

Why are we waiting? (sung to “*Adeste fideles*” – O come all ye faithful)

It is unfashionable nowadays to **wait**. No-one wants to wait in a queue; no-one wants to wait and save up; people often don't even want to “wait and see”. We live in a throw-away society. Those of a generation even older than I am learned through bitter experience not to waste things – time, money, food. That generation also would **mend** things; they would darn socks, put patches on the elbows of jackets, repair machinery and make ever imaginative meals with very little.

Today it is always “I want it, and I want it **now**”. We buy things on the internet to save queuing; we purchase things with “0% finance and start paying next year” – we **still** however have to pay for it in the end. I would love to hear the following from a youngster but I doubt whether I ever will: “Mum and Dad – please don't buy me that expensive present for Christmas; I'll save up for it and buy it when I've enough money”. We can't **wait**.

This period of Advent is one of waiting – waiting for the birth of Jesus and a preparation for the second coming of the Messiah. The early Christians expected Jesus to come again in their lifetime and 2000 years later we are still waiting. Besides, will we recognise him when he **does** come again? What would he make of our world? Would he be treated like many others who don't conform to the recognised norm? What will he find us doing? “Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day or the hour” (Matthew 25:13). Let's use this period of preparation wisely and learn the art of waiting.

A very Happy Christmas to you all – when it comes!

Alan.

Copy for the January edition of Parish News must be with the Editors by December 15th. Thank you.



SERVICES FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

- ✓ **SUN 4TH DEC: 6.00 PM BIG SING AT TRINITY**
- ✓ **SUN 11TH DEC: 4.00PM TREE OF LIGHTS SERVICE**
- ✓ **SUN 18TH DEC: 4.00PM CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**
- ✓ **SAT 24TH DEC: 6.30PM CAROL SERVICE**
- ✓ **11.30PM MIDNIGHT MASS**
- ✓ **SUN 25TH DEC: 8.00AM SHEPHERDS' MASS**
- ✓ **9.30AM FAMILY EUCHARIST**
- ✓ **SUN 1ST JAN: 10.00AM JOINT SERVICE AT TRINITY**
- ✓ **4.00PM UNITED CAROLS AT ST.**

AUGUSTINE'S

WE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO SEE YOU AT ANY OF THESE SERVICES. THE CLERGY, CHURCHWARDENS AND PCC WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL AND BLESSED NEW YEAR.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2011

On behalf of the Samaritan's Purse charity, I should like to thank all the readers of this magazine for the wonderful total of 167 boxes that were sent off from St. Mary's Church on Monday 7th November. I hope you will also pass on the thanks of the organisation to those of your friends, who have heard through you about the annual campaign and who decided to join in.

I know that members of St. Mary's Ladies Group were encouraged to extra efforts this year by an inspiring talk by two members of the area coordinating group and I hope that you will keep up the efforts, if you can, in future years.

We were aided by the fact that Amy Dubois, in spite of having told me last year she could no longer cope with the necessary effort to fill as many boxes as she had done formerly, found herself unable to resist "temptation" and contributed 32 boxes – exactly the same number as she filled last year!

After the collectors had loaded our boxes on the 7th, they went on to collect at St. Peter's School, the Salvation Army Citadel and the Barton Evangelical Church. At some point, they told me, they would also be collecting from Baysgarth School and they had already arranged a date to collect in Barrow.

Sadly, the collectors could not give me any up-to-date information about the Faeroe Islands. I remain fascinated by the fact that a group of Danish islands sends its shoeboxes into Grimsby to be sorted there for distribution to the recipient countries.

Some of you will hear by email where your boxes finally "land", but I suspect that boxes from Northern Europe are most likely to go to the poorest communities in Eastern Europe.

Anyway, many, many thanks for all your efforts! Meet with you again next year?

Rosemary Lamert

[Continued thanks to Rosemary for her hard work for the "Shoe Box" appeal. Eds]

THE CHRISTMAS POST TABLE!

Last month, the editor of Parish News suggested that people should pin up one card in Church addressed to all those they would see regularly. That is a very reasonable idea of course.

I should like to make another plea – to those who want to send individual cards. The plea is on behalf of domestic harmony in my home and in that of the other people who, like me, have a touch of obsessive compulsive disorder and cannot pass the card table in December without an overwhelming urge to sort scattered cards, or cards just laid, unsorted, anywhere on the table. Some of you have heard a plaintive (or cross) comment from my other half "I need to get dinner". I wonder whether the culprits could take pity this year and place cards on the table in front of the first letter of the intended recipient's surname. It would be such a kind gesture!

Rosemary Lamert

A Christmas Message from The Bishop of Lincoln

It is always salutary that Christmas Day is immediately followed by a series of saints' days, which in a spiritual sense 'sober us up' from the excesses of Christmas.

On Boxing Day, we have the story of the death of the Church's first martyr, St Stephen; and then a few days later we shall focus on the death of the Holy Innocents - those children murdered by Herod in an attempt to kill the infant Messiah - and then after that we shall be remembering the great English saint, Thomas a Becket who was murdered by the King's men on the steps of the altar of his cathedral Church at Canterbury in 1170.

What do we learn from this?

We learn that the joy of the birth of the infant Jesus leads inexorably to suffering and death: his own suffering and death and the suffering and death of those who follow him.

The great Welsh poet and priest, R. S. Thomas, makes this point in his poem, 'The Coming'. In this poem the Son of God, standing outside human time with his heavenly Father, looks down on the earth - an earth which is deeply unhappy and dysfunctional - and the Son sees his own death:

And God held in his hand
A small globe. Look, he said.
The son looked. Far off,
As through water, he saw
A scorched land of fierce
Colour. The light burned
There; crusted buildings
Cast their shadows; a bright
Serpent, a river
Uncoiled itself, radiant
With slime.
On a bare
Hill a bare tree saddened
The sky. Many people
Held out their thin arms
To it, as though waiting
For a vanished April
To return to its crossed
Boughs. The son watched
Them. Let me go there, he said.

Let me unpack this:

At home we have two sets of Russian dolls - you know the sort, the ones that begin with a big outer doll, and inside there is another doll that is slightly smaller and inside that, another one and so on until you finally reach one tiny whole doll, which somehow is the essence of all the others. Picked up on a couple of trips to Russia, the first one was a traditional babushka, with lots of smaller ones inside it.

Then (presumably manufactured for the tourists) there was one of Russian heads of state – it began with Mr Putin, went through Yeltsin, Gorbachev, Andropov, Brezhnev, Khrushchev, Stalin, Lenin and so on

– the last one was a small whole doll of Tsar Peter the Great. I suppose this made the point that in the end these Russian leaders are all the same. If we made a Russian doll for Christmas, it could make the point that at Christmas many of us begin with what is superficial, but have the opportunity to go deeper. We would begin with the outer doll. This depicts what we might call the yuletide feast.

By this I mean all the secular celebrations - many of these originate more from the winter solstice than the birth of Jesus - the parties, the time off the work, the need to celebrate the beginning of a new year and so on. These are not bad things and I can't imagine the winter without the Christmas and New Year break. It would be long and dark and depressing – but surely there is more to it than this . . .

The first doll is decorated with a scene of jolly revellers.

This second doll might depict might call the 'magic of Christmas for children.' Many people see Christmas as being primarily for the kids and at this level we have the stories of Santa Claus, his reindeers and elf helpers and of course, the excitement of waking early on Christmas morning to discover what gifts have been left. We remember the excitement of our own childhood and, if we are parents or grandparents, we see it again in the younger generations. Again, this is a good thing in itself and to be enjoyed. Doll Two depicts a scene of excited children opening their Christmas presents early on Christmas morning.

We come to a third doll and another layer of truth.

Here we find the Christmas stories from the Bible. These stories are so much part of Christmas for many: angels and shepherds, wise men, stables, and donkeys and, of course, a baby asleep in a manger: all the imagery that we see in nativity plays and sing about in Christmas carols. Doll Three would depict the holy family in Bethlehem.

Is that the final doll or are there further smaller dolls inside? Well I think there is at least one more because behind the scene at Bethlehem, there could be another doll that depicts the whole of

Jesus' life, culminating in his death and his resurrection. The angels and shepherds only make sense for a Christian because Jesus rose from the dead. The events surrounding the beginning of the life of Jesus only fall into place because of what happened at the end. Christians begin with the resurrection, because angels sang at Jesus' birth because he was raised from the dead.

So for Doll Four we could have a depiction of Jesus on the cross or a scene of the empty tomb.

Is that it or is there one more?

Well, yes. When we look at the Son of Man who lived and died for us, we see someone who points beyond himself to his heavenly Father; to God himself and his love for the world. And here we come to it - the small doll, whole in itself, at the heart of all the larger dolls of Christmas - and this final doll, complete in itself, depicts the love of God for his world.

This is the kernel of Christmas.

So here we have our Christian Russian doll - jolly revellers painted on the first one, excited children opening their gifts on the next, the baby Jesus on the next, then the grown up Jesus on the cross and finally, the love of God on the last one.

But how would I portray something as abstract as the love of God?

We all might have our own ideas about that, but perhaps I could offer as an example from another English saint, Dame Julian of Norwich, who depicted the whole of creation – created, sustained and redeemed by the love of God – through a small and perfect hazelnut. Speaking of one her miraculous visions she said this:

'In this vision he showed me a little thing, the size of a hazelnut, and it was round as a ball. I looked at it with the eye of my understanding and thought, "What may this be?" And it was generally

answered thus: "It is all that is made." I marvelled how it might last, for it seemed it might suddenly have sunk into nothing because of its littleness. And I was answered in my understanding: "It lasts and ever shall, because God loves it."

So there we have it – we move from the jolly but superficial partygoers looking for a break in the dark winter to the profound truth of that final, small doll depicting God's love – surprising, gracious and compassionate.

This is the essence of Christmas; it's up to us how deep we want to go.

My wife Susan and I send each and every one of you our good wishes for a peaceful Christmastide and a very happy New Year.

+Christopher Lincoln:



PRESENTATION

31st October 2011, St.Mary's Church, Barton.

by Iain Drysdale, Julie & Tony Gillon of Scunthorpe Baptist Church

Approximately 50+ people were present from churches, chapels, community groups and individuals.

Iain Drysdale began by giving us a “potted” history and flavour of Foodbank nationwide.

Around 135 Foodbanks now exist across the UK. It is anticipated that by next year between 85 and 90 thousand people will have been helped, whilst the current total is 60,000. Foodbank exists to provide short-term solutions to people in crisis. An unexpected bill may force a family to prioritise their budget e.g. the bread winner of the family may need an urgent repair on a car to ensure he can stay in employment, or a vital benefit payment may be delayed.

Across the UK 18 million people live in poverty, averaging a debt of £8,950 per household. North Lincs’ target for children/young people has been set for 15%, which unemployment in North Lincs is at 4.9%.

Iain went on to explain how Foodbank started in Salisbury with the Trussell Trust in 2000, and showed a video of the development of foodbanks throughout the country since then, particularly in the last 2 years. A presentation on the local situation followed.

Scunthorpe Foodbank was approved by Scunthorpe Baptist Church in 2009, and opened its doors in July 2010. Since then, they have collected 14.2 tonnes and 12.1 tonnes distributed. 1,620 people have been fed by 21st October 2010, comprising 659 children and 961 adults, including almost 60 families from the Barton area.

Prior to opening in July 2010, Scunthorpe Foodbank formed a management group, identified and rented a warehouse, and began supermarket food collections.

In recent months, there has been extensive coverage on “Look North”, “Calendar News”, BBC Radio Humberside, the Scunthorpe Telegraph and nationally with the Trussell Trust.

How it works

- Food is collected
- Food is stored
- Food is packed
- Clients identified
- Food distributed

Food Collections

Food and sometimes cash are collected from:-

- Individuals
- Schools/colleges
- Community Groups
- Churches
- Shoppers in supermarkets

Food collections in supermarkets vary, according to what is in the warehouse. A list is offered to shoppers on entry to choose one or more items.

Food Storage and Packing

- Food is taken to the warehouse
- It is weighed and sorted by “best before” date
- Bags are then packed for single people, couples, families or large families according to prescribed lists. Such lists include non-perishable goods-tins of meat, vegetables, desserts or similar dried packets of soups etc. long-life milk
- Supermarkets are informed of the amount collected.

Foodbank Clients

- Clients are NOT assessed by the Foodbank
- Clients are assessed by our partners
- Clients are normally those in short term crisis (financial, domestic, health, etc)
- Foodbank does not support lifestyle choices

Foodbank Partners

Foodbank works with a number of partners who are in close contact with their clients and are able to assess their needs.

If a client is in need the agency issues them with a voucher to be redeemed from one of the distribution centres which gives them sufficient food for 3 days (10 meals).

Partner agencies

These include such services, though not necessarily, as:-

- Hostels and refuges
- Link Offices
- Job Centres
- Health Visitors
- Mental Health care
- Citizens' Advice Bureaux

Barton will develop its own agencies in due time.

Foodbank Distribution

Scunthorpe has 2 distribution locations and is open 3 afternoons a week.

Barton is currently negotiating venues

- On arrival clients are greeted and offered light refreshments
- They are given the chance to talk to someone in confidence about any issue.
- Clients are never judged regardless of their background or lifestyle.
- Prayer is offered but not forced on them.
- Their voucher is redeemed for sufficient food for 10 meals for the number of people listed on the voucher.

Barton Foodbank - current situation

- Initially part of Scunthorpe
- Initially asked to assist with food collections and to organise fundraising
- Need to identify distribution centre (in progress)
- Need to identify new sources of food (in progress)
- Need to identify storage facility/warehouse (in progress).

Need to identify key people

- Food collection co-ordinator (transport)
- Food storage co-ordinator
- Food distribution co-ordinator

- Partner agencies co-ordinator
- Financial support/fundraising

Volunteers

- Volunteers for food collection, transportation, packing and storage can be drawn from all parts of the community.
- Distribution Team must have a current CRB through their church. This can be arranged.

Sponsoring Foodbank

Although Foodbank is run by volunteers it still costs around £5,000 per annum (this is the Scunthorpe figure) to operate. Most of the cost in Scunthorpe is the rental and warehouse costs.

Foodbank looks for business partners who would like to contribute to these costs and have their brand name associated with the Foodbank. Similarly, some organisations may wish to help in this way.

Please contact Margaret Sidell for more information on 01652 632512 or margaret.sidell@btinternet.com

Proposed extent of the Barton Foodbank

It is intended to cover as far as the Killingholmes to the east, Worlaby to the south and Winterton and Winteringham to the east. All schools, chapels, churches and many community groups and individuals have already been contacted in the area. Other parts of North Lincolnshire are covered by the Scunthorpe Foodbank.

St. Mary's Church will have a collection bin at the back of the church on Monday and Wednesday mornings, and all day Sunday. The bin will be sited by the boards next to the choir vestry, and will have the Foodbank logo on it. It will be collected on a regular basis, in the hopes that various groups attending the church will feel able to drop in the occasional tin or dried foodstuff. Other churches are beginning to do this also.

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

Sheila welcomed everyone to our meeting, we then sang "Teach me my God and King" followed by a reading of Proverbs 31 by Val Dukes, Prayers from Sheila and notices. The subject of our speakers today was the history behind the stained glass window in St Mary's dedicated to Ann Tinn, "The good and capable wife", Proverbs 31 verses 10 to 31. Sheila Holt and Viv Rowett had made a thorough research into Ann Tinn's life and Gordon Plumb researched the making of the window. Sheila started her search after seeing a name in our visitor's book, Debbie Simpson, a descendant of Ann Tinn, although Debbie turned out to be, more accurately, a descendant of George Tinn, Ann's husband. Sheila said she had always been interested and intrigued in the lives of people from the past right from being a child. Ann was born in Barton in 1794 to William and Martha Hudson who lived in the High Street. There is a memorial slab on the floor of Trinity Chapel, not far from the stained glass window, inscribed with their names along with very faintly the name Tinn (hopefully Ann's name but this could warrant further investigation! Ann was a "woman of substance" being well off financially having inherited several properties which gave an income of over £1500 (approx. £200,000 today). These included a shop, a lead mine, plots of land, a row of cottages and a brickyard. She married George Tinn in 1828, this being a condition in her brother's will so she could inherit. George was a qualified doctor/dentist. Sadly after 35 years of marriage they officially separated. Ann was able to keep the surname Tinn and also an income of £1,566 per year. Ann died in 1866 but the memorial window was later installed in 1887, 21 years after her death. George lived to be over 86 years old and was still alive in 1883.

A quote from Debbie Simpson (George Tinn's descendant) says: - "I believe Ann to have been a strong, independent woman who was very caring and protective of her family. In return she was well loved, adored by her nieces and highly respected. I believe she believed in women's' rights and was ahead of her time. I wish I could produce evidence to back this up but unfortunately it is only an impression left on my mind from reading the archives."

Viv was unable to be at the meeting so Gordon read out her notes. Viv's interest in the window began when she and David first came to

Barton. Viv being an Old Testament scholar was very excited to see the window depicting "the worthy woman" of Proverbs 31. Viv says "To a teacher of the Old Testament and a textile enthusiast the window symbolises the existence of kindred spirits in this place, and she was not disappointed." The window seems to speak of at least three women, although it was dedicated to the memory of Ann Tinn. Reading the book of Proverbs seems to speak to the reader of advice in the very important matter of choosing a wife, with warnings of not choosing one that would lead you astray!! The description of the good woman is like a superwoman, too good to be true! The capable wife is a translation from a Hebrew phrase, not easily translated into English. The same words are used by Boaz of his wife-to-be Ruth, a woman of strength and valour. The passage seems to portray a woman of wisdom, and good qualities, no individual woman could hope to have all of them. It also shows an improvement of a woman's value. This memorial window led to the making of the altar frontal depicting different verses of Proverbs, the squares being made by members and friends of St Mary's. The M.U. collectively could be said to be that worthy woman in the church, this part of the church being used for their monthly Corporate Eucharist. Proverbs 31 has often been read out at the funerals of women who have given themselves to the service of the church and community. Viv's notes went on to explain why the squares on the altar frontal are off centre. This is not a mistake but to imply that the work of the bible is not finished, that it needs us to weave ourselves into it and to be part of the ongoing community that chooses to read and find a stimulus to think about what it is to follow God.

Gordon went on to explain about the making of the window in 1887, highlighting the depth of colours, especially violet and purple, there being four or five different shades. Gordon showed pictures of the window explaining about the individual panels and their details e.g. the bale of cloth as in proverbs 31, the good woman giving to the needy, to the household and the maidens. The window was designed by James Fowler of Louth and painted by Daniel Bell. Despite vast research the actual maker is not known. The face of Ann Tinn is often compared to that of the Virgin Mary; the face of Ann Tinn echoes that of Mary in other windows. During research into the history of St Peter's Church, James Fowler was said to be an expert in Victorian

stained glass. Gordon gave an extensive record of the history of Daniel Bell's work on stained glass and gave examples of places where his work could be found. Towards the end of his career Daniel painted mainly frescos and tiles.

Val thanked Sheila, Viv and Gordon for a "Fantastic Presentation" of part of our church's heritage.

"We are very lucky to have such an interesting window containing so much history!"

Brenda Skinner

Dec 7th 9.30am Corporate Communion Reader Val Dukes

Dec 21st 2pm Christmas Carols and Readings

Flower Rota

Dec 25th CHRISTMAS DAY Elinor Cartwright

Please note Annual Subscriptions of £19 will be due at our 2012 January Meeting. Thank you.

CAROL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTIAL HOMES AND SHELTERED ACCOMODATION THROUGH DECEMBER

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Eagle House | Wednesday 7 th December at 2pm |
| Westbridge House | Thursday 8 th December at 2-30pm |
| Day Centre, Tofts Road | Friday 9 th December at 11am |
| Victoria House | Monday 12 th December at 7-00pm |
| St. Peter's Court | Tuesday 13 th December at 2-30pm |
| Beech House | Wednesday 14 th December at 2-00pm |
| The Willows | Monday 19 th December at 6-30pm |
| | Sunday 4 th December at 2-30pm usual |

service.

Voices to help the singing at these services would be much appreciated.

GREY CABBAGE AND LUMPY CUSTARD

What an intriguing invitation to the recent E1W party! However, the cooking was far better than we remembered from our schooldays. We enjoyed cottage pie, liver casserole and sausages, followed by spotted dick, apple crumble and chocolate crunch, served with custard (pink and plain yellow). Even the cabbage was crisp and fresh as were the carrots and peas.

Before we ate we were summoned to sit in rows for our assembly by a sternly gowned and mortar-boarded headmaster (Steve G). After the register was taken, school notices given and some of our uniforms criticised. We sang 'All things bright and beautiful'. The RE teacher (Fr. David) then led the prayers which were somewhat different from the usual style!

Nora, the 'Nit-Nurse' (alias Marion G), did her rounds, but hopefully found nothing untoward. We had quiz papers and sums to complete which were fun. On the floor was a Hop-Scotch grid which some of us attempted after trying to remember the rules. On the wall was a paper blackboard with various scholarly items chalked on which was added to during the evening with humorous contributions from the members of E1W.

Sadly there were not many of us there to enjoy the evening as the event was announced only two weeks beforehand; quite a few would have attended but already had prior engagements. Many thanks to Jenny and her team for the Glorious Food and to Steve and Marion for the 'stage setting'.

Val Dukes

[See pictures – centre pages. Eds]

He didn't like the casserole
And he didn't like my cake,
He said my biscuits were too hard
Not like his mother used to make.

I didn't perk the coffee right
He didn't like the stew,
I didn't mend his socks
The way his mother used to do.

I pondered for an answer
I was looking for a due.
Then I turned around and smacked him one
Like his mother used to do.

[Any similarities between this poem and the article about the meal are purely co-incidental. Eds]

FROM THE REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS:-

Nov. 13 Finlay William LANE son of Nina Ruth OLDRIDGE and
Gareth Richard William LANE

Nov. 20 Aisha Lana EVISON and Lily TUPLIN daughters of
Laura Marie JONES and Karl George TUPLIN
Caycie Jeanne LEES daughter of Claire and
Christian Zack LEES

MARRIAGES:-

Nov. 12 Nathan Matthew WEBB to Stacey Sara TEAR

FUNERALS:-

Oct. 24 Joan BYROM

Oct. 31 Irene GRIMBLEBY

Nov. 1 Hilary Florence ASHTON

Nov. 8 Roy Thomas OLIVER

Nov. 9 Elizabeth OLDRIDGE

Nov. 14 David (Dick) NELTHORPE

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

Lauretta Welch
Stanley Welch
Walter (Bunny) Horne
Timothy Wilson
Charlie Ferguson

THE ROPERY

Distinctive Christmas gifts and cards can be found in the Craft Gallery and Hall-Mark Room at The Ropewalk this month.

In the Craft Gallery there are many ideas for Christmas gifts from cheery, warming scarves and leather bags to silver jewellery and a wide range of contemporary ceramics and glassware while in the Hall-Mark Room with its original prints, sculpture and ceramics.

Don't forget too the Christmas Art Market at The Ropewalk on Saturday, December 3, from 10am to 4pm where more than 25 artists and makers will be selling original handmade gifts, cards and artwork along the length of its corridors.

Admission to the Art Market, as with all The Ropewalk's galleries, is free.

The Ropewalk will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and the Bank Holiday Tuesday and will reopen as normal between Wednesday, December 28 and Saturday December 31. We will be closed on New Year's Day but will be open between 10am and 4pm on Monday, January 2.

St. Mary's Bellringers

The St Mary's bellringers send their congratulations to Andy Bennett on his appointment as Tower Captain after election by the ringers and approval by the PCC.

Andy recently led a "silent" practice using the newly installed simulator. Everyone found it a very different but enjoyable approach to learning but it has to be said that the younger members of the tower generally found it easier than some others amongst us!

A new learner, Robert, is progressing very well since his first lesson during the school summer holiday; he has now reached the stage where he can join in for practice night and service ringing. If anyone would like to learn please do come along to the tower on a Tuesday evening at 19.30 to see what we do!

On Saturday 15th October St Mary's was the host tower for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild 8 bell striking competition. Five of the six Guild branches were represented with four Barton ringers taking part in the band of the Northern Branch which had not competed for some years. The results were as follows:

| | | | |
|----|---------------|---------|------|
| 1. | Central | (30) | |
| 2. | Eastern | (36) | |
| 3. | Southern | (42) | |
| 4. | West | Lindsey | (50) |
| 5. | Northern (60) | | |

A buffet tea was served in the church hall by the Barton ringers and thanks extended to Jenny and Andy Bennett for all their hard work organising it and to all those who were involved helping them by setting up the hall, serving in the kitchen and clearing up. General ringing took place after the competition.

On Saturday 5th November a visiting band of ringers from the Halifax Archdeaconry Guild of Church Bellringers came to ring at St. Mary's.

The bells were rung half muffled for Remembrance Sunday both for morning service and for the Act of Remembrance at 1100.

The following Quarter Peal was rung on Monday 14th November.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild

Barton upon Humber, North Lincs

St Mary

Monday 14 November 2011 (16-3-3)

1344 Lincolnshire S Major

Composed: Graham A C John

- 1 Robert M Wood
- 2 Janet M Clarke
- 3 Geoffrey F Bryant
- 4 Rodney H French
- 5 David Fox
- 6 Robert H Jordan
- 7 Stephen L Clarke
- 8 P Ian Till (C)

40th Wedding anniversary compliment to John and Joan Ketteringham.

The band wish to associate the organiser, John Ketteringham, with this quarter.

Practice Night

Dark, frigid metal and basic mechanics,
How can they create such a beautiful sound?
Housed in stone towers so ancient and sturdy,
High towards heaven, they stare all around.

Silent and lifeless they hang so dejected,
Pigeons and sparrows try to enter their space.
Moonbeams and snowflakes are dancing together;
The clock in the west has a crack in its face.

Feet treading the path and voices that chatter
Mean ringers are coming to practice their art.
Key in the lock and the door creaking open,
Clock ticking above like a slow beating heart.

Steps on the stairway and all are ascending,
The greetings and gossip are heard to resound.

Coats hung on hooks and all stand to the circle,
The secrets of bells they're about to expound.

Ropes hung like snakes pulled to move these great monsters
As gradually they are now raised up to ring.
Bridging the centuries, methods are ready,
Tradition takes over to make the bells sing.

Grandsire and Plain Bob or Stedman then Cambridge,
All may be followed from along the blue line.
Some find it easy but others might struggle,
Practice makes perfect as all skills combine.

Session now over the bells are then lowered,
Once again lifeless and sad with no sound.
Ringers are leaving, lights out and doors locking;
Back to the heartbeat and peace all around.

Joan Barton

ST. MARY'S LADIES' GROUP

Bernard Bale, a local journalist and author gave a talk titled 'You must remember this'- a nostalgic talk bringing to mind things from our childhoods over the last 50 years or so!!! Sayings our parents had - 'Wait till I get you home', 'Don't do that, you'll break your neck!', 'Wait till your father comes home' etc.

Remembering the sweet shop near school (I remember Mr Rowson's next to Clark's Shoe Shop – Jennifer was one of my friends) - sugar mice, sherbet fountains, bootlaces and gobstoppers. Knitted bathing costumes and the dye running - not to mention what happened to them when you got out of the water!! Outside toilets, baths in front of the fire.

Artists such as Vera Lynn, Anne Shelton, The Archers, Billy Cotton, Children's Favourites on the radio. TV interludes including the potter's wheel, The 'Ovaltines'; real plays, 'What's my line? The first advert - S.R. toothpaste and Murray Mints - we could all sing the song!! TV screens like pocket handkerchiefs, some people were posh and had a magnifying glass and colour filter in front of the screen. (I can

remember we got our first TV for the Coronation and neighbours being invited in on that very wet day!) Bands such as the 'Beetles', Dusty Springfield and the fashions - who had a beehive hair style, mini skirt, Beetle jumpers, rode on Lambretta scooters!! And so it went on - an evening spent reminiscing!!

We had our popular Beetle Drive at the beginning of November. Sixty members took part in the game and all that could be heard were the dice landing on the tables in a rush to be first to complete the 'beetle'. I think prizes could have been given for the artwork or indeed for the rare breeds which emerged!!!

Pam Read was the champion scoring 326 out of a possible 468!! Hot dogs were served at the end.

At our last meeting our jam and chutney and second hand books stall raised £81 for the Macmillan Nurses, which is our charity for this year.

Pauline thanked the Ladies for the 75 'Operation Christmas Child' shoe boxes that were brought in and for the bags of miscellaneous craft items for Ellie and Nellie at the warehouse to where all the shoe boxes are delivered.

Thanks must also be given to the members for the 'Scunthorpe Telegraph Coupons' for which we received £91.40. This will go towards the new chairs for the hall and large dispensing flasks for the kitchen. Also for the £142 made on the cake stall at the bazaar. S.W.

[Thanks to the Ladies' Group for purchasing some new chairs for the Hall. Alan]

The Rotary Club of Barton-upon-Humber

invites Barton and District Senior Citizens to a free **Christmas Concert** featuring Barton and District Amateur Operatic Society and Barton Town Band on December 11th at 7.00pm in Baysgarth School Hall (includes refreshments). For Transport Assistance please contact David Witter 632675

Senior Citizens -

On your own on Christmas Day, or having difficulty in preparing your Christmas Dinner?

The Rotary Club can deliver one to your home on Christmas Day. Please contact David Witter 632675 by Saturday 10th December, so that one of our members can contact you beforehand to make delivery arrangements.

Over to You.....

It makes me very sad each Sunday to see the decline in numbers of children in church and the fact that we have had to reduce the Junior Church to once a month. This is a sign of the times! When our three children were 'small' we had three different age groups being taught in the church hall during the service and between 20 to 30 children!

Back in the fifties and sixties, like many other children, I was happy to go to Sunday School –which was in an afternoon. I went to chapel in the morning with my Mother and often, in the evening, accompanied her to other chapels in the circuit where she took the service (sometimes playing the organ and even stoking the boiler as well!!) We even cycled there in good weather.

The Sunday School Superintendent (Miss Ripon) called the register and then we split into Primary, Junior and senior classes using all the available rooms in the Lecture Hall in Holydyke. We followed studies from the Scripture Union with lots of activities. We received prizes for attendance presented at the annual Sunday School Anniversary where various bible readings were done and songs performed to the rest of the congregation – and this merited a new dress for the occasion!

The Christmas party was one of the highlights with tea at a long trestle table, consisting of sausage rolls, fish paste and potted meat sandwiches followed by jelly and Carnation Milk, iced buns (cup cakes!!) all washed down with orange squash.

The main highlight was the Sunday School outing! A bus to Cleethorpes usually driven by Tommy Troop, a picnic on the beach, fun on the rides in Wonderland and going in the outdoor pool. Singing 'Ten Green Bottles' or 'One man went to mow' on the way home, exhausted and happy.

However, Life is different today- both parents work all week and the weekend is a family time with so many activities to choose from and tasks to be caught up with. Now, instead, during the week, we have

children and parents or carers attending Toddler Time (which is thriving at the moment) and teenagers coming to E1W.

And as I heard on the radio the other day – perhaps we should hold services in the Garden Centres!!!! After all Jesus did most of his teaching outdoors.
S.W.

Thank you.....

Our sincere thanks to all the people, and all the Barton shops, who provided prizes for the church raffle at the recent Christmas Bazaar. We raised about £112. With all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.
Zenda and Bill Shakespeare.

WILDERSPIN NATIONAL SCHOOL

Thanks to everyone who has supported the Queen Street School Preservation Trust's continuing work at the School during 2011. We will be closing for over Christmas from 1pm on Saturday 24th December and will re-open from Thursday 5th January.

Since the 2012 South Humber Collection leaflet went to print we revised our winter opening times which are 11am-3pm Thursday – Sunday; Scholars coffee shop will open between 10.30am and 3.30pm. During December why not come along to:

Saturday 10th December

"Fun with Paper" between 10am and 1pm for all the family. £3 including materials.

"Table Top Tots" 10am – 12noon. Hire a table to sell toys and "stuff" for young children and toddlers or come along to buy. £5 per table – book your table on (01652) 635172.

Barton Farmers' Market - Scholars is open for hot and cold refreshments.

Saturday 17th December

"Christmas at Wilderspin" 10am – 12.30pm Drop by for some yuletide fare and music.

Local charities and community organisations are invited to rent a table in the Ward Room adjacent to the Scholars coffee shop most weekends. Please ask at Scholars for details.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Fri 2 nd Dec. | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 3 rd | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 4th Dec. | | Advent 2 | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist |
| | 4.00 pm | | Evening prayer (said) |
| | 6.00 pm | | Big Sing at Trinity Methodist |
| Mon 5 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | 1.30 pm | | Funeral of George Mouncey |
| Wed 7 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist (MU) |
| | 2.00 pm | | Eagle House Carols |
| | 7.30 pm | | Ladies' Group |
| Thurs 8 th | 2.30 pm | | Westbridge House Carols |
| Fri 9 th | 11.00 am | | Tofts Road Day Centre Carols |
| | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 10 th | | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 11th Dec. | | Advent 3 | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist |
| | 11.30 am | | Baptisms |
| | 4.00 pm | | Lindsey Lodge "Tree of Lights" service |
| Mon 12 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | 10.00 am | | Diary meeting (Birchdale) |
| | 7.00 pm | | Victoria House Carols |
| Tues 13 th | 2.30 pm | | St. Peter's Court Carols |
| Wed 14 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 2.00 pm | | Beech House Carols |
| | 7.15 pm | | Ministry meeting (vicarage) |
| Thurs 15 th | PARISH | NEWS | DEADLINE (note earlier date) |
| Fri 16 th | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 17 th | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 18th Dec. | | Advent 4 | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist |
| | 4.00 pm | | Christingle Service |
| Monday 19 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | am | | Home Communion at St. |

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|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| | | | Peter's Court & Victoria House |
| | 6.30 pm | | The Willows Carols |
| Tues 20 th | 10.00 am | | Castledyke School in church |
| | 2.00 pm | | St. Peter's School in church |
| | 7.00 pm | | Said Eucharist |
| Wed 21 st | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 2.00 pm | | Mothers' Union |
| | 7.00 pm | | Choir Practice |
| | 7.30 pm | | Ladies' Group |
| Fri 23 rd | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 24th | | Christmas Eve. | |
| | 6.30 pm | | Carol Service |
| | 11.30 pm | | Midnight Mass |
| Sunday 25th Dec. | | Christmas Day | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Family Eucharist |
| Wed 28th | 9.30 am | Holy Innocents | Said Eucharist |
| Thurs 29 th | Noon | Thomas Becket | Said Eucharist |
| Sunday 1st Jan. | | Circumcision and Naming of Jesus | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 10.00 am | | Joint Service at Trinity Methodist |
| | 4.00 pm | | United Carols at St. Augustine's |



Images from E1W's "School Dinner" evening.

