

# Bishop John's Letter: The World Comes To Canterbury.

To spend nearly three weeks in the company of more than 600 Bishops may not be everyone's idea of a good time. But it is an opportunity not to be missed. Why?

Quite simply, because the Bishops' gathering for this year's Lambeth Conference on 16<sup>th</sup> July will bring with them stories of troubles and triumphs from all parts of our world. We know that the Anglican Church has a global presence and, day by day, we try to remember our fellow-Anglicans around the world in our Cycle of Prayer. But every ten years we have this chance to meet together in order to deepen our fellowship, broaden our horizons and enrich our awareness of how God is at work in places very different from where we live and work and worship. We will do this through daily Worship, Bible Study and task groups concentrating each day on a different challenge facing us, as we seek to further our ministry and mission into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

But I guess the times spent in one-to-one conversations over meal tables and walking around the University of Kent campus will be at least as valuable as the programmed activities, for example, at the last Lambeth Conference I got to know the Bishop of Belize really well. Sylvestre knew first hand about the impact of guerrilla warfare, international drug-dealing and grinding poverty on his land and people. Suddenly what the news media had to tell me about life in these small Central American republics came vividly into focus, and there was the Anglican Church making a difference to the lives of growing numbers of new Christians in the name of the living God, No doubt my experience was replicated over and over again as the Conference progressed, and we all came away challenged and changed by that experience.

So along with Bishops David and Tim, I will be taking with me stories of Church life and witness here in the Diocese of Lincoln, and no doubt we will return with many stories and much food for thought to share with you all. Please pray for the Conference, and especially for Archbishop Rowan as he seeks to guide us into God's future where we can be ever more aware of His presence, open to His word and obedient to His will. Some have chosen not to attend this time. That will be their loss - and ours. But the Spirit of God will be moving amongst us and who knows where that might lead ...?

+ John Lincoln

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## Copy Deadlines for the July edition.

Would all contributors note the following?

If at all possible, electronic copy is greatly preferred - it reduces the editing task enormously.

Hard copy (i.e. hand/typewritten items, photographs, etc) should be left in the Magazine file in the clergy vestry by Sunday July 21. Electronic copy (physical) (floppy disc, data pen, CD-ROM) should be saved as \*.rtf (text files) or \*.jpeg (image/graphics) if at all possible and placed in the same file as above by the same date. Electronic copy (email) should be sent in the same formats as above to davidrowett@aol.com by July 22nd.

## All Together Now.



Tapping away at the keyboard at the beginning of Arts Week, and with deep awareness of the amount of work put in, in mantling bell simulators, or keeping an eye on musical instruments pending concerts, or keeping the admin up to scratch (and that before a single performer hits a stage), my mind turned (of course) to Capitalism. Not, though, to the *bête noir* of Marx (Karl, not Groucho), but to the amount of social capital - investment in the community of unpaid time and co-operation - on which Barton Arts Week depends.

And not only Arts Week, but every community organisation there is. Behind every paid suit, there is - or should be - a far greater army of overalls, that is, the folk who buckle down and do, for no greater reward than the knowledge that they leave the community a richer place. And perhaps in Barton we're able to take it a bit for granted - but for how long?

My mind was exercised in this gloomy direction (perhaps I'm in need of a holiday!) by an article in our newspaper. A person active in his own community described how impossible it was becoming to get volunteers to keep the wheels turning of activities as varied as pensioners clubs and Brownies. In a desperate act, he and a faithful few went down to the railway station one morning to leaflet the six hundred or so commuters who lived in town, hoping for at least a few enquiries about helping the greater good of the community. From those six hundred residents, they got back precisely no offers of help. Not one.

## Charity for July - Gideons International

*Probably everyone has encountered a Gideon Bible, in a hotel room or hospital ward, or.... During July, collections at the family and baptism services will be dedicated to the work of the Gideons, about which more follows....*

The Gideons in England are one of 187 branches throughout the world dedicated to distributing Bibles and New Testaments in all walks of life. We place them in hospitals, hotels, schools, prisons and old peoples homes and also give to people willing to receive one.

The Scunthorpe branch meets once a month to determine our work. We distribute to first year children in every comprehensive school from Kirton Lindsey and the Isle of Axholme to Brigg, Scunthorpe. Winterton and Barton. We have recently again, visited the hospital to provide Bibles and holders on the lockers of more wards.

Our Auxiliaries, who are the wives of members, lead this work and are also the prayer basis of all we do. We do not hold any fund raising events, we rely entirely on prayer and on donations from St. Mary's and other churches and organisations. We also rely on good Christian souls who are friends and who support us by praying for us and putting aside loose change throughout the year in what we call "mite files" which they give to us when full. All administration costs are met by the Gideon members themselves.

Anyone interested in supporting us please contact either myself or Steve Guilliat at St Mary's.

*Dennis Cowe*

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### The Sermon

"After a very long and boring sermon, the worshippers filed out of the church saying nothing to the preacher. Towards the end of the line was a thoughtful person who always commented on the day's offering from the pulpit, who broke the silence by saying, "Vicar, your sermon this morning reminded me of the peace and love of God." The preacher was thrilled, of course, and said, "You know, no-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before. Tell me why." "Well," came the reply, "it reminded me of the peace of God because it passed all understanding, and of the love of God because it endured for ever!"

*Courtesy of the Keyingham Methodist Church magazine.*

## The Baysgarth School 'Performathon'

Thank you so much to all the people that sponsored Sam Wright and helped him to raise over £100 for taking part in the 12 hour "performathon" at Baysgarth school on June 13<sup>th</sup>. It was a fun, if exhausting, night starting at 8pm and ending at 8am on Saturday. The whole evening involved a variety of "acts" including the orchestra, rock band, individual singers, comedy routines, cheerleaders, dance and drama groups and raised over £1300! Some of the money raised will go towards the cost of the forthcoming production of "Grease" in December ( a must-see if last year's fantastic Christmas concert is anything to go by!!!) and towards a trip to China for the Year 11 and Sixth form pupils.

Well done to all of the 100 (approx) pupils that took part and the dedicated staff for making the whole thing happen. It was wonderful to see and sense the exciting "buzz" of the whole evening as I dropped Sam off on Friday night. The bus circle was packed with cars and taxis full of excited young people all eager to take part. The young people that gathered there was a world away from the "youth of today" as often reported in the news who care for nothing but themselves. The "performathon" showed that young people do care and it is unfortunate that this great spirit is all too often forgotten or, worse, overlooked in favour of more negative opinions. WELL DONE BAYSGARTH for setting the record straight!!

*Michelle Wright*

There are loads of reasons for this, I'm sure, from the shameful fact that our working hours are the longest in Europe down to the near-impossibility of finding housing in the south-east within an hour's commute of work. But you can't help but feel that there's something else going on which is about evaluating a person's worth (and therefore the worthiness of their activity) entirely in terms of spending power and bought goods. Certainly it always seemed odd that the 80's dismissed any community-binding rôle, especially by women, as valueless, and encouraged a money-chasing mind set which reduced all human existence to legally binding contracts, despite Bishop David Jenkins' warning that there was more to humanity than the figures at the bottom of a balance sheet.

The spirit of co-operation and Good-Samaritan-like concern for neighbour evolved over countless centuries and enabled our species to cope with a hostile world, yet we seem to have dismantled it in a matter of a couple of decades - and replaced it with - what? Block paving driveways, Supermarkets, Sky Sports and a second car seem a poor trade-off.

Someone in the public eye said (to great outcry) recently, 'Considering we're all so well off, we seem very miserable'. And someone even more in the public eye once observed, "You can't serve God and money". Do they both have something to say to our communities and their inner lives?

*Fr David*

## E1W Barbeque

**4.00pm, Sunday July 28**

**Vicarage Garden**

**Theme: the 1960's/1970's**

**A chance to dig out those purple flares  
relegated to gardening 30 years ago!**

***Tickets available from E1W members.***



## ST. MARY'S GARDEN PARTY,

July 5th.

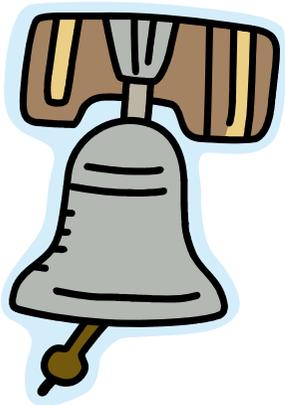
2-4 pm in the Vicarage Garden  
(weather Permitting)



*All the usual stalls,  
plus refreshments to suit*



Donations towards the stalls  
& offers of help  
will be received  
with great gratitude.



## St Mary's Tower News.

Recently several improvements have been carried out to the ringing environment at St Mary's church ringing chamber which include a new filled carpet and a number of new chairs for those sitting out and waiting to ring. In addition superb foam filled cushions have been made by R Lennon for the two timber pews. The whole area has been cleaned by the lady volunteer ringers and the retained surplus surplice (not a mistake) timber cupboards repainted with wood stain, again carried by volunteers

Members of the bell ringers of St Mary's recently undertook an outing by arranged by our ringing organiser around and about the Horncastle area. Starting early at Wragby we encountered the well equipped ringing chamber at All Saints, and rang for an hour on the excellent six tower bells. Moving on to Horncastle for an attempt at the heavy six bells on the difficult ring within the ancient ringing chamber at St Mary's proved somewhat hard for most of us, but we managed with effort to overcome the difficulties and at least make a worthwhile attempt.

Having at last having found a parking space on a busy Saturday morning in Alford we all enjoyed a superb lunch at a restaurant in the town on a beautiful day which brought out all the crowds, before moving on to Burgh le Marsh. This was a very enjoyable experience being able to ring in this magnificent church, St Peter's and St Paul's, the ring of eight bells being superb, once mastered. Moving on to Alford, this is a well maintained and appointed church and the bells were extremely good. Access is by a circular tower leading to a light and airy chamber in which we all enjoyed the moderately light ring of six bells. The culmination of the day was well completed by an enjoyable evening meal in the town of Alford and a good journey back to Barton.

Many thanks to our organiser Mr Geoffrey Bryant for his efforts in arranging all these rings which helps to reinforce and extend the knowledge and experience of the group. The trip was attended by 10 ringers members and we were favoured by the weather and in general the road traffic levels on the day.

## St. Mary's Ladies' Group

May 21st 2008 **A Journey Through Watercolours.**

Mrs. Marsden immediately, burst forward. one may evening with her colourful personality and attractive appearance with examples of her water-colours. Known in some circles as 'The Butterfly Lady' with her penchant, early on in her career, for painting butterflies, she still includes a butterfly as a signature on her paintings.

Mrs Marsden lives in Tickhill near Doncaster and has painted since childhood with one of her daughters already a Graphic Designer. She originally started with pen-and- ink drawings of birds, and later took lessons in water-colour painting. Mrs. Marsden had many examples of her work on display and passed around examples. There were Plants for sale and members had another enjoyable evening.

June 4th. **Trip to the George Smith Gardens.**

On a beautiful June morning, after a previous day of torrential rain, the members of the group made their way by coach to a shopping outlet outside York. After a morning shopping, a light lunch, then with great expectations we made our way to the George Smith Gardens in Heslington.



The manor house in Heslington is situated 2 miles south of York, and is the home of George Smith, the internationally famous flower arrangement artist/horticulturalist and Brian Withill. Members were greeted by George Smith & given a timetable for the afternoon. This included time to enjoy the Manor house & the glorious Gardens with a reviving cup of tea followed by a slide talk in the "Old Granary Studio". A raffle was drawn in the morning on the coach, the winners being Mary Nowell, Jean Atkinson & Mary Searl

Another successful & enjoyable trip for the members of the St Mary's Ladies Group.

## Mothers' Union Notes.

The meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> was opened with prayers by Brenda Skinner (Elinor being away on holiday) who then welcomed Viv Rowett who was to lead us in our "Quiet Afternoon". The theme being "Hope - Making a dream reality." Viv chose the passage from Amos chapter 9 verses 11-15, this was read by Val Dukes. The words in this reading remind us of our own hopes, in which we place a lot of effort trying to make our dreams a reality. No effort is wasted, no matter how incomplete and unsuccessful we feel. We should give thanks to God for the love we have given and received in the course of these efforts. Our hopes can be summed up by an object we have that brings precious memories to mind of good things and people in our lives. Everyone then spent twenty minutes of personal quiet study and prayer on this bible reading, a favourite hymn and praying for people without hope. Viv then read the theme "Thy Kingdom Come" by Michael Ramsey. We ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and a closing prayer.

Val Dukes gave a vote of thanks to Viv for a very thought provoking and spiritual afternoon.

*Coming up:*

July 2nd: Corporate Holy Communion. We will be admitting three (or perhaps even four!) new members. Please bring your own books (*editor's note - David's never done this before!! Be warned!!*)

July 5th: Garden Party, 2 pm in the Vicarage Garden. Please bring something to go in the hamper to raffle.

July 16th. Our speaker will be Mrs Margaret Smith, our Diocesan President. Deanery members have been invited, and there will be a faith tea. Flowers for July - Joyce Gibson & Janet Petch.

*Elinor Cartwright.*

## Confirmation.

With any luck, we should be able to find a confirmation fairly close by in early autumn - so any further expressions of interest should be shoved in David's direction.

**Striking competition** held by the Northern branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Bellringers at All Saints, Goxhill on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> June. There were seven teams in the contest, Grimsby, Middle Rasen, Market Rasen, Joint Caistor/Grasby and Barrow on Humber, together with our two teams.

Barton is fortunate to be able to field two teams, which shows the marked increase in interest and activity within the past few years, Barton 'A' rang in the 'Minor' contest, and comprised A Bennett, A Lord, R Lord, L Bromfield, L Howden and R Kitching, and in this event they came sixth. Barton 'B' which rang in the 'call changes', contest comprised, J Lord, R Lennon, G Bryant, N Jacques, D Young and H Guggiari, and in this event they came second. On completion a splendid supper was provided by the host church bell ringers of Goxhill and the evening event was well enjoyed by all.

A quarter peal was rung on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, at St Mary's tower for the benefit of Daniel Young, who has only been a member of the ringing team for a relatively short time, but has progressed to this level. A supporting team was made up of A Lord, G Bryant, L Howden, R Lord and R Kitching to complete the six members required to assist Daniel on his first attend at a quarter. This requires that 1260 changes are made during the ringing of the method of 'Bob Minor' to undertake the quarter peal, and which generally takes all of 45 minutes, no mean feat at all. Congratulations to Daniel.

*D Kitching, Publicity, Barton upon Humber St Mary's Bell Ringers*

## Us Churches Join To Condemn Torture.

A group including Evangelical, Baptist, Catholic, and Other Religious Leaders, six former Secretaries of State for Defence, and top officials from every US administration since the Vietnam war, are today calling on the US President to issue an executive order banning torture. The broad bipartisan coalition have issued a statement, saying that such a ban would improve national security and 'recommit America to its values'.

Their call coincides with ongoing debate over the treatment of prisoners and comes on the heels of a Supreme Court decision upholding the right of habeas corpus for detainees at the Guantánamo Bay detention facility. It also comes after Amnesty International accused European governments of complicity and inaction over US-led rendition and secret detention, and the day before the UN's International Day in Support of Torture Victims.

## Giles Fraser: Thought For The Day

*The following was broadcast on Radio 4 Wednesday June 18th.*

A few weeks ago, two Anglican clergymen celebrated their civil partnership at a service in a famous London church. Newspapers last weekend called it a gay wedding. A number of friends of mine were at the service and told of a happy and wonderful occasion. But there are those who have been deeply upset; people who would quote scripture to argue that it threatens the very fabric of marriage itself.

So what, then, is the Church of England's theology of marriage?

Back in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, as the Book of Common Prayer was being put together, marriage was said to be for three purposes:

*First, It was ordained for the procreation of children ...*

*Secondly, It was ordained for a remedy against sin, and to avoid fornication ..*

*Thirdly, It was ordained for the mutual society, help, and comfort, that the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and adversity.*

How do these three concerns relate to the prospect of gay marriage?

The third priority insists that marriage is designed to bring human beings into loving and supportive relationships. Surely no one can deny that homosexual men and women are in as much need of loving and supportive relationships as anybody else. And equally deserving of them too. This one seems pretty clear.

The second priority relates to the encouragement of monogamy. The Archbishop of Canterbury himself has rightly recognised that celibacy is a vocation to which many gay people are simply not called. Which is why, it strikes me, the church ought to be offering gay people a basis for monogamous relationships that are permanent, faithful and stable.

So that leaves the whole question of procreation. And clearly a gay couple cannot make babies biologically. But then neither can those who marry much later in life. Many couples, for a whole range of reasons, find they cannot conceive children – or, simply, don't choose to. Is marriage to be denied them? Of course not.

For these reasons - and also after contraception became fully accepted in the Church of England – the modern marriage service shifted the

## Indigenous Peoples Receive Support From The Church



Backed by Catholic aid agency CAFOD, two indigenous indians from Brazil have arrived in London to make an urgent plea to members of parliament for help to save their Amazon forest home. Jacir José de Souza and Pierlângela Nascimento da Cunha, who are from the Makuxi and Wapixana tribes, also hope to meet Pope Benedict XVI as they tour Europe in a bid to save their ancestral lands, which are under threat from large-scale farmers.

For decades the Makuxi and Wapixana tribes, along with three other native peoples, have called on the Brazilian government to protect their territory, known as Raposa Serra do Sol, which is in the state of Roraima in the north of the country. The Brazilian president, Luis Inácia da Silva, known popularly as Lula, granted official recognition to the Indian communities' ownership of the territory in 2005. But a group of powerful landowners, who occupy a significant part of it, refuse to leave the area.

The Roraima State government supports the farmers, and is petitioning the Brazilian Supreme Court to give them a large piece of the Indians' land. In recent months, the tribes have come under attack from farmers who have shot and wounded people, burned bridges and thrown a bomb into one of the communities. CAFOD, the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development, an agency of the Catholic bishops in England and Wales, has been supporting indigenous groups in the Roraima region for many years. It is helping to fund this visit to the UK. The aid agency works in partnership with the local diocese and the Indigenous Council of Roraima (CIR) which Jacir founded, to help indigenous groups secure the right to live on their traditional land.

## Book To Challenge Anglican Wrangling.

Anglican wrangling about sexuality and authority in the church is missing the big picture about how the relationship between religion and society is changing, says a new book from the think tank Ekklesia to be published next week. Christians need to be beacons of hope, not signs of decay, it argues, suggesting that the 'conservative versus liberal' stereotype disguises a deeper tension between establishment religion and the Christian message of radical transformation.



"Many Christians and other onlookers are completely baffled by the nasty arguments within Anglicanism right now", explains Simon Barrow. "These rows are missing four key ingredients - an understanding that 'top-down' models of the church are dying, that the world needs examples of reconciliation and peacemaking rather than animosity, that many want to affirm gay Christians on deeply traditional grounds, and that disagreement without courtesy and love is destroying the credibility of the church's message."

"Even the most cursory glance at the historical engagement of churches in public life shows that the love of enemies, forgiveness, hospitality, repentance, social equality and 'turning the other cheek' urged by the founder of the Christian faith has often been embarrassingly conspicuous by its absence", says Ekklesia co-director Jonathan Bartley.

With a preface by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, who declares, "in God's family, there are no outsiders, no enemies", *Fear or Freedom? Why a warring church must change*, is edited by Ekklesia co- director Simon Barrow. The book contains essays by clergy, a peace activist, an equalities adviser and two New Testament professors. It is aimed at substantially challenging the argument that will take place at the Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops in July.



emphasis away from procreation. The weight in today's wedding liturgy is on the creation of loving and stable relationships. For me, this is something in which gay Christians have a perfect right to participate.

I know many people of good will are bound to disagree with me on this. But gay marriage isn't about culture wars or church politics; it's fundamentally about one person loving another. The fact that two gay men have proclaimed this love in the presence of God, before friends and family and in the context of prayerful reflection is something I believe the church should welcome. It's not as if there's so much real love in the world that we can afford to be dismissive of what little we do find. Which is why my view is we ought to celebrate real love however and wherever we find it.

©Giles Fraser 2008. [www.bbc.co.uk/radio4](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4)

## Kathy's Ordination

This will be in St. Mary's on September 28th at 10.30 and will be followed by a faith lunch.

Kathy and David will be moving in to 82 West Acridge sometime this month. Do remember that until the end of September she's *NOT* on duty (though I'm sure that she'd welcome unexpected welcomings to the parish, especially if they're bottle-shaped).

And - to avoid confusion - Kathy being one of those bright young modern things (well, she is two years younger than either of the Vicarage occupants), she hasn't taken her husband's surname: you *COULD* try calling David 'Mr Colwell', but I think he'd probably walk on about five paces before he realised you were talking to him. So it's Kathy *Colwell*, but David *Redrobe*.

Meanwhile, if you do bump into them as they transfer operations from Louth to here, do make them welcome.



## July Diary

Tues. 1 7.30 pm Servers' Guild service.  
Wed. 2 9.30 am Said Eucharist (MU Corporate & admission of new members)

**July 5 2-4pm Garden Party in the Vicarage Garden.**

**July 6 7 after Trinity**  
**8.00 am Said Eucharist.**  
**9.30 am Parish Communion.**  
**6.00 pm Choral Evensong for Barton Arts Week.**

Mon. 7 10.15 am Toddler Time.

Tues. 8 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.

Wed. 9 9.30 am Said Eucharist

**July 13th 8 after Trinity**  
**8.00 am Said Eucharist.**  
**9.30 am Parish Eucharist.**  
**4.00 pm Evening Prayer & Baptisms.**

Mon.14 10.15 am Toddler Time.  
2.00 pm Standing Committee at the Vicarage.

Tues. 15 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.

Wed. 16 9.30 am Said Eucharist.  
7.30 pm Mission Committee meets at 77 Bowmandale

**July 20th 9 after Trinity**  
**8.00 am Said Eucharist.**  
*8.30 am Prayer Breakfast at the Salvation Army.*  
**10.00 am Family Worship & Baptisms.**  
**6.00 pm Parish Eucharist.**

Mon. 21 10.15 am Toddler Time.  
Home Communion (St. Peter's Court, Victoria House).

Tues. 22 7.00 pm Said Eucharist for wholeness & healing.

Wed. 23 9.30 am Said Eucharist.  
7.15 pm Ministry Team meets at the Vicarage.

Thurs. 24 Home Communion

**July 27th 10 after Trinity**  
**8.00 am Said Eucharist.**  
**9.30 am Parish Eucharist.**  
**4.00 pm. E1W Barbeque in the Vicarage Garden - theme 'the 1960's/70's'**

Mon. 28 10.15 am Toddler Time  
7.00 pm Said Eucharist.  
7.30 pm PCC meeting.

Tue. 29 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.

7.30 pm Churches Together meet at St. Augustine's.

Wed. 30 9.30 am Said Eucharist.

Please note that there will be no Sunday evening worship at St. Mary's after July 20<sup>th</sup> until September 7<sup>th</sup> (Choral Evensong for the Patronal Festival) and the next Tuesday evening Eucharist after July 29<sup>th</sup> will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

## From the Registers.

### Baptisms.

June 8 **Hayden Thomas Green**, son of **Sarah Louise & Simon Kelvin Green.**

June 15 **Lucy Natasha Walton**, daughter of **Natasha Jenny Vickers & Mark James Walton.**

### Marriages.

June 7 **Andrew Paul Muller & Rachel Mary Woodforth.**

### Funerals.

June 5 **Michael John Hillman.**

June 6 **James Duthie White.**

June 6 **Rosalie Maud Lawtey**

June 10 **Wasy (known as Basil) Tataryn.**

June 12 **John Edward Dove.**

## Memorial Flowers

Donations have been received for Church flowers in loving memory of:-

Baby Daniel Chapman Parmar  
Denys Field  
Walter Paul  
Arthur Grindell

These donations are gratefully received.

*Shirley*

