

Redevelopment Opportunity

Some years ago a radio programme interviewed folk around the City of York, asking for their thoughts on living in such an historic place. There was the usual stuff (including 'Too many tourists' and 'Nowhere to park') but one contribution caught the clerical earhole.

Standing in the shadow of the Minster, one visionary demanded it should be pulled down to make way for something useful – say, housing. York, he felt, didn't need such an outmoded monstrosity clogging the traffic. Well, at least it'd solve the visitor problem – 'Come and see the Alderman Williams Housing Scheme' is only rivalled as a tourist mantra by the (genuine) one suggested for a Midlands city – 'Coventry. Quite close to somewhere nice.'

English Heritage and the people who make a living out of selling tourist knick-knacks would probably hang, draw and quarter any individual who got the wrecking ball out (google for 'Jonathan Martin, arsonist' to find out more), but is that all there is to it? A museum-cum-tourist-attraction-cum-concert-hall?

One of the great privileges we have in St Mary's is that we're able to keep our building open outside normal service times. Those of us who are constantly in-and-out of the building can't fail to note that the York Minster vandal has got it wrong – that there is indeed something 'useful' going on in our building, as in York Minster and in many other places of worship – the offering of a space set aside, not for advertising, or pressure selling, or (profit-driven) entertainment, but unconditionally there for whatever the visitor brings with them and needs most.

Maybe the single simplest gift we can offer those around us is this loved space where those in any kind of need – emotional, spiritual, even artistic – can find themselves renewed or refreshed. Neither consumer nor customer, a person is able to be just that, a person, with no need to justify themselves beyond that, consciously or unconsciously standing in the presence of the God who loves them dearly, in a place where, as TS Eliot said, 'Prayer has been valid for centuries'.

And what we do with our building, we can perhaps also seek to do with our lives – creating from them safe, quiet space for those in need

to come, just as they are, and, perhaps, catch a glimpse in us of the God who loves them. Offering all we can, and demanding nothing in return.

It's a long way from the activist outside the Minster denouncing anything he could see whose use he couldn't see. But perhaps we're on to something important that he's missed? That redevelopment starts in the human soul, not in the planning department?

Fr David.

COMING SOON

Thursday 9th May – Ascension Day – Sung Eucharist 7 pm

Sunday 23rd June – E1W Afternoon Tea and Presentation of Awards by Revd Canon Dr. Jeffery Heskins (+ ukulele) 3 pm – 5 pm

Saturday 6th July – Garden Party 2 pm – 4 pm.

2nd Monday of each month – teaching Evening in Church or Hall from 7 pm

Neil Innes returns to Ropery Hall

Neil Innes needs no introduction to the Ropery Hall audience. The musician, comedian and legend brings his new show, Another Chance To Get It Right, to Barton at the end of May. He performs a wry, poignant, humorous and topical one-man show, spiced with anecdotes of his life and times in the worlds of media and show business.

Neil's solo shows tickle the emotions with a potent mix of fine musicianship and enlightened lyricism, packed with sharp observations celebrating the absurdities of modern existence.

Best known for his collaborative work with Monty Python, The Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band and The Rutles his work in TV, film, literature and theatre has taken him around the world and after the Bonzo Reunion, the Rutles Reunion and the Python Reunion he has gained yet more accolades.

He is appearing on Friday, May 24, and tickets cost £14 in advance or £16 on the door.

Barton upon Humber Civic Society

Tricia Coverdale Jones will be speaking at the Assembly Rooms on Friday 17th May about life at a Japanese University. Tricia spent five months as a Visiting Professor in Japan and, during her time there, was able to research different approaches to Higher Education in Japan. The talk will focus on the Japanese education system but will also relate this to Japanese culture in a wider context. The talk will commence at 7.30pm. Non members' admission is £2.

There has been a change to the schedule of open days at 51 Fleetgate during 2013.

Times of openings are 1.00pm – 4.00pm unless shown otherwise:

Sunday 12th May,

Sunday 26th May and Sunday 9th June in association with CHAMP's Mirrored memories exhibition project; Wednesday 3rd July 6pm – 9pm (Barton Bike Night);

Sunday 25th August; Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th September (Lincolnshire Heritage Open Days) and Saturday 30th November 1.00pm – 7.00pm (Barton Christmas Festival).

Ian Wolseley
Chair

Return Visit of the.....First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, Michigan, USA, Youth Choir.

Concert to be held on Saturday 29th June at 7:00pm

Venue.... Barton Trinity Methodist Church

Admission....Free (collection for charity) Everyone Welcome.

The Bishop of Lincoln writes.....

At the start of this month, those of us who live in the Lincolnshire county council area will be casting our vote in the local elections. Those of us in the other parts of the diocese will be doing so in 2014.

We are fortunate to live in a democracy - something we should never take for granted. Yet in recent years we have seen a decline in the number of people who exercise their right and responsibility to vote. Turnout in the election of our first Independent Police Commissioner in November was only 15%.

Whether we are due to vote this month or not, this is a good time to remind ourselves of the words of St Paul's in his letter to the Ephesians:

“You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.”

As disciples of Jesus we are called continually to assess and reorder our lives according to the values of his kingdom. We do so not only as citizens of earth, but also of heaven. So then, when we have the opportunity to vote, we have an obligation to take seriously our responsibility to engage with the urgent issues of our time; to recognise that each of us has the capacity to make a difference; to do all we can to bring about the coming of God's kingdom for all the people of our diocese.

+Christopher Lincoln:

Wilderspin National School Museum

Museums in the News: The School Museum is eagerly awaiting the outcome of public consultation in response to proposals to change the history curriculum in schools. A strict chronological curriculum is proposed that would mean primary school children would study very little history beyond 1700. The Queen Street School Preservation Trust endorses the Museums Association's response to the proposals, which calls for more flexibility to be given to teachers to allow them to include more recent periods such as Victorian Britain or the First and Second World Wars in their teaching to younger pupils. Watch this space!

Events in May: **Museums at Night**, Saturday 18th May, 7.00pm-9.30pm

Playing around with light to make some optical illusions. Free.

Victorian Extravaganza, Bank Holiday Monday 27th May, 11.00am-4.00pm

Join us for a flavour of Victorian life as part of a weekend of festivals across North Lincolnshire. Children's activities, charity stalls, and afternoon teas. Let us know if you or an organisation you are connected with would like a stall (from £5).

There is still time to book a stall at our **Summer Craft Fair** on Saturday 22nd June – please get in touch for ore details.
www.wilderspinschool.org.uk Tel. 635172

St. Mary's Bellringers

Ringling for services and practice nights has continued to be well attended throughout April and included a new series of practices for Surprise methods the first of which was held on the 7th April when the method was Cambridge Major. 11 people attended, three of whom were learning the method and made very good progress.

The Lincoln Guild AGM is to be held in Lincoln on 27th April and will include the opportunity to ring at the Cathedral which is always an exciting occasion.

May promises to be a busy month with ringing at the Ramblers' Church at Walesby, the annual outing of the Lincoln Guild Northern Branch and the St Mary's ringers will be having a stall at the Victorian Day celebrations in Wilderspin National School on 27th May.

Ringling for weddings will continue as they occur. George has settled well into his new role of Ringling Master and provides lively practices which is not always an easy task taking into account the wide range of abilities to be catered for. There has been another successful practice using the simulator which is always an interesting experience by making us think in a different way about how we are ringling.

Joan Barton

Mothers' Union

Our March meeting started with our usual short service and words of welcome from Linda. We sang "Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart", Val Dukes read from Luke 10 v 25-37, the story of The Good Samaritan. This was followed by prayers from Linda. Then Linda gave out notices and apologies. She thanked everyone who helped with the posies for the service on Mothering Sunday.

Linda welcomed our speaker Jackie Wass who spoke about her visit with her CTAL friends to the Tirunelveli Diocese in Southern India, CSI churches of South India. Jackie showed slides of the schools, colleges and orphanages they visited. There are lots of cultural differences in India compared to our country especially for women. On arrival at the airport porters rushed to carry the men's baggage but the women were left to carry their own!!!!

As she showed the pictures of the happy, smiling, clean and smart children, Jackie explained that everywhere they went they were warmly welcomed by dancers and given gifts. The children who

entertained the visitors expected the visitors to join in and in return entertain them!!

If anyone changed from the Hindu religion to Christianity they lost goodwill and any state benefits.

Jasmine garlands were presented to the visitors everywhere they went, everyone was so welcoming. The pupils put on displays made of flowers, shells and stones in the different schools and colleges. Jackie showed schools for the deaf and blind and their activities. There is also a nursing college, not yet finished, which trains girls so they could return to their villages to be medical officers.

Hundreds of workshops have been created by the churches to train and educate people to be self sufficient. They make candle moulds, candles and soap, do weaving and baking bread. They do recycling work - repairing treadle sewing machines to be used for repairing and sewing. They become high class tailors having been trained well. The power supply is very poor that is why treadle machines are used.

There was a sad side to the visit, some of the pictures showed semi-orphans. These are children who have no homes, either their mother has been widowed or their parents cannot afford them!! If a woman has been widowed she is classed as a failure for not looking after her husband properly. These women have no status in India. In one lucky village an orphanage had been built (but needs finishing) set up by local Christians. The girls sleep upstairs on newspaper on the floor, the boys on the ground floor which floods every time it rains. Jackie was very moved upon seeing the plight of these orphans.

She also showed pictures of a Leprosy clinic - if a parent contracts leprosy their children are made outcasts, very sad. Donations are made towards paying for meals. There are boards around the room showing names of people who have donated or still do so.

Jackie finished her slides showing a Women's Fellowship Parade through the streets taking three and a half hours, which was very

colourful but exhausting to watch in the heat of 38*centigrade. Also typical street scenes, of markets, and the ritual bathing in the waterfalls, men and women using separate sides, the Gandhi Memorial and a Hindu Temple.

Jackie said it is the worst place to be a woman and our prayers are needed for the vulnerable and the orphans. Jackie gave our group a gift of a candle and some altar cloths to use in our prayers. Val Dukes thanked Jackie for an extremely moving talk, and that we are very grateful she and her group had been able to represent us all as fellow Christians.

Brenda Skinner

May 1st 9.30am Corporate Communion Reader Brenda Skinner

May 15th 2pm Speaker Sue Brumpton Reader/vote of thanks Elinor Cartwright

May 22nd 7pm DEANERY FESTIVAL at St Mary's

Flower Rota

May 12th Janet Petch; May 26th Brenda Todd

St. Mary's Ladies' Group

The scheduled speaker was unable to come and give a talk on relaxation so at short notice a Beetle drive was arranged which was well attended. The winner when the points were added up was Brenda Jacklin. We also had one game of bingo and the winners were Sheila Atkin for a line and Elizabeth Elliott for a full house. As one member pointed out instead of going home relaxed we were all exasperated at not being able to throw the numbers needed to complete a beetle.

J.S.

Dawn Blunden of 'Sophisticate' in Woodhall Spa came to speak at our second meeting attended by 70 members. She gave a lively account of how she won the commission to make the wedding cake for Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles. It was an enormous undertaking as the cake had to cut into 1000 slices and a further 2,500 had to be made to fit into specially made tins to send out. After a champagne lunch with her son (who is a Royal Chef) she convinced herself she could do it. She set to by borrowing a Bakery for three days and making the cake with a fifth generation family recipe and some 1800 locally produced eggs plus large quantities of the usual ingredients.

To maintain secrecy the cakes were decorated in the local Methodist Chapel in Woodhall Spa. Decoration was understated in one colour only, featuring emblems for all parts of the United Kingdom.

Throughout the talk we were shown photographs of the cake and other Royal cakes she has made. She even made a spray of flowers for the Queen's 80th Birthday cake and a representation of the walled garden at Highgrove for Prince Charles' 60th Birthday.

Following her talk she demonstrated how to make a collage of haberdashery items from sugar paste - draped fabric, buttons, cotton reels etc. for the top of a cake. Everyone was inspired by her enthusiasm and passion for her work and also by her down to earth approach of improvising with household items such as pan scrubs and nail brushes to create texture rather than buying expensive equipment.

Afterwards some members had a go at modelling some of the small items.

Shân thanked her for her talk and demonstration.

Some of the ingredients used:-

383lb (175kg) dried fruit

139lb (63kg) sugar

139lb (63kg) flour

139lb (63kg) butter

1080 eggs

36 bottles of alcohol

220lb (100kg) marzipan

220lb (100kg) sugarpaste

And lastly a lot of blood, sweat and tears!

FROM THE REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS:-

Apr 14 Charlie Anthony JOHNSON & Isabelle Louisa BROUGHTON son & daughter of Fiona Louise JOHNSON & Jamie Anthony BROUGHTON

Apr 28 Sophie Anne DRAPER daughter of Tracey BOOTH & Stephen Brian DRAPER

Maisie Louise & Casey May SLEIGHT daughters of Rachel Jacqueline & Wayne SLEIGHT

FUNERALS:-

Apr 3 Betty Norah TAYLOR

Apr 5 Terrence Arthur (Terry) SEDDON

Apr 12 Judith (Judy) MANCHESTER

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

Graham Askew

Kathleen Mary Rose

Lucy Booty

Stanley and Laretta Welch

Walter and Gladys Kerr

Franciscan Spirituality

The more you explore spiritual traditions, the more you realize that in many ways they are all variations on a single theme. Both the Benedictine Rule and Teresa of Avila, the Carmelite saint, point to the centrality of Christ and his love for us. And Francis of Assisi was no different; after a lengthy process of conversion he responded to the love of God revealed in the incarnate Christ. Francis wanted to follow Christ as perfectly as was possible. He understood the gospels as

telling him to divest himself of his possessions and seek to follow Christ in a life of complete simplicity and poverty in order to show the love of Christ to others not only by his words but in the way he lived. (He spent time, for instance, living among and serving outcast lepers). For Francis the incarnate Christ made himself present now in the Eucharist, the heart of medieval worship. For Franciscans today the Eucharist is still central to their prayer and their spiritual life. From the first, the Franciscan way was both an active and a contemplative one – exemplified in Francis by lengthy times of retreat for prayer, followed by periods of preaching and service of others.

I met Franciscans closely for the first time when I lived in Orpington and Brother Bernard came one Lent to lead an ecumenical school of prayer; those addresses spoke to me at a particularly low point in my spiritual life and transformed the way I approached prayer.

When at theological college in Salisbury, a few years later, the charismatic Brother Edward came and spoke of Francis and I was hooked. I began the process of becoming a member of the Third Order of the Society of St Francis, being professed in 1984. The Third Order is a religious Order with members, who may be ordained or lay, taking life vows. The aims of the Order are to make Christ known and loved everywhere – so there is an evangelistic emphasis; to work to break down barriers between people and to seek equality for all; and to live simply, seeing our possessions as held in trust from God. And, as with the Benedictine Rule, Franciscans seek a balance of prayer, study and work as part of their journey towards God.

Prayer is central to everything. Through our work we seek to serve others in ways that reflect the love of Christ. And through meditative study of Scripture we seek to draw close to Christ and discover his will for our lives. Undergirding all this is an emphasis on the virtues of humility, love and joy.

Like their founder, Franciscans today are involved in many areas of service to the deprived and needy (many Anglican Franciscan houses are in inner city areas); and they seek to promote ways of living in harmony with the environment (reflecting Francis's love of, and concern for, Creation).

Francis calls us to seek Christ above all else. He once wrote of the Eucharist: "God and the Son of God, so humbles himself that for our salvation He hides himself under an ordinary piece of bread! Look at the humility of God, and pour out your hearts before him! Humble yourselves that you may be exalted by him! Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that he who gives himself totally to you may receive you totally!" That should be the goal of all our spiritual journeying.

Gordon

[I hope that the three articles on Benedictine, Carmelite and Franciscan spirituality have enabled people to be more aware of these orders; I'm sure that David, Liz and Gordon would be delighted to discuss these further with any enquirers. We congratulate, and pray for, David on his admittance as an Oblate of the Benedictines on April 29th. Alan]

Lent Lunches

The total sum raised for Christian Aid this year will be over £400 when the Gift Aid has been reclaimed. Once again we enjoyed delicious soup and crispy bread, along with the company of the happy friendly people who came and gave so generously, as did those who could not be there, but made donations. One of them was Sue Brown, who was recovering from surgery. She hopes to be with us next year to sell cards, cakes and other items to boost the takings, and we look forward to seeing her again.

So, many thanks to all who cooked, served and helped to clear everything away. Somebody even volunteered to wash the table cloths!

Val Dukes.

Over to you....

Alan and I decided to attend the Sunday Eucharist in the Cathedral on the 14th April. Like many others we are not able to go there other than for 'special' services i.e. Ordinations, Bishops' installations or

retirements etc. After nearly being blown away outside the Cathedral and the wind howling inside we made it!

It was nice to be greeted by Jeff Heskins who used to be a fellow football Chaplain with Alan.

The service took place in the Choir stalls with a congregation of about 90. The Cathedral Choir was on Easter Break so we had a visiting Choir, 'The Pennine Singers' who were very good as was their choice of music – Mozart - Spatzenmesse and Anthem - Ave Verum.

If you would like to read the sermon given by the Chancellor, Revd. Canon Dr. Mark Hocknull, you can read it on the Cathedral website.

It never fails to impress me in the cathedral, the sense of awe and wonder - at the building, the superb flowers (there had been a wedding in addition to the Easter Flowers) and the peaceful dignity in the way the service is conducted and flows like clockwork.

We were made welcome too joining the congregation for coffee! So, if you are passing that way try to call in. I think the experience was a good start to my Birthday!!

Have a good month....

S.W.

Alan is collecting again!

Sainsbury's have already started their Schools' Vouchers and I hope Tesco's will start theirs shortly. I'd be very pleased to receive any spare vouchers.

Rosemary Lamert.....

.....sadly has had to retire from her positions in the church due to serious ill-health. We continue to pray for her (and Geoff), and we also thank her most sincerely for all she has done for St. Mary's. Rosemary did far more than could normally be expected of a PCC secretary – but she got her exercise walking round town delivering minutes and agendas. She was also instrumental in helping to initiate the BYAA and CCYA awards in Barton – and rigorously pursued the youngsters to fill in and sign forms. Rosemary was a regular at meals and teas (like Geoff), and supported many other church activities. A few words do not really do justice to all that Rosemary has done. A heartfelt "Thank you".
Alan.



The team of "scrubbers" who helped clean the church before Easter. Please note the apron Janet is wearing – I wonder if she goes to bed in it? Thank you very much for your labours. On a more serious note – there are very few people in this photo; can we double the number next year?

Wed 1st May	9.30 am	Philip and James, Apostles	Said Eucharist (MU Corporate)
	2.00 pm		Service at Eagle House
			Ladies' Group Outing
Fri 3 rd	5.00 pm		E1W
	6.00 pm		Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 4 th			Pilgrimage to Harpham
Sunday 5th May		Easter 6	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at The Willows
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong
Tues 7 th	2.00 pm		Standing Committee (Vicarage)
	7.45 pm		In depth (4a Caistor Road)
Wed 8 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Diary meeting (Vicarage)
	7.00 pm		Archdeacon's Visitation
Thurs 9th	7.00 pm	Ascension Day	Sung Eucharist
Fri 10 th	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 11 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	12.30 pm		Wedding
	2.30 pm		Wedding
Sunday 12th May		Easter 7	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	4.00 pm		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Evening Prayer
Mon 13 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	7.00 pm		Teaching Evening
Tues 14th	7.00 pm	Matthias, Apostle	Said Eucharist
Wed 15 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at Westbridge House
	2.00 pm		Mothers' Union
Thurs 16 th	am		Home Communion
	7.00 pm		Gideon's service
Fri 17th	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 18 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina

Sunday 19th May		Pentecost	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Said BCP Evensong
Mon 20 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	PARISH	NEWS	DEADLINE
Tues 21 st	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist
Wed. 22 nd	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	7.00 pm		Deanery MU service
Fri 24 th	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 25 th	11.00 am		Wedding
	4.00 pm		Wedding
Sunday 26th May		Trinity Sunday	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	11.30 am		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Eucharist with hymns
Wed 29 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at Beech House
Thurs 30th	12 noon	Corpus Christi	Said Eucharist
Fri 31st	12 noon	Visit of Mary to Elizabeth	Said Eucharist
	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 1 st June	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	1.00 pm		Wedding
Sunday 2nd June		Trinity 1	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at The Willows
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong

