

Contents

It seemed a good idea at the time! - Fr David's letter	2
From the Bell Tower / New Year Supper	3
Mothers' Union notes	4
Mothers' Union notes	5
Ladies' Group Nov/Dec 09	6
Children's Society	7
Stewardship Survey	8
New Year at the Ropewalk	9
On With the Motley!	10
Donations for Church flowers	11
Barton Patients' Forum	12
Parish Registers / Just for Today	13
Bishop John's Letter – For God's Sake Give and Take	14
January Diary	15
January Diary	16

January 17th — Epiphany 2

	8.00 am	Said Eucharist
	9.30 am	Family Worship
	6.00 pm	Parish Eucharist
Mon 18 th	10.15 am	Toddler Time
		Home Communions: St Peter's Court /Victoria House
	2.00 pm	Worship Review Group @ the Vicarage
Tue 19 th	7.00 pm	Said Eucharist for Healing & Wholeness
Wed 20 th	9.30 am	Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm	MU AGM
	2.00 pm	Service at Beech House
	7.30 pm	Ladies' Group
Thu 21 st	9.30 -11.30	Open Door
		Home Communions

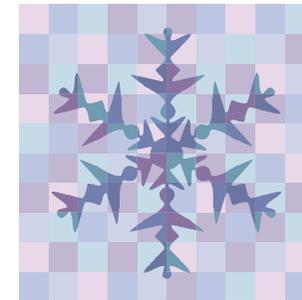
January 24th — Epiphany 3

	8.00 am	Said Eucharist
	9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Sung Evensong
Mon 25 th	10.15 am	Toddler Time
	7.00 pm	Said Eucharist (Conversion of St Paul)
	7.30 pm	PCC
Tue 26 th	7.00 pm	Said Eucharist
Wed 27 th	9.30 am	Said Eucharist
Thu 28 th	9.30 -11.30	Open Door

January 31st — for Candlemas

	8.00 am	Said Eucharist
	9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Songs of Praise

Morning Prayer is usually said at 9 am Monday-Friday in the S^t James' Chapel.



Copy Deadlines for the February edition

Would all contributors please submit material by **Sunday January 17th** – your editor's likely to be away on retreat shortly afterwards and needs to get the magazine put to bed that week.

IT SEEMED A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME

Rising as one does bright-eyed and bushy tailed on in the fresh dawn of New Year's morning, eager to greet the dawning of another twelvemonth, those New Year Resolutions are such a natural part of the Fresh Start that it's hard to understand why everyone isn't giving up smoking/drinking/lack of exercise/junk food with great enthusiasm.

Of course, there are some out there who don't quite encounter January 1st in such a way, particularly those for whom the New Year's Day concert from Vienna feels to take place in the small hours. And a few days into the New Year, even the Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed among us may be finding it hard going. And somewhere around January 19th, the lighter is back on the table, the gin bottle's back on the desk, and the liquorice allsorts are taking a hammering while the new pair of trainers is not.

I suspect it's not just me recognising himself in that description.

There are some bright ideas contained in the 'Just for Today' article in the depths of the magazine, ways of taking things Alcoholics Anonymous style, One Day At A Time. Turning a life round, even in a small way, is like turning a supertanker – it's hard work and takes time. But another insight may be helpful when the significant date of January 1 is forgotten, and the calendar doesn't quite seem so supportive of new-leaf turning.

On the inside cover of one of my prayer books is a line drawn from the Rule of Benedict, 'Always we begin again'. The Rule describes itself as being for beginners because there is none other. And that acknowledgement that every moment has the potential to be a new beginning after our last blunder leaves us with egg on our faces is profoundly reassuring. We don't have to wait until the end of the year to set off on the journey again. The new journey will always be able to begin now. A consoling thought when confronted by the empty chocolate box and the loosened belt!

Fr David



PCC MINUTES - REMINDER

Remember that minutes approved as accurate by the PCC are available to read, by right, by any member of the Parish Electoral Roll, and to anyone else with the permission of the PCC. The minutes of the October meeting are available now. Ask Rosemary Lamert, PCC Secretary, for a copy.

January Diary

Sunday January 3rd – for the Epiphany

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist <i>with Trinity Methodist — preacher Revd. Gillian Belford</i>
2.30 pm	Service at The Willows
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer

Mon 4th

10.15 am	Toddler Time
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Tue 5th

7.00 pm	Said Eucharist
7.30 pm	<i>Churches Together meeting</i>

Wed 6th

9.30 am	Said Eucharist (<i>MU Corporate</i>)
2.00 pm	Service at Eagle House
7.30 pm	Ladies' Group
7.30 pm	Mission Committee, 77 Bowmandale

Thu 7th

9.30 -11.30	Open Door
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Sunday January 10th — Baptism of Christ

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
<u>10.00 am</u>	<u>United Eucharist at Trinity Methodist Church - NO 9.30 HERE</u>
2.30 pm	Service at the Willows
6.00 pm	Evening prayer (said)

Mon 11th

10.15 am	Toddler Time
2.00 pm	Standing Committee, Vicarage

Tue 12th

7.00 pm	Said Eucharist
7.30 pm	Stewardship Steering group, Vicarage

Wed 13th

9.30 am	Said Eucharist
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Thu 14th

7.15 pm	Ministry Team meet at 1 Birchdale
9.30 -11.30	Open Door

BISHOP JOHN'S LETTER

FOR GOD'S SAKE GIVE AND TAKE - One day Jesus sat watching as people put money into the Temple collection box. Many of the rich were making large contributions. Then a poor widow came and put in two small coins – just a couple of pence. Jesus turned to His Disciples and told them how she had in fact given more than all the rest, because what they gave, they wouldn't miss; but she gave what she couldn't afford – she gave her all.

This story challenges and disturbs us.

It challenges us because we who are relatively rich know that Jesus has us in His sights. He knows that we give less than we can afford.

It disturbs us, because the Temple authorities were apparently prepared to take the widow's pence and so leave her with nothing to live on. Jesus commended her generosity – but surely the religious leaders should have been less ready to take her money and more ready to give her a share of what the rich had contributed.

Christian stewardship of money should always be a matter of give and take. Whilst 2010 will be a year when special efforts will be made to help us all to take Christian Giving seriously, whether to the Church or to Charity, it must also be a year when we make it easier for those in most need to receive their share of what we have at our disposal.

The Archbishop of Canterbury once asked: "For whom is your wealth good news?". If the answer is "me and mine", then we fall well short of what would be an appropriate Christian response to that question. Whether we are talking about surpluses on our personal Current Accounts or our Deanery Share Accounts, the challenge is there: for whom is your wealth good news?

Christmas is a time of giving. But why stop at Christmas? Every day is Christmas Day insofar as we receive many gifts from God including, above all, the gift of life itself. So make every day a giving day, then those who need to take because they cannot give will be able to do so. And there will be plenty left over to fund the mission and ministry of our Church as well as those many other good causes which are so dear to our hearts.

Don't give in order to receive – that way giving simply becomes another way of purchasing! Give so that others can take what they need, just as we take from God what He provides to meet our needs day by day.

+John Lincoln

FROM THE BELL TOWER

All Eight - All Year

2009 has been a most memorable year for the bellringers at St Mary's Church, Barton upon Humber, The local band has been able to fulfil its primary duty to ring the church's eight bells on every Sunday morning during the year. Such a feat could only be accomplished by the band of dedicated and enthusiastic ringers - it is all too easy to turn over in bed on a Sunday morning. The Tuesday practises have rarely been attended by less than a dozen ringers, a full band has been provided for numerous marriage ceremonies and two full day excursions have been organised to visit and ring the bells in several churches in the Isle of Axholme and in the West Lindsey area.

An inspection of the bells in November 2008 revealed faults which required two weeks of repair and maintenance work which was carried out in July 2008. The newly refurbished bells were re-dedicated as part of the harvest festival service, a service which was attended by private donors and members of the organization which helped fund the work. St Mary's now has a ring of bells which should hopefully need little attention for many years to come. Two events in early December deserve mention - local ringer Andrew Lord was invited to join the band at Lincoln cathedral for their customary peal rung during the Christmas market. This year a peal of Stedman Caters was rung in three and a half hours on the cathedral's heaviest ten bells. On Sunday the 6th December a quarter peal of Plain Bob Trebles was rung at St Mary's to congratulate Richard Hopper on the award of his Doctorate at Leicester University.

Donald Kitching

NEW YEAR SUPPER

Slowly sliding towards Midsummer, nevertheless there WILL be a New Year Supper, but it's now had to shift to 7.00 pm on Monday February 8th, and bookings will open shortly. What with that and the E1W Venetian Carnival the following Saturday evening, Lent will come as a blissful release from eating!

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

November 18th

Sheila welcomed everyone to our meeting especially our speaker David Belford (husband of Gillian, Trinity Methodist's minister). We sang "O Worship the King, all glorious above.", then Iris Ward read Ps 104 vv 10-30. Sheila then said prayers, gave out notices, and thanked everyone who helped at the bazaar.

The next meeting is 'Carols and Readings' after which we usually enjoy mince pies, baked by our own Janet King (or, indeed Petch!) , but we were not expecting them this year as she's going into hospital on Dec 8th. But very organised as she is she has baked and frozen them beforehand! We thanked her in advance.

Sheila then handed the meeting over to David, previously a vet but now a "house husband".

David explained how his faith has helped throughout his life both as a vet and especially now as support to Gillian. He showed us several "pieces of paper" as he called them, which were actually Certificates he has earned from Sunday school, Young Christian, Church, 'O' and 'A' level certificates and Royal Veterinary College certificates. Although he is now retired he is still on the veterinary register as a non-practising veterinary surgeon.

He began his church life in the United Reformed Church - Gillian was an Anglican - but when they moved to a practice in Cumbria with their family, a Methodist Minister called to welcome them to the area and to the local chapel, "and there begins another story of how Gillian started into Methodist Ministry." He told a few animals stories and how in one practice he had three assistants, two whom were Christians and one non-believer. They worked with farm animals, David explained how some of the jobs they had to do were made very difficult in bad weather. He also did work for the ministry of agriculture, usually TB blood testing. Some farmers thought him too small for some of the animal work especially during calving time when a caesarean section was needed but at lambing time his small hands were an advantage.

He held a small animal surgery daily at a set time, some routine, some emergency, his children often helped. With all operations on the animals David felt his prayers were usually answered.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: *None in December*

MARRIAGES:

Dec. 5th **Nicholas Guy Rowley and Lorraine Sarah Williams**

FUNERALS:

Nov. 20th **Shaun Charles Burman**

Nov. 30th **Stanley Doughty**

Dec. 9th **Harry Chard**

Dec 7th **Carol Patricia Stearman**

Dec 16th **Bert Markham**

Dec 18th **Betty Jacklin**

Dec. 22nd **Helena Colby**

JUST FOR TODAY...

... I will try to live through this day only and not tackle my whole life problems at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appal me if I felt I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

... I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said that "most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

... I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my "luck" as it comes and fit myself to it.

... I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study, I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

... I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out; if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I do not want to do – just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but for today I will not show it.

... I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticise not one little bit, not find fault with anything, *and not try to improve or regulate anybody but myself.*

... I will have a programme. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

... I will have a quiet half hour all by myself and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

BARTON PATIENTS' FORUM

The Central Surgery in Barton has established a Patients' Forum to improve communication with patients and to garner opinion. The main aim of the initiative is to further improve services in the area.

The Forum committee comprises six patients, the senior partner of the practice, Dr Robert Jaggs-Fowler, and the Practice Manager, Mr Gary Hunter. It is chaired by one of the patients and together they will attempt to reflect patient opinion and identify need. It is also one way in which the practice seeks to inform patients of new developments in the services it provides.

This is the first committee of its nature for Barton and the surrounding villages. It is not intended to deal with serious individual complaints, as a rigorous complaints procedure already exists. The committee seeks to find more general opinion on such matters as opening hours, patient appointments, prescriptions, the breadth of services available etc.

The committee has already looked at surveys conducted by the NHS and in the vast majority of cases this practice exceeds national averages. However, the practice is always seeking to improve, hence the move to establish another means of communication between the patients and their health carers.

The Chairman of the Patients' Forum would welcome your comments and suggestions. Proposals for change and criticisms will be communicated to the practice, as indeed will expressions of gratitude and satisfaction. There is always the possibility that our patient body could influence local NHS policies. Wherever possible we will attempt to advertise any changes that are made.

Patients can contact the Chairman by letter c/o Central Surgery, Kings Street, Barton-upon-Humber. There is also a web site operated by the NHS where comments can be made about the services this practice offers. Go to www.nhs.uk click on "Find and Choose Services" then enter your postcode. Patients may make anonymous suggestions but those who contact the Forum can be assured that all matters will be dealt with in a confidential manner. Those who do provide their name and contact information can be more certain of receiving feedback.

One time David was trying to help get a cow off some barbed wired and trying to stitch her to stop her bleeding to death when the cow lunged out, hitting David in the chest. The (atheist) doctor who was called said he was not breathing and did not give much hope, but Gillian knelt at David's side praying until the ambulance arrived. At the hospital the x-ray showed no broken bones, only whiplash to the neck!! God certainly intervened that day! (The cow also survived!)

In 1999 David decided to sell his practice and on 30th Nov 1999 David finished his veterinary work. On Dec 1st Gillian was offered a Preacher Candidacy and went to college.. Until leaving in 2000 David and Gillian ran an 84 strong house group fellowship every two weeks, which is still going strong.

He was called out of retirement in 2001 during the foot and mouth outbreak in Newcastle. This year sees David celebrating 10 years since he finished as a vet. All David told us shows – The IMPORTANCE of FAITH in our LIVES and WORK.

Iris Ward thanked David for a very interesting talk.

Reminder: Mothers' Union subscriptions are due in January — £16.50

Jan 6th 9.30 Corporate Communion
20th 2.00 A G M (Rev'd David Rowett)

Brenda Skinner.

Will all members please check the MU notice board at the back of church for information.

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LADIES GROUP

Nov/Dec 09

An early morning start and the three and a half hour journey mostly in the rain made it all worthwhile for what was to follow. Arriving at Thursford to the fairy lit trees and wonderful Christmas shops and displays and a snack lunch we were all amazed at what followed - a Christmas Spectacular the likes of which we have never experienced before:-

The producer and director, John Cushing indulges his own belief in creating a magical Christmas of yesteryear – a time of love, hope and giving. And in his opinion, the one element that encapsulates the spirit of Christmas more than any other is music. For John Cushing 'Christmas Eve' is the most magical night of the year and his premonition years ago that one day he would be involved in a Christmas show was realised when he took on the job of managing director of the Thursford Collection in 1976 and put on his first show in 1977.

'Against the background of steam engines, mechanical organs and fairground rides a small Christmas show took place, with eight choral scholars from Kings College, Cambridge, singing a selection of John Rutter carols. It has now grown into the largest Christmas show in England.'

The ultimate Christmas musical experience is simply one of the most exciting Christmas Spectacular shows ever. It is the most popular Christmas show of all time in England and is a blend of exciting Christmas entertainment, with Christmas songs, carols, dazzling dancers, beautiful immaculate costumes, outstanding music and singing from a cast of over one hundred. Each show is a pageant of spectacle and colour – the music a seamless transition from an up-beat dance routine, to a ventriloquist and stand up comedian, bagpipes and drums, to a choral rendition of a Christmas carol (which many of us recognised from the Church Carol service. The show takes a whole year to organize. The decorations, musical instruments and stage props are packed away and the exhibition hall is transformed back into its summer museum setting. We all agreed that it is a place to visit again in the future.

Our first Dec. meeting was a floral Christmas table decorations demonstration given by Julia Schofield from Barrow who was originally taught by Wendy Taylor from Brigg (I'm sure many of us will remember admiring her arrangements in Robert Jackson's Dentists' waiting room). Her motto, like Delia Smith's, is 'be prepared'.



The next E1W Experience is on February 13th. Neatly cashing in on the Carnival season AND Valentine, prepare yourselves for the glories of Venice...

CHURCH FLOWERS

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

George Clark
Charlie Ferguson
George Stead
Allan Manchester
John Stanley
Ena Broughton
Arthur Winship
John Bellamy
Hugh McMahon
Vi and Jack Grassby
Irene Rowe

Jack Farrow
Mr. & Mrs. R. Sorfleet
Ernest & Christiana Brumpton
Don Broughton
Marjorie Radford
Edward Broughton
Ruth Winship
Edna Bellamy
Walter Paul
Peter Donald Grey

Donations have also been received for Christmas flowers from members of the congregation.

Because the magazine is so early to bed this month there may well be some names which have not reached the editor in time. This will be corrected next month! All the donations are very gratefully received. Thank you. - *Shirley Creasey*

THANK YOU – A big "Thank you" from Alan and all at Wootton St. Andrew's School for your hard work in providing us with Yellow Pages' covers. It was all worthwhile as we won the competition this year, for the first time! All covers gratefully received towards next year's total.

ON WITH THE MOTLEY! - as they used to say!

On December 12th last, in the Church Hall, E-1-W presented one of their feasts. Jenny Hepworth as - what? - "the Woman who lived in a Shoe" comes to mind - presided in the kitchen, assisted by a lively elf, a dainty fairy and a smart Red Riding Hood. At the front of house - this is the pantomime season - the guests were looked after by more elves, Santa and Rudolph, another fairy, somewhat taller and more brightly coloured than the kitchen fairy, a boxed Christmas present - yes, really! - and Minnie Mouse. The party games were led by one of the Magi, organising us in a truly magisterial fashion. Looking round the Hall at the guests, one could see Joseph, chaperoning his mother-in-law Anna, several fine Kings or Magi, a humble shepherd, a Victorian lady and gentleman, straight out of a Victorian-style Christmas card, more Santas, elves and reindeer, a cowboy, a Belle of St. Trinian's, Little Miss Muffet and last but not least, a bright Christmas tree, a holly-topped pudding and a Christmas cake on a tall stand. Those who were not there might be relieved to hear that there were guests who came as themselves, albeit dressed brightly in honour of the season.

When we had all feasted, we played party games - in our seats - we had feasted rather well.

It was a lovely evening and we must thank Jenny Hepworth, Amanda Alliss, Amanda and Jo Hepworth, Steve Guillatt and the members and supporters of E-1-W for their hard work in producing the feast and decorating the Hall suitably. As Fr. David said in the grace he offered at the beginning of the meal, we must give thanks for all that we have and remember those who have less.



So she embarked on a series of decorations for the 'normal' household starting off with a traditional 'triangular' shaped arrangement using foliage with a silver tinge, white roses, twigs with tiny silver balls, lilies and white rosebuds.

A basket for the hearth or low table followed using 'Everest' crab apples, variegated holly, red carnations (a tip for buying-they should have a tight centre, the base should be hard and no 'white horns' coming from the centre) and cones wired onto barbecue skewers.

Next a candle ring for the table centre-lots of groups of small stems of foliage -spruce, hollies, eucalyptus, pitisporum and red baubles, deep red spray carnations and yellow roses (keep the ring for reuse by storing it damp in a plastic bag), followed by an arrangement to hang on the wall using Acer tree twigs, artificial leaves, baubles and a bow.



She was then thanked by Pauline Chapman, and Sue Mitchell, Laurian Weakley, Mary Bilton and Maureen Garfoot were delighted to win the arrangements in the raffle.

The first 2010 meeting (Jan. 6th.) is Wood Carving by Howard Boyd.

Happy New Year to all our members and everyone else reading this!!!!

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Tesco have kindly agreed to allow The Children's Society, to hold a monetary collection/awareness campaign at the Barton store on the 29th& 30th January. We would appreciate having as many helpers as possible to share the workload.

We are looking for volunteers, able to give 2 hours of their time on either the Friday or Saturday. 9am-11am, 11am-1pm, 1pm-3pm, 3pm-5pm, 5pm-7pm. If you are able to help in any way, please telephone on 634556.

Alternatively there is a 'Timetable for Store Collection at Tesco' sheet at the back of church for you to enter your details.

Mike & Margaret Searle

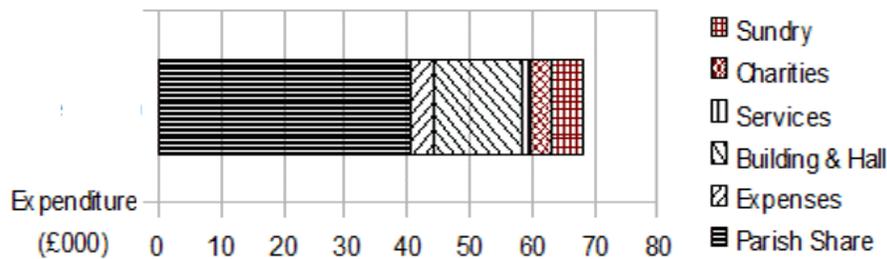
STEWARDSHIP SURVEY

First of all, we thank all of you who returned survey forms. Andy Wright, the Diocesan adviser, was much taken aback by a rate of return of 50%, which is quite unheard of!

The results, which Andy analysed courtesy of his computer, were very encouraging, with the great majority of folk expressing confidence in the way we manage our finances and a good understanding of how things like Gift Aid work and how much state support there is — though we do realise that you could argue that the Gift Aid scheme *is* a form of state support for charities. It's very helpful for us to have these snapshots of where we are as we plan the next few months.

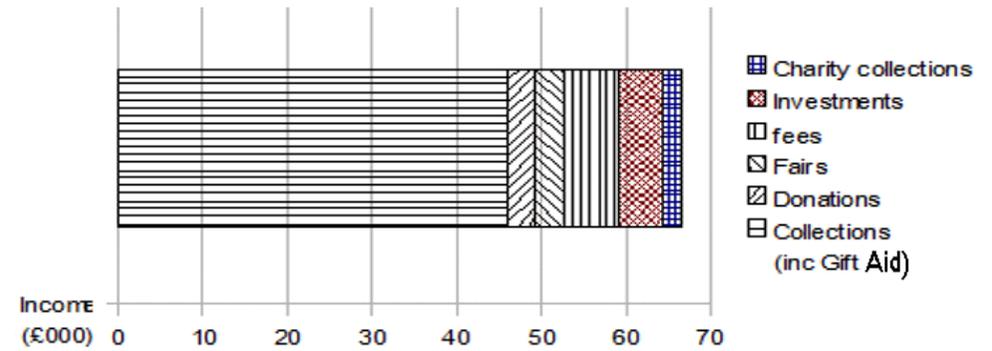
A couple of questions were a bit muddy in their wording, those about our costs and our voluntary contributions.

On the question, 'How much is spent on the cost of providing ministry' wasn't made clear that this was per year, and this probably skewed our figures a bit, with about two-thirds of the replies putting the costs at below £40,000. Our annual accounts break down something like this:-



You can tell from this that well over half our expenditure goes on providing and resourcing parish clergy (we don't actually *pay* for Kathy – her costs are shared out across the parish share of all the parishes, so we get a bargain!).

We had the same slight problem with the question, 'How much comes from voluntary giving?' with over half answering 'below £20,000' and only a handful suggesting 'over £40,000.' In 2008 the breakdown was this:-



More than four-fifths of our income was 'live', and two-thirds of it was from collections, standing orders and Gift Aid. Even the investment income is from 'voluntary giving' of past benefactors.

Fuller information from the survey is available on the parish website.

NEW YEAR AT THE ROPEWALK

A new year sees a new programme of exhibitions at Ropewalk Contemporary Art & Craft and live music, theatre and comedy at Ropery Hall.

The highlight of the first six months at The Ropewalk is the 10th anniversary celebrations of its opening in April 2000. To mark the occasion the gallery returns to where it all began with a revisit to our first exhibition featuring the work of Twink Addison, David and Avril Morris and Edith and Walter Cook.

At Ropery Hall the mix of music, theatre and comedy continues with highlights including actor Edward Fox in *An Evening with Anthony Trollope* and the return of the Scottish Falsetto Sock Puppet Theatre Company, both in March.

Other acts returning include Paul Jones and Dave Kelly, Snake Davis and Burden of Paradise and Henry Priestman along with Jazz supergroup Empirical and Dennis Rollins' Velocity.

Full details of all exhibitions and workshops are online at www.ropewalk.co.uk and Ropery Hall events at www.roperyhall.co.uk