



Lent Lunches

This year the magnificent sum of £293.05 (plus £125 gift aided money) was raised for Christian Aid.

As always the service was excellent, the home made soup and Benson's fresh crusty bread were delicious.

Many thanks to all those who cooked, served and enjoyed!

Val Dukes.

St Mary's Ladies Group

The **Pureland Japanese Garden and Meditation Centre** is a remarkable place. It is a uniquely beautiful garden, and also the home of Buddha Maitreya (pronounced 'My-treeya'), a spiritual teacher and creator of this wonderful space. The Pureland Japanese Garden, and the teachings and sessions provided by Buddha Maitreya, present a wonderful opportunity to bring spirituality and enlightenment into organisational learning and development.

The Pureland garden reflects Maitreya's approach to meditation and philosophy, in which he teaches self-awareness, peace, and harmony with nature.

Buddha Maitreya acquired the land in 1973. It was then one and a half acres of flat wasteland - the site of an old farm house. Maitreya has since transformed the space into an extraordinary venue, for people who seek peace and well-being, to discover more about themselves, or for others who simply enjoy visiting beautiful gardens. Pureland is a maze of seemingly endless features, exquisitely crafted, and immaculately maintained. The story of the garden's construction, from disused farmland into a stunning garden, over many years, and virtually single-handedly by Buddha Maitreya is remarkable in itself. Maitreya's slideshow of the garden through the seasons is an absolute wonder to behold. A Visit to the garden, for our group, with Buddha

Maitreya, will allow us to discover for ourselves the wonder of this special place, and this special teacher. In his company you feel uplifted and centred. People who possess such wisdom and calm, plus the ability to transfer a genuine sense of peace and serenity to others, are extremely rare.



Traditional Japanese garden elements combine to create a special peaceful space.

Parish Registers

Baptisms:

11th April

JOSHUA LEWIS BEEDHAM son of SAMANTHA AMBER STEVEN
and JONATHAN MARK BEEDHAM

18th April

GEORGINA SOPHIA MELODY daughter of REBECCA and PAUL
MELODY

Marriages:

17th April

GIOVANNI IARROBINO to NATASHA DEANS

Funerals:

13th April

ELSIE MAY HUTESON

Comedy and Music at Roperly Hall

Two very different acts take centre stage at Roperly Hall in the final weeks of the venue's spring programme.

On Friday May 7, Eric, a submariner for 17 years, offers a glimpse into the life of the men who live beneath the waves. Eric's Tales of the Sea was one of the most acclaimed shows of last year's Edinburgh Fringe as he transports his audience to an underwater existence where edgy camaraderie, black humour, death and destruction are the closest of bedfellows.

Neil Innes, the musical genius behind the Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band, completes the spring programme on Friday, June 4. In a career that has included collaborations with such greats as Monty Python, The Beatles, Mick Jagger, John Belushi, Paul Simon as well as The Bonzos, Neil Innes has proved an enduring and inspirational success.

More details of these and the other acts appearing at Roperly Hall in May can be found at www.roperlyhall.co.uk

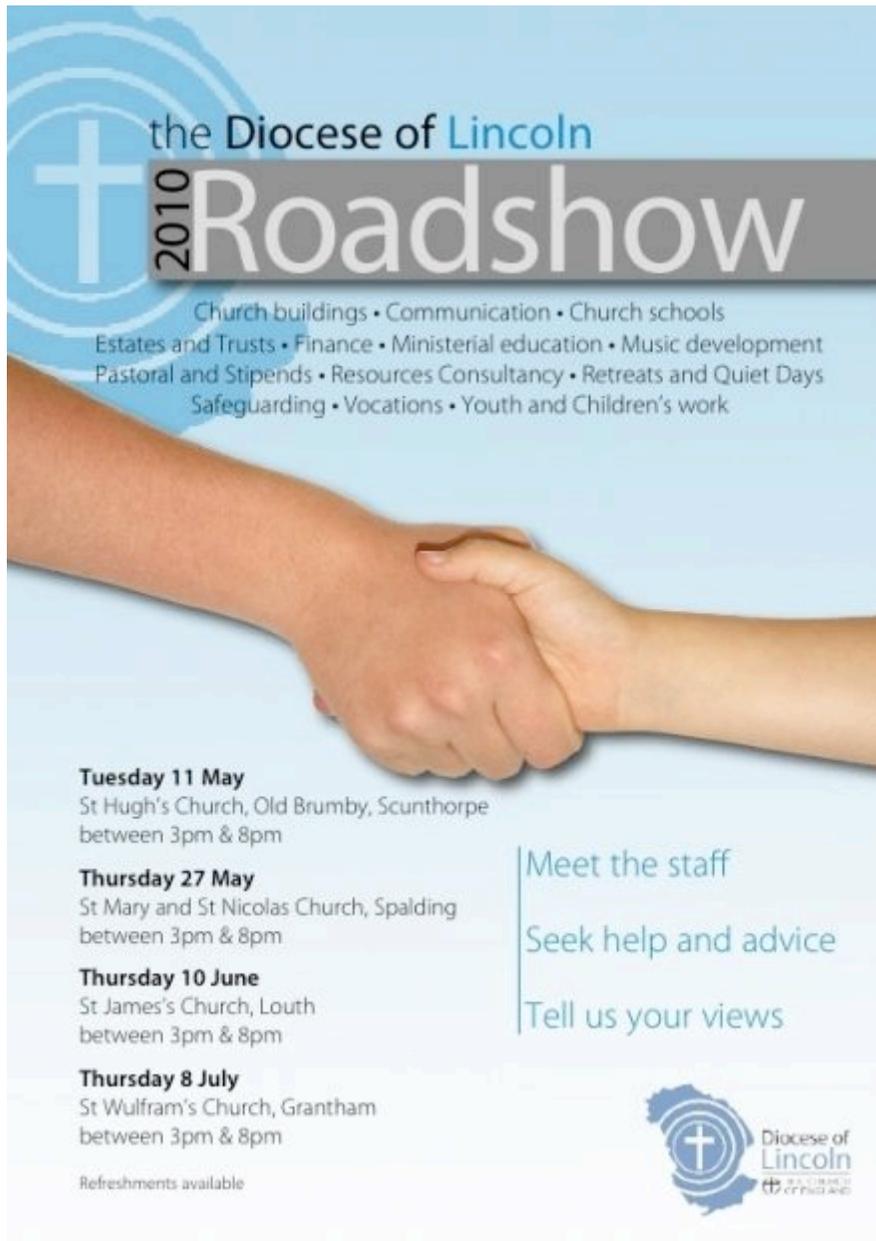
Donations for **Church flowers** have been received in loving memory of:-

Don Broughton
Marjorie Radford
Graham Askew
Tom Phillipson
Ruth Williamson-Lawrence
Jack Baker
Lucy Booty
Edna and John Bellamy
Walter Paul
Vi and Jack Grassby
Hugh McMahan
Gordon Read
Lauretta and Stanley Welch
Janet Denovan

Thank you to all those who so generously made donations in order that the Church could be decorated so well for Easter. Thank you, too, to all the ladies for creating such lovely arrangements.

Shirley Creasey

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES MARCH 17th



the Diocese of Lincoln
2010 Roadshow

Church buildings • Communication • Church schools
Estates and Trusts • Finance • Ministerial education • Music development
Pastoral and Stipends • Resources Consultancy • Retreats and Quiet Days
Safeguarding • Vocations • Youth and Children's work

Tuesday 11 May
St Hugh's Church, Old Brumby, Scunthorpe
between 3pm & 8pm

Thursday 27 May
St Mary and St Nicolas Church, Spalding
between 3pm & 8pm

Thursday 10 June
St James's Church, Louth
between 3pm & 8pm

Thursday 8 July
St Wulfram's Church, Grantham
between 3pm & 8pm

Refreshments available

Meet the staff
Seek help and advice
Tell us your views

 Diocese of Lincoln

Sheila welcomed everyone especially our speaker Martin Broadbridge from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. Congratulations were given to Elinor who was to celebrate her 80th birthday the following day. Apologies were given from members unable to attend and thanks to those who helped make 130 posies for Mothering Sunday – given out at the 8 am and 9.30 services and Toddler Time . We sang 'For the beauty of the earth' and Psalm 148 was read by Catherine Fell followed by prayers from Sheila.

Martin Broadbridge, who has been a member of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust for 32 years, told us it started around 1947 when the agricultural revolution was taking place, with increased use of machinery, insecticides and chemicals introduced to work the land resulting in landscape disappearing and woods being neglected all at a cost to wildlife .There are now 48 county trusts with over 800,000 members who help safeguard wildlife..

Slides of the 250 acre Far Ings Nature Reserve in Barton showing scenes from the 1950's including 'Ice on the Humber' to the present day, illustrated quite a change over the years. The Old Ness Farm, now part of the trust, is worked by weekend volunteers keeping up with the cutting and trimming of the reed beds, creating suitable habitats for all the wildlife which now lives and visits the ponds. Educational visits to the reserve, staffed by two fulltime educational officers, help to keep the young people in contact with nature and awareness of the need to protect the environment.

Different birds that live and visit the reserve include the Reed Bunting which needs wetlands, Reed Warbler an African migrant, Great crested Grebe used by Victorians for its feathers, Water Rail, Shoveller which has a huge bill to scoop along the water and the Bittern which makes a "booming sound" disappeared in the 1960s returning in the 1990s. These are looked after as part of a National Scheme by the R.S.P.B. for ringing and tagging, there are now 50 nests in Britain. Also the Bearded Tit, the Mute Swan and the Hooper Swan which has a yellow bill. Other slides showed protected wildflowers and some beautiful butterflies.

Catherine Fell thanked Martin for a very interesting and informative talk.

On Thursday March 25th seven members of St Mary's Mothers' Union attended a North Lincs. Lady Day service at St John's, Brigg.

New members are always welcome.
Brenda S.

Ordination of Liz as Deacon

On **Sunday 4th July**, Liz Brown will be ordained deacon by the Bishop of Grimsby at Gainsborough Parish Church in a service starting at 10.30am. A coach will be going from St. Mary's, and members of the congregation are urged to use this facility as parking is always difficult in the centre of Gainsborough. The cost will be £5 a seat, sold on a first-come-first-served basis. The coach will leave **St. Mary's at 8.45am**, and leave from the Cathedral at about 12.45pm, depending on the length of the service. Tickets are now available from me.

Alan.

It's that time again!

This is a final call for Tesco and other store vouchers. Please don't worry if you think you are late; schools have until much later to send them in! I expect that Yellow Pages Telephone Directories will be delivered soon. Before consigning your old one to the blue bin, please tear off the FRONT cover and let me have it. It, and the vouchers, can be left at the back of church if I am not around. Thanks.

Alan.

St. Mary's Ladies Group

Over 70 members came to watch a demonstration given by Rachel Atkin who has a studio in the Church Hall, Chapel Lane. She was assisted by her daughter Holly, Becky and Abbi. She used a very high tech Genie machine to show us how facial muscles can be firmed and toned using electrical impulses. Indeed it can be used on other parts of the body too such as arms and legs. Catherine Cuthbert was the model as she has experienced this before and it can be quite painful (no pain, no gain!). Collin skin products were used including collagen gel which penetrates deeply into the skin and can be used as a night mask too. Other treatments available are Skin Scope, a machine which analyses the skin and produces a six month plan for the client.

It was certainly very interesting and Catherine's skin was beautifully soft at the end of her treatment. Members were encouraged to go being generously given 10% vouchers.

Pauline thanked Rachel who is obviously dedicated to her work striving to achieve improvements in her clients' appearance and self confidence.

Julia Schofield won the raffle.

Sue W.

BISHOP JOHN PRESENTS

There was a friendly gathering of St. Mary's Church members in the hall on the morning of Saturday 17th April, all ready to greet the Bishop of Lincoln as he came to present various awards in connection with the youth work of the Church.

First in line were four recipients of Church Children's Achievement Award credits. Katie, Abbygayle, Matthew and Chloe all received credits for activities such as participation in youth group and scouting projects and acts of worship, drama, dance, singing in the Church Choir and charity fund-raising.

After this, Jenny Hepworth and Rob Smith were presented with the Bishops' Best Practice Award, Gold Standard, for their work in ensuring that St. Mary's has in place the necessary policies to ensure good practice in its work with children and young people. This is an award which stands for two years, after which time it must be re-sought.

Finally in the list of formal proceedings, Bishop John presented Bishop's Youth Achievement Awards to seven 13 – 19 year olds from St. Mary's. Jo received three Standard Awards, adding to the Advanced (top) Award she received in January 2009; Ben received one Standard Award, adding to the two he already has and Sam received his first three Standard Awards, all these for 10 credits per award. Charlotte, Kerry and Daniel each received the Higher Award, for 50 credits each. Tom received the Advanced Award, for 100 credits, gained over five years of taking part in varied projects and activities, some, like serving, drama and reading, within the Church, others such as sailing and fund-raising for charity, out in the community. This mix was also characteristic of the other participants. The three receiving Higher Awards and Sam, are involved in music - two of them were juggling attendance at this event with attendance at music lessons – and apart from obvious service to the Church, such as singing, serving, bell ringing and reading and taking part in dramatic presentations, they also take part in other activities demanding time, thought and commitment.

Both before and after the presentations, the Bishop circulated informally among the people gathered in the Hall, both young and older and looked as though he was, as he indicated in his presentation speech, enjoying the evidence that there is active participation in parish life.

We hope the Bishop really did enjoy his morning, which included an earlier visit to Barrow Church for their monthly Saturday family service, as he later went on to Glanford Park in Scunthorpe with Alan Wright to watch his football team, Bristol City, lose to Scunthorpe United!

Finally from me – many thanks to the young people for all their community activities – a real antidote to all the anxieties about aimless young people – but also thanks to those who came just to give support to the occasion and to Alan Wright for masterminding it.

Rosemary Lamert

God's "Right-Hand" people.

By the time we reach May, our journey through the major Christian seasons and festivals is almost complete for another year. Since last November we have watched for the coming of Christ in Advent, celebrated his birth at Christmas, seen him revealed as everyone's Saviour at Epiphany, turned towards his ministry and death at Candlemas, shared the challenges of Lent, journeyed with him through Holy Week to the Cross on Good Friday, and rejoiced at his resurrection on Easter Day. In church, we have marked the passing of the weeks with appropriate changes in liturgical colours: purple for solemn times, red for Christ's kingship and death, gold for the great high moments, white for continuing celebration and joy. Now we have reached May, which this year contains two final significant high points: Ascension Day (May 13th) and Pentecost (or Whitsunday - May 23rd).

The first of these marks the ascension of Jesus into heaven forty days after the resurrection, and describes him taking his seat at 'the right hand of God the Father'. It is one of the most difficult bits of the Christian story to make sense of, as I discovered last year when I had to preach on Ascension Day! Although the story is recorded by Luke in his gospel and at the start of Acts, it is all in picture-language, and probably tells us more about the beliefs of the early Christian writers than about any historical event. We get in a real tangle if we try to take it literally, rather like the little girl in school. She was struggling to decide whether to hold her pen in her left or her right hand. The teacher suggested she try her right hand. The next week, the little girl was quite confidently using her left. When the teacher remarked on it, the child said, 'It's all right Miss, God writes with his left hand'. Intrigued, the teacher asked her how she knew that. 'Well', said the girl, 'At church they told us that Jesus is sitting on God's right hand, so I figure he must *have* to use his left!'

The ascension story is really placing Jesus firmly in relation to God in a new way. Gone from the earth, his ministry is now to be continued by his followers; which is where Pentecost fits in. It was on the Jewish festival of Pentecost that the followers of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to tell the crowds the good news of Jesus. The Christian Church was born that day. You can read the story in Acts chapter 2.

The mission of the church could *only* begin when Jesus had departed and the Holy Spirit had been given. It's a mission that we all continue today. All sorts of things that we do as a church are part of our mission to reach out and to share God's love with others. We reach youngsters through our children's work, schools, and youth group. We offer hospitality at Open Door as well as various church groups each week. We raise funds to support all sorts of charities and projects; we pray for people; we visit those who cannot get to church... the list open-ended. After May the church has fewer special celebrations for a while – we enter 'Ordinary Time', marked by the colour green, for growth. But the work that began at Pentecost continues, with all *your* help, support and prayers.

Kathy

Congratulations to **Janet Steward** who has been appointed as **Headteacher at St. Peter's School**. We keep her, all the Staff and children in our prayers at the start of another term.



Over to You!

Hello! Welcome to the May copy of the Parish News!

I am really pleased to have become the Editor of this magazine and would like you to feel free to add your contributions:- News, views, interviews or even the odd joke via the usual route of the email address or hard copy left in the Church vestry.

To start us off Mike Searle came across these ambiguous messages found in Church Bulletins!

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

A saying from 'Nanny McPhee' (the children's character)

'If you don't want me but need me, I'll be there.

If you want me but don't need me, I won't.'

I think this merits a lot of thought about who else it could be applied to!!

Happy Reading !!

Sue Wright.

E 1 W Easter Trip

On the 9th April E1W took a day trip to Cadbury's World which is in Birmingham. This trip was funded by the activities the group have completed and most recently the Masquerade Ball.

The day began at 7 am and we arrived at three hours later. At the beginning of the tour we were all given free chocolate to eat while we looked around the museum and factory. The museum showed us how the cocoa beans were first discovered and the growing process. The cocoa was very valuable and was worth so much to the humans some slaves were traded in for them. The tour then carried us through the process of dark chocolate drink and then how the Cadbury family discovered how to make milk chocolate by adding a pint and a half of milk. This is how the famous Dairy Milk Bar came in to production. Also the tour told us of history of the family, how the company was past down through the generations and the welfare of the workers which were of great importance to them.

We all thought that this day out was amazing, being together, having fun and of course enjoying the chocolate experience.

We just want to say a Big Thanks to everyone who has supported E1W in the passed and we hope you continue to do in the future.

Kerry and Abbygayle Alliss, E1W members.

		May	Diary
Sunday May 2nd		Easter 5	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at the Willows
	4.00 pm		Baptism
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong
Mon 3 rd			Bank holiday
Tues 4 th	9.30 am		Deanery Chapter
	7.00 pm		Stewardship Funding Supper
Wed 5 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist (MU corporate)
			Ladies' Group outing to Peace Garden
Thurs 6 th	9.30 am	- 11.30am	Open Door
Fri 7 th	5.00 pm		E1W meets in the Hall
Sunday May 9th		Easter 6	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	4.00 pm		Baptism
	6.00 pm		Evening Prayer
Mon 10 th	10.15 am		Toddler Time
	2.00 pm		Standing Com. at 77 Bowmandale
	8.00 pm		Prayer and reflection at 82 W.Acridge
Tues 11 th	2.30 pm		Willows Home Communion
	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist
Wed 12 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	7.00 pm		Deanery MU service in St. Mary's
Thurs 13th	9.30 am	- 11.30am	Open Door
	7.00 pm	new time	Ascension Day Sung Eucharist
Fri 14 th	5.00 pm		E1W meets in the Hall
Sunday May 16th		Easter 7	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	8.30 am		Prayer Breakfast at St. Mary's
	9.30 am		Family Worship and Baptisms
	3.00 pm		Ecumenical Service at St. Peter's
	6.00 pm		Parish Eucharist

Mon 17 th	10.15 am		Toddler Time
	am		Home Communions: St. Peter's Court and Victoria House
Tues 18 th	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist
Wed 19 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Mothers' Union meeting
	2.00 pm		Service at Eagle House
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group meeting
Thurs 20 th	9.30 am	- 11.30am	Open Door
Fri 21 st	5.00 pm		E1W meets in the Hall
Sunday 23rd May		Pentecost	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Evensong
Mon 24 th	10.15 am		Toddler Time
	7.00 pm		Eucharist followed by PCC meeting
Tues 25 th	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist
Wed 26 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at Beech House
Thurs 27 th	9.30 am	- 11.30am	Open Door
	7.30 pm		Archdeacon's visitation
Fri 28 th	5.00 pm		E1W meets in the Hall
Sunday 30th		Trinity Sunday	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	3.00 pm		Pets' Service
	6.00 pm		Said evening prayer
Mon 31 st			Bank holiday

Barton Churches Together

May

4 May 7pm Monthly united prayer Parish Room St Augustine Webster
Whitcross St

7.30pm BCT Planning meeting

16 May 8.30am Prayer Breakfast St Mary's Hall

16 May 3pm Christian Unity Service
Grounds of St Peter's Church or St Mary's Church if wet

Pets' Service

The next service for pets, small or large (but not too large) is on Sunday 30th May at 3.00p.m. (Bring a photo if you would rather!) Owners are welcome to attend too!!!!



BISHOP'S LETTER

“I have seen the Church and it works”

So it was that the Archbishop of Canterbury summed up his visit to the Diocese to mark with us the Centenary of the death of Bishop Edward King.

We worked him pretty hard! From a hugely well-attended Conference on Fresh Expressions of Church at the Lincolnshire Show Ground on Friday, right through to lunch at Christ Church, Stamford on Monday he took in as many aspects of Lincolnshire life that we could put his way. For many the Archbishop's Lecture followed by a wonderfully moving Eucharist in the Cathedral will live long in the memory, but he himself was especially touched by witnessing at first hand examples of how Churches in all parts of the Diocese are engaging with the local community – and especially with some of the most hard to reach people in our communities. As he put it in a letter to me following the visit: “I have seen the Church and it works”.

For me the tone was set by his description of the Church as “the echo chamber of the eternal word”. That wonderfully evocative definition captures exactly what we are about as Christians. The eternal word of God has become flesh and dwelt among us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Church echoes that good news as we seek to share in word and deed the love and care of Christ in our communities and congregations. It is the calling we share as fellow-workers for Christ – and amongst our fellow-workers Archbishop Rowan will continue to encourage and inspire us.

My sincere thanks go to all those who made the weekend so memorable and worthwhile.

With every Blessing and joyful Easter greetings,

+ John Lincoln