent in Canterbury, and affirm that it was, indeed, a time of warm and active fellowship – in worship, in study and in discussion. The discussion at this 14th Lambeth Conference was modelled on the African concept of the tribal village coming together for purposeful conversation about the most serious concerns in the village's life: at Lambeth, indaba was intended to empower every bishop to contribute, working in small groups of 8 for Bible Study and 40 for the main discussions.

The Archbishop of Canterbury asked the Conference to concentrate on two themes: Equipping Bishops for Mission and strengthening Anglican Identity.

In Sections B and C of the Reflections Document, the bishops reflect on the nature of Mission and Evangelism – that what begins with personal conversion and transformation through Jesus Christ spills out into the redemption of all of creation. Christians have to be concerned with justice for individuals and in society, focussing upon the most needy and outcast in our society. They seek to transform the world and to serve the world according to the pattern of Jesus himself.

In Section D of the document, the bishops extend this concept of mission into the area of the care for the environment – a major concern in the life of the world at present – but also part of the stewardship of God's people for God's gift of creation.

In Sections E and F, the bishops recognise that they belong to a bigger reality which is Christ's Church, so that ecumenism, or the discovery and development of our commission from Christ to proclaim the Gospel with our sister Churches, east and west, is part and parcel of our faithful response to God. The section reaffirms Anglican commitment to full visible unity of the Church. They recall that in the wider contexts of mission, Christianity is not alone as a world faith, and our modern context means that we have to enter into dialogue with other world faiths. This section calls for respectful dialogue.

In Section G, the bishops explore the distinctive contribution of Anglican Identity to world Christianity. We can describe ourselves as formed by scripture, shaped by worship, ordered for communion and directed by God's Mission.

In Section H, the difficult questions around the tensions over homosexuality are explored, leading into a reflection on the authority of scripture in Anglican thinking in Section I. While there is a fairly common view of the authority of scripture, there is no agreement on the understanding of homosexuality. Section J addresses the question of the covenant, offering support to ongoing discernment; Section K addresses the Windsor Process, and offers affirmation to aspects of the work of the Continuation Group, including the request for moratoria.



ELIZABETH REMEMBERED. 450 years ago, when Otford was well-known to Tudor monarchs, Elizabeth I became Queen, to steer England through 45 turbulent years. A commemoration of her life and times will take place in the village hall in a community

presentation sponsored by the Otford Players and the Otford Society. Tony Wiltshire conducts the singers and contributes original music, and the words have been put together by Ken Gunderson. Admission by programme costs £6 (including interval refreshments). BOX OFFICE: Carole Cole 01959 525404
For one night only. 4th October 2008: 7.30pm Otford Village Memorial Hall.



OTFORD GARDENER'S SOCIETY The October meeting will take place on Tuesday 7th October at 8 p.m. in Otford Village Memorial Hall (free parking) when there will be an evening with Denise Thompson, Designer Florist. Admission is 50p to members and £1.00 to non-members and includes refreshments. For details of all events, please contact the Society Secretary, Janet Finney, on 01959 523760, or e-mail gardeners@otford.net or visit the website

on www.otford.info/gardeners.

THE SEVENOAKS SOROPTIMIST CLUB invites women members of all ages, cultures and ethnic groups in management and the professions to join in giving service to others. The Club is holding an Open Evening On 8th October so that you can find out just what being a Soroptimist is all about. For further information, contact Kate York by e-mail at yorkacm@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01959 565409

A FUNDRAISING TABLE-TOP BOOT FAIR will be held on Saturday 11th October in the Otford Village Memorial Hall. Please support the kind people who have rented a table. All the rent of tables and the entrance fee at the door and the sale of refreshments will go to the Kallen Dance Dress Fund so that our local girls will dance in new outfits at the Blackpool Tower next April. Doors open at 9am and close at 1pm. Entrance: adults 50p, children free. If you would like a table, please call Jackie Allen on 01959 522912 for more information.



OTFORD AFTERNOON W.I. - A taster afternoon - come and try our W.I. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 14th October, 2.00 p.m. at the Village Hall. This is a chance to find out about all the W.I. activities and to meet the friendly membership. Our speaker is Mr. H. Newman talking on "My Favourite Things". Call 01959 522736 for further details.
Joyce Allen

OTFORD OAST W.I. will meet on Thursday 16th October from 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. at Otford Village Memorial Hall when Jane Barnes will speak on 'Jewellery.' Jane, a former employee of The Bill Skinner Studio, now has her own business, making jewellery. She will demonstrate some of her techniques and there will also be an opportunity to purchase and/or order some of her beautiful creations. There is a free crèche at every meeting. The first visit is free, the second costs £3.00 and annual membership costs £27.00.
Patsy Groom 01959 524156

'INTO THE WOODS', a musical by Stephen Sondheim, will be staged by the Stag Theatre Company at the Ship Theatre, Hollybush Lane between 21st and 25th October at 7.30 p.m. Tickets cost £12.00 from the box office (07787 724440) or e-mail stagtheatrecompanyboxoffice@yahoo.co.uk. 'Into the Woods', first performed on Broadway in 1987, is on one level a retelling of favourite fairy stories – Cinderella, Rapunzel and Little Red Riding Hood. Director Keith Neville, suggests that it about much more: "It's about the complexities of our wants and desires in life. None of the characters achieve what they want to achieve. That's the underlying theme."

SEVENOAKS BRANCH OF THE EMBROIDERERS' GUILD. The October meeting will be held in the Village Hall on the 25th, the morning session beginning at 10.00 a.m., and the afternoon session at 2.00 p.m. There will be an all day workshop with Pat Trott (3-D Stitches) and mini-workshops led by members will run throughout the

day. The meeting will end with tea and homemade cake. For further details contact Jane Barratt (01732 833588) or Sylvia Grafton (01732 452117).

UCAN CRAFT CLUB: calling all children age 5 years and over to join the Club in the October half-term in the Parish Church Hall for fun and crafting: a 2 hour session will cost £5.00, including craft, juice and biscuits. All proceeds will go to the Kallen Dance Dress Fund. For dates and times please call Claire on 01959 525582.

THE KENT GROUP of the BRITISH IRIS SOCIETY. Kew botanist, writer and plant hunter, Brian Mathews, will be giving an illustrated talk entitled "A to Z of Irises" to on Saturday 1st November 2008 at 2.15 pm. at the Otford Methodist Church Hall. All are welcome. No admission charge, but a collection plate to offset costs. For further details please contact Chris Towers 01959 523017.

OTFORD – PRECIGNE TWINNING: Adults, Teenagers, Couples, Families: Don't miss the opportunity of a long May Bank Holiday weekend (2-4 May 2009) in France visiting Precigne, near Le Mans, cost of travel – low, accommodation – free, French food and wine – delicious. We were made very welcome with warm hospitality two years ago and are invited to return with a larger party next year. For further information please contact Jane Lawrey (01959 522360)

There will be a Beetle Drive for all ages on Friday evening 28 November 2008 from 7.30 pm in the Club Room of the Otford Village Memorial Hall, with a French Ploughman's Supper, cost £7.50. Please bring your own glasses, drinks and nibbles as required. Also, there will be Raffle in aid of Otford – Precigne Twinning. If you remember how to play please come; if you would like to learn, please come. Fun for all!

SPOTLIGHT



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman: Mr John Allen

Parish Clerk: Mrs B. Darby. Tel: Otford 524808

Our Police Community Support Officer Dave Birchall is very regrettably leaving the service because he does not feel he is spending a satisfactory amount of time on community work as when he started, but on police and paperwork. He has been notable for the activities he organised, his communication with residents (particularly young people) and with businesses. For his commendations, and the rewards that he passed on to Otford, as well as his other fund-raising activities such as the recent sponsored walk.

It has always been the case that the police have first call on PCSOs when circumstances require it, although communities were intended to pay a set proportion of the cost of their employment. This does not always happen now, and unfortunately there has not so far been any indication of the proportion of time PCSOs spend on community work.

We wish thank Dave for all he has done and wish him well in his future employment.

The Citizens Advice Bureau comes to Otford one morning a month (the first Tuesday morning) to assist those who need information and do not wish to travel to Sevenoaks. The council pays a small sum to assist the Bureau in this service, and has recently increased this to meet their needs. Other parishes also pay for such visits and these contributions now form a notable part of the Bureau's income – and of course the Bureau's visits make obtaining information much easier.

A local contractor has very thoroughly and quickly repaired the car park potholes. It is now intended to treat the whole surface next year, which will require closing parts or the whole of the car park for a time.

When it is done and the area is marked out, it may be desirable to change the layout to enable drivers to travel round most of the area in a one-way system, rather than up and down the aisles, with angled parking spaces in some parts. Views will be sought on this, so please, if you use the car park, consider if this system would help.

Circumstances may change, however, if parking in roads by commuters using the station is prevented, and many more wish to use the car park!
School House, the council office (and Heritage Centre) has hardly been altered since it was converted from a dwelling, and we now need to redecorate the outside and insulate as far as possible. The committee room will be the first to be insulated and redecorated. Wall insulation is not straightforward for an old, single-brick walled building and the committee room will not be available for about two weeks. JGA

IN MEMORY

We send our condolences to the family and friends of **Gladys Norah Edmonds**. Betty was born on 25th May 1910 – 98 years ago and grew up in Wanstead, East London, together with her older brother, Richard. In her youth, she enjoyed tennis, dancing and horse riding. As a young woman, she learned to drive and she travelled in Europe, including Germany, in the 1930s.
 Betty had a real interest in and talent for art, but she was steered towards a secretarial training course and she became a secretary in a legal firm in London. When her parents moved to Kemsing in the mid 1930s, she came with them and worked as a farm secretary. As her parents grew older and infirm, Betty looked after them at home until the end of their lives. She also cared lovingly for her Aunt Nina, who lived into her nineties in Farningham. Latterly, Betty worked as a secretary at Dorton House, the specialist school for the blind at Seal, until her retirement in 1970.
 After her parents died, Betty moved briefly to Shoreham and then, in 1980, she came to live in Otford where she fashioned a lovely cottage garden in Otford. Betty lived her retirement years to the full. She was an accomplished needlewoman, was good at crocheting and pursued her interest in art, becoming an active member of the Sevenoaks Art Club, successfully exhibiting her paintings in the local art exhibitions.
 Betty was a private person, but she was kind and helpful and she had a keen sense of humour. She was fiercely independent, a characteristic blended with a quiet gentleness. Towards the end of her life she bore the frailties and frustrations of old age with courage and patience, appreciative of all her family and friends did to help her. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.



Registers



Baptism (Our Welcome)

- 7th September Woody **Ott**
Millie Margaret **Inskip**
- 14th September Vanessa Elizabeth **Moseley**
Oliver David **Moseley**

Funerals (Our Sympathy)

- 26th August Aaron Rymar **Smith** (aged 69) - Burial at Otford Cemetery
- 4th September Gladys Nora **Edmonds** (aged 98) - Cremation

Church Offerings in August

Open Collections for charities and Church expenses	£	225.58
Freewill Offerings	£	5,160.00