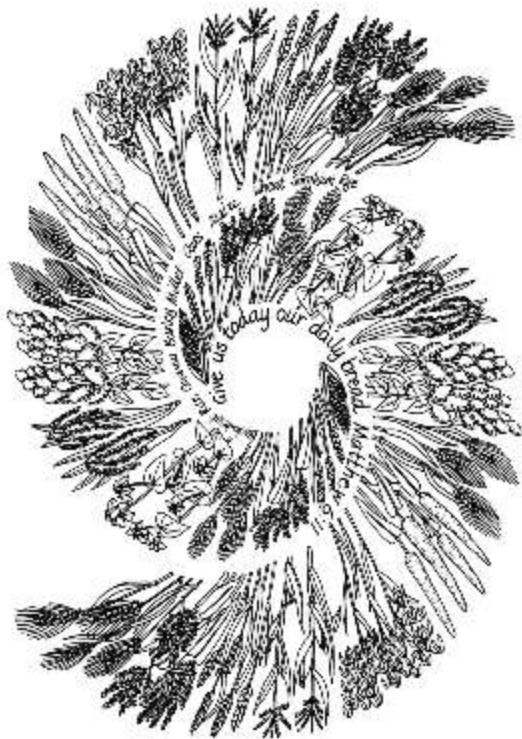


PEWTALK 40_P

October 2016



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITS AND PIECES

The weekend of 8th/9th of October is when we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival with our Harvest supper at St. Francis on the Saturday evening at 7pm and our thanksgiving service on the Sunday morning. Once again the church council have decided that it would be good to support the work of the Thurrock foodbank with our donations of non-perishable food and/or cash. Whether we think that foodbanks should be needed in our country or not we have to accept that many in our locality need this support in times of crisis.

As in recent, previous years we will be remembering the connection between the site of St. Catherine's and St. Cedd on the last Sunday of October (30th) when we will be open for tea and cakes as usual but also with displays that relate to the Celtic saint. We will close the day with a service of Celtic style evening prayer at 6pm.

100 Club

The draw was made by another Paul (Ruskin) at the Family Service on the first Sunday in September and the winner was Mrs. Butcher (Pam England's Mum) so it's being kept in the Family.

If you would like to join the 100 Club it is £10 for the year you will have missed three draws but have two chances to win the £50 at the Christmas Bazaar in December

and at the Summer Fete in June next year.

Thinking of the Bazaar which is on the 3rd December do keep it in your diaries and if you have ideas for stalls etc. do let Pam Painter or one of the wardens know.

.....and while on the subject of fund raising our Autumn cake sale is at St. Francis on Saturday 22nd October from 10am to noon.

The next BATA OPEN DAY is on Wednesday 12th October from 10am to 4pm (no closure over lunchtime). There will be all of the display boards out and you will have the opportunity to view the existing and new display cabinets. As well as an opportunity to catch up with old friends, and view the latest displays, the following will also be happening:

- * Formal opening of our new display cabinets at 11am - hopefully by a representative of Veolia North Thames Trust.
- * Optional Guided Tour of the Bata Estate at midday (£3 per head - minimum 10 people).
- * Illustrated talk on "The History of Bata" at 2:30pm given by Mick Pinion.

All this will take place, as usual, at East Tilbury Library, Princess Avenue, East Tilbury, Essex RM18 8ST Tel: 01375 844921
email:

brrcatbatamemories@hotmail.com

And why from Wigtown you might well ask. Well..... in the absence of a Rector, "from the Rectory" makes no sense and your editor is currently producing PEWTALK from a cottage in Garlieston while attending the Wigtown Book Festival.

This is the fourth time that Kim and I have visited this festival not because we are especially literary but we do have a love of books and listening to writers talking about their inspirations and work. We have listened to many authors and debates involving Sir Malcolm Rifkind, Pru Leith, Sian Williams and Hardeep Singh Kohli amongst the better known. The breadth of subjects covered in the ten days is huge from a debate on Brexit (which we avoided) via numerous writers talking about their latest work, to a visit to the Gledpark Red deer farm to learn something about how top quality venison is produced. This, together with the outstanding scenery makes for a great break and a chance to unwind. Also the night sky in this part of the world is quite magical with our usually obvious constellations, the plough etc., lost in a plethora of stars and the "milky way"!

Of the many books that have been discussed, some of which we bought, there were two that had particular relevance to our faith. The first "A little history of Religion" written by Richard Holloway who is a former Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church is one that I am particularly looking forward to reading for its insights into the way religion has developed from the earliest times. The second, "The invisible Church" by Steve Aisthorpe is based on research that he has done looking at people who have a meaningful Christian faith and yet belong to no recognisable church as we would understand it.

I was also struck by two examples of our Christian unity (or not). After the festival the main meeting tent is made available to the local churches to have a united service. Hundreds of Christians from all denominations and for miles around join to worship together and to give thanks. There is a wonderful atmosphere and it is pretty much the only reason that Kim and I stay for the final Sunday of the event. At the other extreme there was an notice in the foyer of the County Buildings suggesting that Anglicans travel for half an hour to attend a Scottish Episcopal service (in the Anglican tradition) rather than join with one of the local Christian congregations - how strange, I thought.

Finally a timely reminder: We need to remember that British Summertime ends on Saturday 29th October and therefore our clocks need to be set back one hour.

Chris

The Bible Society's "Bible Sunday" is 23rd October



Here is a piece from their website entitled "Middle East: hope for refugees"

Salma (name changed to protect her identity) and her husband had a comfortable life in Syria with their seven children. When fighting broke out in their town, they left for Jordan. The border was only an hour away, and they intended to wait until the skirmish died down, and return home. That was three years ago. Their home is now rubble. The family lost everything. Since she's been in Jordan, Salma has received help from our team. Our staff brought the Bible to life by practically demonstrating God's love – helping Salma find a flat and providing her with food. And after a while, Salma chose to engage with the Bible herself. 'I began attending a women's group; we studied the Bible and shared our worries. It was at this group that I really met Jesus – and I received a Bible,' After a year of love, prayer and support from our team, Salma became a Christian. 'The belief in Jesus makes life worth living, even though I own nothing. The Bible is everything in my life. I've changed. I believe God brought me here from Syria, to go from dark to light.'

They suggest that we:-

- * Give thanks that refugees like Salma are finding hope, comfort and strength in the Bible. Pray for the teams in Jordan and Lebanon who are sharing God's love in practical ways too.
- * Lift up to God the many children traumatised by war in the Middle East. Pray for children and families attending Bible Society Bible-based counselling groups, and ask that they'll find healing through God's word.

Samaritans Purse -Christmas Boxes

I now have the easy to prepare boxes and leaflets giving details of the Christmas Gifts which can be included in the boxes. Many are much appreciated and are very simple gifts and not expensive e.g. biro, pen, toothpaste, small toy, soap etc.

The Parish has for many years generously supported this lovely way of showing love and concern for children for whom the box may be the only Christmas Gift. After Christmas you can get details of exactly where your box has gone and a video will be available showing the joy on the faces of a group children as they open their box. If you would like to prepare a box please let me or one of our congregation know.

Norman 01268 478635

FROM THE SEPTMBER PCC MEETING

The P.C.C. had its first meeting since Canon Paul's retirement on 5th September with Chris Ford in the chair.

The display of work by Cynthia Adams at the August open afternoon had been well received and it was noted that Gordon Steven's display would be on the afternoons of 18th and 25th of September. He was much looking forward to the event and would advertise it in the village.

Chris and Colin reported that Revd. Darren Barlow, the Area Dean, is fully supportive of the ministry requirements of the parish during the interregnum and that cover had been arranged for all of our communion services to the end of October, with clergy from our own Deanery. There had been nothing from the Bishop of Bradwell although we were aware that not only was he still undergoing hospital treatment but that he was also deputising for the Bishop of Chelmsford who was on a sabbatical. In preparation for the production of a "Parish Profile", Chris agreed to make copies of previous profiles available to P.C.C. members.

Some remedial work had been done by the contractors on the area of the wooden chancel platform that had been affected by movement and the disabled toilet lamp that had failed had also been replaced by them . The latest

contractor's invoice was still with the architect / quantity surveyor for their comments and a meeting was to be arranged with the architect when he returned from holiday. It was also noted that we need to provide a list of "snags" (faults identified with the work done) in the next few months.

It was appreciated that in the coming months we need to continue to produce our monthly family service and that for future months we might invite visiting speakers, either lay readers from the Deanery or perhaps from other organisations like the seaman's mission in Tilbury Docks. The need for additional people to lead our services was also raised and after the meeting Both Jan Fawsitt and Kathy Bird offered to help. Subsequent to the meeting some training has been arranged for them.

It was noted that the St. Francis electrical installation needs its five yearly inspection, for which Chris is making arrangements, and it was agreed that we would seek quotations for its redecoration.

As June Schroeder has in the past supported the Friends of Essex Churches "Ride and Stride" event but is unable to this year, it was agreed that we would arrange for a collection in church so that those who have sponsored June in the past could still contribute to this worthwhile cause.

NEWS FROM LINFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Reports are telling us that a record 200 billion daddy-long-legs are set to hatch this autumn and experts are warning the warm weather will see the insects spread further across the country than ever before.



The bugs – also known as crane flies – have benefited from a combination of a hot summer and the right amount of rain, which has helped them grow in their subterranean tunnels.

Well I haven't really encountered too many of these delightful insects so far this year but this month's joint bible study between us and the folk of St. Catherine's in the Terry Finn room of our Church certainly saw an invasion. It was an extremely hot evening and as everyone was feeling the heat I opened all the windows and in a moment of madness the back door as well. Chris who was leading our session did not stand a chance. In flew, moths large and small, Daddy-long-legs, Mosquitos, Shield Bugs, Beetles and every other flying insect that lives in the Methodist Garden. Discussion was interrupted so many times by people swatting these creatures or in my case killing the Mosquitos that serious matters were abandoned for general conversation. Thank you Chris for coping so well when all are heckling, even Gods little creatures.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 6th October 4.30 – 6.00 Yippee Club for ages 5 – 11 theme this month is Autumn and Harvest.

Friday 21st October 2.00 – 4.00 a new venture for the Church Sing-along led by Linford Resident Angie Gilbey. Tea, Coffee and Cakes will be supplied.

Thursday 3rd November 4.30 – 6.00 Yippee Club and the theme this month will be Angels.

If you would like any further information on the above please 'phone me on 01375 851989 or email marian.kuyper@btconnect.com

Laugh line

The Parish Treasurer was going through the church finance and found a receipt from the local ironmonger signed by somebody called Christian. He was not aware of anybody having authority to buy from that store so he rang the shop to point out the mistake." I'm sorry" he said to the store manager "this is the parish church and there are no Christians here."

Tales of the reach of the Internet

Like all new inventions and uses of technology the internet has both good and bad effects on our lives. It has become a vehicle for the publication of material that many of us would rather was not so readily available and made a ready communication system for criminals and terrorists. However it also has brought people together in a way that would have been had to imagine when first devised. Here are some examples, with the first from Marian Kuyper.

As many of you know I am married to a computer whizz kid but unfortunately for me I was for most of our married life a total technophobe. I can remember a conversation some years ago when Bob asked me in sheer frustration when I would become interested in computers to which I replied "When I can type in my shopping list and the shopping gets delivered to the door", I never in my wildest dreams thought this would happen but it has and I am delighted. Another delight for me is email, so instant and so easy, no buying stamps no trips to the post box, no rushing to catch the last post and knowing it would take at least a day to reach the intended person. The internet is indeed a wonderful invention.

You can imagine my delight when out of the blue a few weeks ago I received the following email from a total stranger in Australia.

"I notice from your church's website that you are the Church Secretary of Linford Methodist Church and I've taken the liberty of emailing you to see if you or anyone there can shed any light or background on my grandfather, John Hender Hooper.

My name is Wes Hooper and I live about 100 kms north of Sydney in Australia.

I have in my possession a copy of the Grays Circuit Plan of Public Religious Services from 1906, showing my grandfather listed as a Chapel Steward at your Linford church. I was pleasantly surprised to read on the church history summary on the website that he was also Sunday School Superintendent at the time of building your church (laying one of the memorial stones) and, from a Sunday School book prize of one of his daughters (ie, one of my aunts), he was also (or still) Superintendent in 1907. The family emigrated to Australia in 1913.

I am also curious that the minister from 1929 - 1932 was a Rev E H Lawrence - I am wondering whether he was a relative of John Hender Hooper's wife (Emily Mercy Lawrence before her marriage), although I've not been able to find him or any link between them on Ancestry.com. Perhaps you may know or be able to readily find out his Christian names.

I realise that this is a VERY long time ago but I am wondering if there is any readily accessible information that you may be aware of that gives any further background on any of this.

By the way, I am Church Secretary of our local (in Australia) Baptist church, having also been Church Treasurer and also been on our church's Eldership for a 6 year term. Also, the aunt that I mentioned above became a senior Salvation Army Officer in Australia, from the 1930s till her retirement in the 1960s, so obviously the Sunday School lessons at your church stayed with her and impacted the rest of the family over the years!

Kind regards

Wes Hooper"

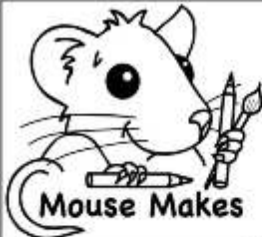
It is marvellous to see that seeds of faith that were sown in the small village of Linford all those years ago travelled the world and survive to this day.

Marian

As far as our own church is concerned I have recently had e-mails from Revd. Peter Rhys Thomas (Rector of St. Catherine's in the 1980s) and from Alan Rickards (who worshipped at St. Catherine's between 1973 and 1985 both of whom have been able to keep in touch with us through our website. We also have occasional contact from Jane Claydon-Knights who regularly reads Pewtalk via the website.

Whereas in the past most of the contact with the parish was made by either telephone, post or visiting St. Catherine's on a Friday evening, such have things changed that we no longer expect visitors on a Friday as virtually all initial contact is by 'phone or e-mail. Our contact details are now on our website, the Chelmsford Diocesan website as well as the "A church near you" one. How things have changed! *Ed*

HARVEST THANKSGIVING



Lord God, you made the world;
You made the land we live on,
the air we breathe,
the water we drink,
the food we eat.



Thank you Lord for the harvest.



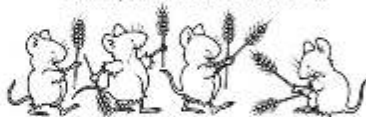
Lord God, you give us all that
we need each day to live.



Thank you Lord for the harvest.

Lord God, help us to share all that you give us.

Thank you Lord for the harvest.



** May the peoples praise you, O God,
may all the peoples praise you.*

*The land has yielded it's harvest and
God, our God, has blessed us.**

Psalm 67:6



Thank you
God for...





See how many words can you
make using the letters from
HARVEST THANKSGIVING

What foods can you think of to finish this acoustic?

H	F
A	E
Raspberries..	S
V	T
E	I
S	Vegetables...
T	A
	L





PARISH DIARY FOR OCTOBER

Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's



2 Oct	19th SUNDAY after TRINITY The Family Service	10am
4 Oct	Social committee at St. Francis	7.30pm
5 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
6 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
7 Oct	Coalhouse Fort schools session	10am
8 Oct	HARVEST SUPPER at St. Francis	7pm
9 Oct	20th SUNDAY after TRINITY and HARVEST FESTIVAL Parish Communion	10am
11 Oct	Bible Study at Linford Methodist Church Deanery Synod at St. Margaret's S-L-H	8pm 7.30pm
12 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis PCC meeting at St. Catherines's BATA open day at East Tilbury library	10am 10.30am - noon 7.30pm 10am - 4pm
13 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
16 Oct	21st SUNDAY after TRINITY Parish Communion	10am
19 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
20 Oct	Thurrock Leaders Prayer Group at St. Catherine's Foodbank at St Francis	8.30 - 9.30am 11am - 1pm
21 Oct	Hadleigh Castle U3A visit St. Catherine's	11am
22 Oct	Autumn Cake Sale at St. Francis	10am - noon
23 Oct	22nd SUNDAY after TRINITY Parish Communion	10am
26 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
27 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis WELCOM Forum meeting (Methodist Church)	11am - 1pm 7.30pm
29 Oct	BRITISH SUMMERTIME ENDS (CLOCKS GO BACK)	
30 Oct	23rd SUNDAY after TRINITY Parish Communion (and commemoration of All Souls) OPEN AFTERNOON (with tea and cakes) Celtic Evening prayer	10am 2pm - 5pm 6pm

FROM ST CATHERINE'S PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

4 September Harley Jayce Lewis

WEDDINGS

10 September Daniel Peters & Jodie Withington

Cake Sale

Saturday 22nd October

10am. until Midday

St. Francis' Centre Linford
(Corner of Lower Crescent / Somerset Road)

ALL KINDS OF HOMEMADE CAKES

Refreshments available



Come early for the best bargains!

A very Quick Thankyou

From Claire Frend to everyone who helped in any way to raise the magnificent sum of £1,092.88 in support of the Macmillan nurses at her coffee morning on September 30th. What an incredible total!

Well done everyone!

When my Task is Through

Shall the great judge say, when my task is through,
That my soul had gathered some riches too?
Or shall at the last it be mine to find
That all I had worked for was left behind.

ST. CATHERINE'S

The Priest in Charge

The Parish is without a priest at the present time.

All enquiries should be made to Churchwarden, Chris Ford:

Telephone: 01375 675863

E-mail: warden.chris.stcatherines@tesco.net

The Services

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service at St. Catherine's
Except 1st Sunday of the month when we have
"The Family Service"

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
For Baptisms and Weddings please contact Chris Ford in the first
instance.

Churchwarden

CHRIS FORD T: 01375 675863

E: warden.chris.stcatherines@tesco.net

COLIN STRONG T: 07591 708955

E: warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com

St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire for regular events when not used by the Church. To check availability please contact:

KATHY BIRD

07920 794716

kathleen.bird@live.co.uk

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Copy Dates for Pewtalk

23rd October 2016

22nd November 2016

18th December 2016