

“I plough the fields....”

It was one of those chance conversations hanging around in Church, waiting for someone to turn up: “I'm not right happy about this prayer of confession,” said my companion. “It says we've done this, and not done that, and I've not managed to do half of 'em!”

When to say 'I' and when to say 'we'? As the RC Church introduces a new translation of the Mass, there's a big move in it towards 'I'-language, and I remember forty years ago someone complaining that she didn't mind saying the words 'I believe...' in Church, but she couldn't say 'We believe...' because she couldn't be sure that the person standing next to her did!

Obviously there are times when we do need to speak for ourselves – but 'we'-language has its uses. Mrs Thatcher may have claimed famously that there's no such thing as society, but we all probably know better now, and realise that we're part of something a bit bigger than a collection of human ping-pong balls rolling around disconnected in a bucket.

A spot of 'We' rather than 'I' binds us into society, makes us more aware of what others are up to. It can stop us getting priggish and self-righteous – I might not be doing dubious things in the Third World, but there's a good chance that somewhere along the line I'm benefitting from a firm that is. At the other extreme, it stops us getting dragged into isolation and despair as we're tempted to take the woes of the entire world on our own shoulders.

At this time of year, as the harvest rolls in, 'we'-language reminds us that we're all in this together — no-one bats an eyelid at singing 'We plough the fields' even if the nearest we get to bringing in the harvest is a pot of parsley on the windowsill. We're reminded that our continued well-being depends on more than our own earning power and abilities.

Thinking of the human race as 'we', and not as Me v. Them might help us appreciate others more, and they us. And that sort of feeling of responsibility and gratitude towards one another might — just — offer a way forward in what seems to be a worryingly fragmented and suspicious society.

Fr David.

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

- ✓ **SUNDAY 2ND OCT – HARVEST THANKSGIVING**
- ✓ **MONDAY 3RD OCT – HARVEST SUPPER – 7.00 PM**
- ✓ **MONDAY 10TH OCT – KATHY'S LICENSING AT KIRTON IN LINDSEY – 7.30 PM**
- ✓ **SUNDAY 23RD OCT – BIBLE SUNDAY WITH COLLECTION PLATE FOR THE GIDEONS**
- ✓ **SUNDAY 30TH OCT – ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE – 6.00PM**
- ✓ **TUESDAY 1ST NOV – DAVID'S LICENSING AT SAXBY – 7.30 PM**
- ✓ **WEDNESDAY 2ND NOV – ALL SOULS' DAY – 9.30AM – ADD ANY NAMES TO BE REMEMBERED ON LIST AT BACK OF CHURCH**
- ✓ **SUNDAY 6TH NOV – DEADLINE DAY FOR RECEIPT OF SHOE BOXES**
- ✓ **SATURDAY 12TH NOV – BAZAAR FROM 10.00 AM**

STAY-AT-HOME CHRISTMAS?

Are you staying at home for Christmas? Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university? HOST invites you to give Christmas, perhaps for the first time in their life, to someone who is a guest in this country, who would love to experience your way of life and make your stay-at-home Christmas special. HOST will match you with one or two guests to suit your household. More volunteer hosts are urgently needed for 1-3 days at Christmas, and weekends all year round. Please see www.hostuk.org <<http://www.hostuk.org>> or call your local voluntary organiser for a chat: Mandy Talbott 01472 851084.

TO ALL MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

It has been agreed that we should collect the year 2012 subscriptions during NOVEMBER so that the money will be banked in the 2011 financial year. Joyce Gibson will be in the Hall vestibule after the 9.30 service on three dates to receive the money we collect. She will record the sum and issue a receipt straight away. She will also need the list of subscribers at the same time.

We hope this system will work smoothly and help those who organise the financing of the Parish News. Please DO NOT put money in the safe or through anyone's door. If there is a difficulty, contact Joyce to arrange payment.

The Sundays are: NOVEMBER 6th, NOVEMBER 13th and NOVEMBER 27th. The subscription is now £5 for a year.

Many thanks for this valuable work on behalf of our church.

Mike Searle

THE BOOK WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

Rodwell, W with Atkins, C. *St Peter's Church, Barton-on-Humber - A Parish Church and its Community*, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2 (Oxford 2011) £75.

St Peter's church in Barton became redundant in the early 1970s and in 1978 it passed into the hands of the Department of the Environment - now English Heritage. The historical importance of St Peter's - particularly its tower - had been appreciated since the early 19th century so between 1978 and 1984 Warwick Rodwell - without doubt the country's leading church archaeologist - undertook a detailed examination of the whole of the building and excavated most of its interior as well as large areas of the surrounding graveyard. Since then he has also conducted an in-depth survey of St Mary's church and has examined all of the available documentary evidence relating to the history of our town and its two churches.

Since the publication of the report on the human remains found in graves inside and outside St Peter's church, (Waldron, T. *St Peter's church Barton-on-Humber - A Parish and its Community, Volume 2, The Human Remains* (Oxford 2007) £30), the final report on the excavations has been eagerly awaited. The wait has been well worth while for here, in over 900 pages of superb text, drawings and photographs, we have what will surely become the last word on the history of our town and its churches for decades to come.

The text, needless to say minutely researched, is very readable; the drawings, including many in colour, are very informative; and the photographs, mostly taken by the author himself, are of the highest quality.

Rodwell and Atkins' chapter - *The Town of Barton: its Origins and Development* - is particularly revealing in its study of Barton from Anglo-Saxon times up to the present day. What and where were the Castledykes and what was the date and purpose of the great oval enclosure whose remains now surround Tyrwhitt Hall? What can we glean from a study of Barton's entry in the Domesday Book? Where was Barton's castle, who built it and what happened to it? What do we know of the origins of the town's streets and market places? And finally what of Barton from the reign of Elizabeth I to the present day? A fascinating story.

For present readers Chapter 3, *St Mary's Church*, will be particularly interesting. The lack of archaeological evidence does not deter the authors who have studied every aspect of the above-ground building both inside and outside. It goes without saying that not a stone remains unturned in the story of St Peter's Church from its origins to its redundancy.

Weighing in at over 5 kilograms (15lbs) these volumes are not books which can be read comfortably in bed! But rest assured, the efforts of anyone with an interest in the story of our town will be amply repaid in their reading.

Geoff Bryant

AT THE ROPERY

November at Ropery Hall sees music, comedy and theatre and one of the undoubted highlights is “a celebration of the wit and wisdom of Joyce Grenfell” by West End actress Cheryl Knight.

Turn Back the Clock, on Saturday, November 12 starting at 7.30pm, is a vintage revival of one of the greatest female entertainers of the 20th century and Cheryl Knight performs some of Grenfell’s songs and monologues bringing her witty and moving characters to life for a new audience.

The previous evening the award winning Threads Orchestra, which combines some of the UK’s most dynamic jazz and classical musicians, will be on stage. Made up of some of the this country’s most exciting musicians, the Threads Orchestra have been making an impact with their compelling performances and strikingly original brand of music

Tickets for both Threads Orchestra and Turn Back the Clock cost £10 or £12 on the door.

Full details are available now at www.roperyhall.co.uk and in the fourth issue of the Ropewalk Magazine.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS:-

September 11 Samuel Glen HILL son of Gemma Mary and Matthew Lloyd HILL

Harrison Lee and Leah-Rihanna Rose EDEN son and daughter of Sarah Louise STAVES and George Michael EDEN

September 18 Jacob Martyn ARNOLD son of Lauren and Martyn ARNOLD

MARRIAGES:-

September 3 Christopher James STANLEY and Rebecca FALLON

September 23 Lee Michael HESELTINE and Katie Louise WRESSELL

FUNERALS:-

August 22 Lily Victoria BACON

August 24 Nora Eden GADIE

September 1 Constance Mary JONES

September 8 Joy SIMON

September 15 Rosalie Faith CASH

A donation has been received for Church flowers in loving memory of

Bob Griffiths

Jeremy Griffiths

Coming soon.....

..... exciting news about Viv’s activities. Read more next month.

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

On Tuesday September 20th a group of St Mary's Mothers' Union members went to Brigg to join with Brigg members to listen to our Diocesan President Jenni Honisett. The following day at our own meeting at St Mary's we heard Vern Liles speak about Chichester and Winchester Cathedrals. The reports of these meetings will be in the next edition of our Parish News.

B.S.

Oct 5th 9.30am Corporate Communion. Reader Angela Henson

Oct 19th 2.00 pm Viv Rowett, Gordon Plumb and Sheila Holt will speak about the stained glass window in St Mary's dedicated to Ann Tinn. Reader and vote of thanks Val Dukes.

Oct 26th Prayertime: Viv Rowett

Flower Rota

Oct 2nd Janet Petch

Oct 16th Joyce Gibson

Oct 30th Val Dukes

ST. MARY'S BELLRINGERS

The following Quarter Peal was rung In July.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild

Barton-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire

St. Mary

Sunday 31 July 2011 in 52 mins (16cwt)

1344 Plain Bob Major

1 Richard H. Hopper

2 K. Joan Barton

3 Jenny Bennett

4 Linda K. Howden

5 George A. Thompson

6 Daniel Young

7 J. Neville Parkin (C)

8 Andy Bennett

Rung to celebrate Victorian Day held in Barton-upon-Humber.

On Saturday 10th September 12 bellringers representing St. Mary's, Barton travelled to Willingham-by-Stow and Upton to take part in the Lincoln Guild 6 bell Striking Competition. The team of 6 who went to Upton were led by George Thompson and came a very creditable and close run 4th against six other teams from throughout Lincolnshire.

Plate (for all 3rd & 4th placed teams from branch competitions)

1st Bourne 23 points

2nd Epworth 33 points

3rd Market Rasen 77 points

4th Barton 2nd team 78 points

5th Gainsborough 79 points

6th Wragby 112 points

DNF Grantham

Those who rang at Willingham were led by Jenny Bennett and were thrilled to be placed third

Cup (for all 1st & 2nd placed teams from branch competitions)

1st Messingham 12 ½ points

2nd Scotter 17 points

3rd Barton 1st team 21 ½ points

4th Market Deeping 26 points

5th Lincoln Cathedral 31 points

6th Thurlby 33 ½ points

7th Grimsby 54 ½ points

A simulator, financed some time ago by a grant from North Lincolnshire Council, has been installed in the belfry. The apparatus is fairly simple but linked to a computer in the ringing chamber and is a great asset to teaching on any level, but especially so with complete beginners when the repetitive ringing of a single bell can be done without disturbance outside the tower.

On 15th October 2011 St. Mary's, Barton will be the venue for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers 8 bell striking competition for which the local ringers will be providing tea and looking forward to meeting Guild members from other parishes.

The new muffles were used for the first time on 11th September when ringing for the evening service was half muffled in memory of all those who had lost their lives in New York on 11th September 2001.

The Bishop of Grantham writes.....

Dear friends

Unless we've been living a particularly hermitic life of late, we should now be well aware that we are welcoming a new Bishop of Lincoln and are all looking forward to introducing Christopher Lowson to our wonderful County of Lincolnshire. It is a time, at his consecration to the episcopate and subsequently his enthronement here in Lincoln Cathedral, when the Church can be relaxed about being a little triumphalist and we can enjoy the unparalleled acts of worship, the holy ceremonies and the dignified pomp. For the arrival of a new Bishop, nay the inauguration of the fresh ministry of any minister of whatever position, is a time for rejoicing as the old gives way to the new and we begin to be invigorated by what comes next in the life of the Church. It is wonderful that, in a contemporary society supposedly so secular and unconcerned about the things of God, men and women still lay their lives on the altar of service to God and to others through ordination: not just bishops, but priests and deacons and a host of others. For this is the real source of our rejoicing at the inception of a new ministry: that God's love will be revealed in this newly dedicated life. So let's enjoy this time and pause to remind ourselves what it is all about when the Parish Share has been paid, the roof put back on the church building and the church rotas written: 'God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them'.

And what about you and me? There will be those who welcome a new Bishop because they expect an omnipotent, omnipresent prelate who will right all the supposed wrongs of the Church and, within weeks of his arrival, our churches will be full once more and everything will be as we always wished it to be. In our heart of hearts, we all know that this is an unrealistic expectation of any human being and possibly cruel to the recipient of such exaggerated projections. Perhaps more properly, there will be those who warmly welcome a fellow worker for

Christ into the life of a Diocese which has had an ongoing life for many centuries and which seeks to grow into the future. Yes, bringing the best out of its Episcopal leader, but also pledging our own efforts, love and ministry so that the best may be brought out of all us for Christ and his Church.

And what is this 'best' that I speak of. In all his utterances, commands and teachings, Jesus always urged his first disciples to look outwards in love on the world: unconcerned about their needs, it was the healing and service of other lives that brought life and vitality to his Church. And so it is for us today who are now fellow servants with the first disciples. When the narrow needs and issues of the Church are all that concern us, we wither and perish: when we look outward in love and service we thrive.

And perhaps this is the real reason that we rejoice and party at the start of a new Bishop's ministry because, above all, it symbolises the constant outpouring of God's love in His world and the opportunity for the Church, Bishop and people alike, to both receive and show that divine love in their life as his Church together.

Yours in His love,

+Tim

Thank you.....

Shirley and Norman would like to say a BIG THANK YOU for all the lovely cards, cakes, scones and trifle very kindly received over the past few weeks. A particular thank you to the choir for the large box of fruit and the donation for garden tools to save 'bending'.

Finally their sincere gratitude to their very special friends Margot (for being such a good neighbour) and to Janet and Brian who have always made themselves available whenever needed for hospital visits and shopping trips.

BELLS OF BARTON

The journey back was wearying
As darkness gathered 'round,
But finally my feet were fixed
Upon familiar ground.

As I came atop the hill
I heard a welcome sound -
The chiming of the evening bells
Rippled through the town.

From Market Place to Waterside
These ancient bricks and stones
Absorbed the soft vibration -
The comfort of those tones.

I walked the road from Ferriby,
A traveller alone,
Amidst the music of the bells,
Guiding me back home.

(c) SF Brailsford.

Over to you.....

Listening to the radio recently I discovered that this country comes first in the 'moaning' list!! So we are the first nation of 'moaners'.

It doesn't surprise me – we are all guilty of it. We are renowned for not complaining, but putting up with things such as poor quality meals out, poor service from shops or hotels etc. And the place we do the most moaning is in which ever organisations we belong to.

So I found it quite strange last month that no one (bar one) responded to the article in the magazine about the third Sunday morning service

with baptism. Everyone must be either not bothered, happy with it (which I know is not the case from people who have 'moaned' to me), or cannot be bothered to respond. But I can guarantee that those people who didn't give an opinion are the first to moan about the outcome! So come on, everyone has an opinion worth listening to! Don't be a moaner to prove the statistics correct!! S.W.

ST, MARY'S LADIES GROUP

Samaritan's Purse. Shoe Box Appeal

Ellie and Nelly came over from the Grimsby Depot to where all our Shoeboxes are sent In November. 25000 boxes went last year. Ours are some of the best in the country. They go to places such as Russia, Romania and Belarus.

Boxes are checked and things not appropriate are removed e.g. toy guns, chocolate liquids which might leak. Things are added if contents are not enough. Things do not have to be new!

Ellie went out to Shardu in Romania- lots of pictures illustrated the joy the boxes bring to the children some of whom live in appalling conditions. She said it was like stepping back 200 years the facilities and lifestyle they led. Rob and Edith who were missionaries in Egypt decided to go out and live there to help - Rob retired and bought a piece of land to build a youth hostel, gained the trust of the villagers and now teaches the children. She found this a very humbling experience. It was obvious they devote all their time to the shoe box project coming up with super ideas for craft work - making bags out of old ties, video boxes for pencil cases and the endless knitting a lot like our Vera!! (Don't forget Rosemary's Appeal for November)

Brenda Lees, Sylvia Hurd and Vicky Vickers won the raffle. We had so many members present we ran out of chairs so have bought 10 more to ease the seating problem!!!! S.W.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Saturday 1 st Oct. | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| | 12 noon | | Eucharist |
| | 2.00 pm | | Wedding |
| Sunday 2nd Oct. | | Harvest | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Family Eucharist |
| | 2.30 pm | | Service at The Willows |
| | 6.00 pm | | Choral Evensong |
| Mon 3 rd | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | 7.00 pm | | Harvest Supper |
| Tues 4 th | 7.45 pm | | Outreach & Nurture (vestry) |
| Wed 5 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist (MU) + Open door |
| | 2.00 pm | | Harvest Service at St. Peter's Court |
| | 7.30 pm | | Ladies' Group Harvest Supper |
| Thurs. 6 th | 10.30 am | | Clergy meeting (Scunthorpe) |
| | 7.30 pm | | Licensing of Revd. D. Eames at Broughton |
| Fri 7 th | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 8 th | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 9th Oct. | | Trinity 16 | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist + Baptism |
| | 4.00 pm | | Baptisms |
| | 6.00 pm | | Evening Prayer |
| Mon 10 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | 7.30 pm | | Licensing of Revd Kathy Colwell at Kirton |
| Tues 11 th | 7.30 pm | | In depth group (4a, Caistor Road) |
| Wed 12 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist + Open door |
| | 11.00 am | | St. Peter's School in Church |
| | 2.00 pm | | Service at Eagle House |
| | 7.15 pm | | Ministry Meeting (Vicarage) |
| Fri 14 th | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 15 th | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| | 4.00 pm | onwards | Bell striking competition |
| Sunday 16th Oct. | | Trinity17 | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |

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|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | 9.30 am | | Family Worship and Baptisms |
| | 6.00 pm | | Parish Eucharist |
| Monday 17 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| | 9.30 am | | Deanery Chapter (Scawby) |
| | am | | Home Communion at St. Peter's Court & Victoria House |
| Tues 18th | 7.00 pm | St. Luke | Eucharist |
| Wed 19 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist + Open door |
| | 2.00 pm | | Service at Beech House |
| | 2.00 pm | | Mothers' Union |
| | 7.30 pm | | Ladies' Group |
| Thurs 20 th | PARISH | NEWS | DEADLINE |
| | am | | Home Communions |
| Fri 21 st | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 22nd | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 23rd Oct. | | Bible Sunday | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist |
| | 6.00 pm | | Evensong |
| Mon 24 th | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| Wed 26 th | 9.30 am | | Said Eucharist + Open door |
| | 2.00 pm | | MU Prayer Time |
| Fri 28th | 12 noon | SS. Simon & Jude | Eucharist |
| | 5.00 pm | | E1W |
| Sat 29 th | 11.00 am | | Lectio divina |
| Sunday 30th Oct. | | All Saints' Sunday | |
| | 8.00 am | | Said Eucharist |
| | 9.30 am | | Parish Eucharist |
| | 6.00 pm | | Annual Memorial Service |
| Mon 31 st | 9.30 am | | Toddler Time |
| Tues 1st Nov. | 7.30 pm | | Licensing of Fr. David Rowett at Saxby |
| Wed. 2nd | 9.30 am | All Souls' Day | Said Eucharist (NOT MU Corp.)+ Open door |
| | 7.30 pm | | Ladies' Group |

RUTH

On Sunday 9th October, Evening Prayer at 6 pm will be a special one which will be inspired by the recent study of the book of Ruth that some of us made. There will include a reading of the book from the King James Version, which celebrates its 400th anniversary this year, and also be an opportunity to hear why the book of Ruth became the favourite of many of the group's participants. Viv.

"...., priest"

Maybe it was the thought of All Souls' Tide just around the corner which jogged my memory— for not so long since, someone asked why we add the word 'priest' when commemorating a departed cleric, when we don't say, 'dinner lady' or 'musician' when we remember a departed member of those occupations.

It can sound as though we're putting the dog-collared on some sort of pedestal: and wondered myself whether the tradition was a bit 'off'. But, reading the Rule of Benedict, I came across this:

"Let the Abbot always bear in mind that at the dread Judgement of God there will be an examination of these two matters: his teaching and the obedience of his disciples. And let the Abbot be sure that any lack of profit the master of the house may find in the sheep will be laid to the blame of the shepherd."

It called to mind words from the Ordinal, when the bishop turns to those about to be ordained priest and says, *"Remember always with thanksgiving that the treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock, bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross. It is to him that you will render account for your stewardship of his people"*.

We know from passages like the Parable of the Talents that we will all have to answer for our failures, including when our mistakes or weaknesses cause problems for others. But the Church places this particular duty on those called to guide the Christian community – any failings of the People of God cannot just be shrugged off: we who are called to be shepherds will have to explain ourselves if the flock get it

wrong. Come the last judgement, we clergy will have more to be humble and penitent about than most.

So when you hear that word 'priest' following on a name among the departed, remember a fellow-pilgrim now giving account of themselves before God, not just for their own life but for the lives they were supposed to guide and help to blossom. And pray for them: they – we — really, really need it.