

July/ August Magazine 2012

I'm not a great gardener, but I do know that the green stuff outside needs cutting, that weeds always do far better than the same aforementioned green stuff, and that if gardens are left unattended for any duration they are proportionally harder to manage. There, that sums up my gardening wisdom, but what does this have to do with us?

I think if we examine our own spiritual life we will find similarities. We recognise what Bible study and fervent prayer is, but worries and concerns of this world can often overtake and consume our time and us. Leaving our spiritual life unattended means that our spiritual life will only get harder to maintain.

As followers of Jesus, it's vital we maintain a close walk and relationship with God the Father, exploring His revealed and Spirit inspired Word to us, and making time to engage with God in prayer, through Jesus His Son. We don't do these things out of some dutiful obedience, but because we truly want to be with God, and know all that He has to say to us. We do not want to simply gain more knowledge, but rather to prayerfully seek God for divine opportunities, that as we go out into the community we might be privileged to share the good news of Christ with whosoever God brings across our path. May we be a prepared garden, which attracts people to Christ through our own lives and gospel witness.

In July we will be exploring together some of what I believe is the DNA of Church - Prayer, Praise, Preparation, People, and Proclamation. I also hope to be exploring with you the possibility of launching one or two Bible Study groups, and a regular prayer meeting.

I pray that you will all have a refreshed, inspired and relaxing summer.

Every rich and wonderful blessing in Jesus Christ.

Rev. David

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*If God is in Heaven, why do we look down when we pray?*

# *Parish Register*

## *Funeral*

June 15<sup>th</sup>      John Maddock

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## *Collections*

|              | Open Plate | Env/Gift Aid | Env. (NTP) |
|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>May :</b> | £469.37    | £1223.70     | £178.50    |

*Parish Share.* We have still only paid 3 months Parish Share to date, which means that we are three months behind! Please continue to pray for the finances of the Church and the Projects, as we move forward in faith with the building work being undertaken this summer.

## *Gail.*

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## *September Magazine*

Could all entries for the above edition of the magazine be given to me by **Sunday, August 19th.**

*Jane Richardson.*

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## *200 Club*

Draw result for June, 1<sup>st</sup>: No. 151, 2<sup>nd</sup>: No. 90

The next draw will take place on Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> during the Day Centre meeting.

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## *Fundraising*

What a wonderful time was had by all at the Strawberry Tea afternoon held here at Christ Church a little while ago. We thought, with such awful weather, we might not have any one come along! The whole afternoon went with a 'buzz' and had such a lovely atmosphere! We hope everyone who came along enjoyed themselves and the delicious cream scones and strawberries! Many thanks to Marion for doing some baking for us (as well as the committee members!), Gill for helping in the kitchen and Joan for manning the raffle. Altogether we raised £232 for church funds including donations from friends who couldn't attend. Thank you all!!

Our next function is a **Cheese and Wine Tasting Evening on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 6.30–8.30pm**, presented by Waitrose. The cost is £7.50 per ticket with all proceeds going to church funds. Wines and cheeses will be offered for tasting along with information on when and how to serve them. This event is back by popular demand so if you missed out on a ticket last time now's your second chance! Tickets now available from Dawn Field. (*We hope to hold this evening at church but in case the proposed building works do not allow for this it will be held 'elsewhere' – more details on tickets.*)

August also sees us having a **Market Stall on Friday, Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>**. This will mainly comprise cakes, pastries, preserves etc. and a tombola along with good quality books, our Anniversary tea-towels and mugs. If you have any items suitable for tombola prizes please bring to church any Sunday from now and give to either Dawn or Jane R. Cakes, of course will be asked for nearer the time!

Moving on towards autumn (and we haven't had 'summer' yet!) the Grand Draw Raffle tickets are on order so will be available shortly. This will be held on our Bazaar day, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Because of the aforementioned building works these will not be placed in the church entrance as normal over the summer break so please ask Dawn now for some books to get selling to friends, relatives, neighbours and work colleagues!

That's all our fundraising events at the moment. Do have a good summer and we hope you'll all support our efforts!

*Fundraising Committee.*

# *Christian Aid Collection*

This year we collected a total of £306.25p, which was a very commendable effort. The total was up on last year, which was pleasantly surprising in view of the current economic situation. I would like to thank all those who helped particularly the Collectors viz. Jane Calderin, Jean Hoyles, Bill Mawdsley, Ruth Lock and Sandra Ford who posted the envelopes in Christ Church Close so I could collect them later in the week. Special thanks to Gail, our hard working treasurer, who helped me count the money and then banked it.

I have been the Organiser for the last twelve years and now feel it is time to step back and let somebody else take over. So we are looking for a volunteer for next year. What does being an Organiser involve I hear you ask? Well the first part is not too onerous as it involves going to a lunch at Pam Dixon's house (Argyll Way) in March or April to meet other organisers from churches in Stamford and to pick up the box of envelopes, posters etc. This is an excellent lunch and an opportunity to meet fellow organisers and share ideas and experiences.

The next part can be broken down into 5 steps as outlined below

1. A week or two before Christian Aid Week, which is usually the second week in May, I usually put up a list asking for volunteers to collect. The number of Collectors has gradually dwindled over the years and at present we only have 5 Collectors but 3 of them do 2 streets each so we do cover 8 streets. This is out of a possible 29 streets so there is plenty of scope for new Collectors!
2. This is the time to put up posters inside the church and in the noticeboard outside.
3. Then the envelopes are counted out for each street (I can show you a quick way of doing this that I have learnt over the years!) placed in red canvas collecting bags together with other relevant information. The bags are then left in church the Sunday before Christian Aid Week for the Collectors to pick up.
4. The Collectors return their red bags with envelopes to the church. Then all you have to do is pick them up and arrange a mutually convenient time with Gail and count them. It takes Gail and I about 2 hours to count and bag up the money so it can be banked.
5. When the money has been banked you just need to send the bank receipt plus details of the amounts collected in an envelope to Ian Husbands the Christian Aid in Stamford Treasurer.

Hopefully this will encourage a volunteer to come forward and of course I will be willing to give my support and encouragement if asked. Please give this some serious thought and if you think you could help please contact David Oxtoby or myself. I can honestly say that I have always found it extremely rewarding and not too demanding but I would like a rest!

*Chris.*



### *Amy Robinson*

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Amy Robinson, formerly of Churchill Road, who had been a faithful and active member of Christ Church for many years before moving to Cambridge to be nearer to her family.

Amy always had a ready smile and a willingness to help others even though she had her own disabilities. I for one will never be able to look at a cardboard 'flower box' again without thinking of her and her wonderful sense of humour and fun!

She died in her sleep on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the age of 92. Her funeral is at St Peter's, Barton in Cambridgeshire on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our thoughts and prayers go to her family at this time.

*Jane Richardson.*



### *Befrienders*

Some of our members have attended a Craft Course on Friday mornings, thanks to New College, Stamford. Sally, our instructor, is a lovely lady! Also, at present we are doing five taster sessions with Rutland Adult Education which finishes on July 9<sup>th</sup>. We hope this will lead to a full course of our favourite choice. There will be another Communications Course, 10-3pm on 18<sup>th</sup> July with light lunch included.

We all enjoyed our picnic at Burghley Park on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual trip to Skegness will be on Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> and we still have a few spare seats so if you would like to join us speak to me at church or phone me on St. 764165.

Our last meeting will be on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and the new term starts on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. To all Befriender members there will be the usual lunches at my house every Thursday throughout the holidays.

*Ruthie.*

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## *Day Centre*

We held a very successful stall on Stamford Market in June and raised £218.90 for Day Centre funds. A huge thank you to everyone who baked cakes, donated tombola prizes, helped on the stall or supported us on the actual day.

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Rob Persani from Rutland Radio will be talking to us about working on a radio station.

We will be offering a hairdressing service to Day Centre Members starting this month which we hope will prove popular.

The next Day Centre Communion will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup> at 11.15am and the Foot Health Practitioner will be visiting on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Due to building work taking place inside the Church we will be closing for our summer break on July 18<sup>th</sup> returning later than usual on September 19<sup>th</sup>. We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may cause but wish to keep the disruption caused to Day Centre Members and volunteers to a minimum.

Wishing all members and volunteers a lovely summer!

*Amy & Carolyn.*

## *Keep Fit!*

Hi Everyone! The ladies and gentlemen are still 'keeping fit' under our new leader Deanna. We do half hour standing and another half hour on chairs. It is all a good workout for the heart and balance and you do as much, or little, as you can.

If anyone would like to come along and join us or come and see what we do we meet Tuesdays, 2.30 - 3.30 here at Christ Church. Afterwards we enjoy a cup of tea plus a 'naughty biscuit' and have a good chat with each other. The cost each week is £2.50. We are a great bunch and you will be made very welcome.

Our last meeting this term is on July 17<sup>th</sup> and we will return on September 11<sup>th</sup> when we hope all the new building work will be finished!

## *The Keep-Fit Gang.*

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Mothers Union

The next MU Holy Communion Service, followed by the meeting, will be held at St. Mary's Church on Thursday, July 5th at 10.00am. On Thursday, August 2nd we meet here at Christ Church for our service and meeting again at 10.00am.

At the last meeting Nicola Dunkin, Stamford Food Bank co-ordinator gave a very interesting talk about the new project.

On July 16th we have been invited to the Welland MU group, West Deeping to join in their meeting and on August 9th we will be going to Bourne Abbey for our Deanery Service and meeting to celebrate Mary Summer Day.

Also in August we have been invited to St. George's Church for a tea party. This will either be in the church or 'someone's' garden, weather depending! For more details contact our chairwoman, Sylvia Clayton on Stam. 765063.

Vera Davis.

Working with Families

Toddlers

Our annual trip to Wickstead Park is on Thursday, August 16th and we still have a few places left if anyone is interested. We also have 'wristbands' at a subsidised price of £8 for any guests on the coach, child or adult.

We will continue to enjoy our weekly sessions until we break up on July 19th. Our new term will start on September 13th.

Granny Ruth and the Gang.

Update from Canada

Zoe is now home for the summer and will be in church so please say 'Hi' to her when she is about. Although she had a really tough time towards the end of term she has received her results and these are really good so well done Zoe! No pain - no gain!

She is looking forward to going back to Rosebud at the end of August to start her 3rd year of studies where she will major in Technical Theatre (lighting, sound and scenery). The future looks bright!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Gail.

Love in a Box

Well, the sun didn't make much of a lasting appearance but let's hope you still went out buying new sandals! Remember to ask for the box when buying and donate it to us for Love in a Box. Thank you for your continuing support for this worthwhile project.

Gail.

Bishop of Lincoln's Letter

The Olympic and Para-Olympic games are almost upon us. It will be an exciting time for our nation and the world as thousands of athletes from all over the planet arrive on our shores to test their skills in a wide range of sports against the best in their particular field. We also might find ourselves becoming temporary experts in sports we have never seen before – I remember really enjoying curling on the TV at one winter Olympics and learning a lot about the various techniques involved. Sadly, it is also a dangerous time as, with the eyes of the world upon the United Kingdom, this would be a good time for a terrorist attack. We should pray for a safe Games. My wife and I are going to one track and field event and we are already planning our route to the stadium, probably by river and on foot, so we get there comfortably on time.

One thing I learned from the *More than Gold* website is that the original Greek Olympics were preceded by a 'Sacred Truce', which allowed competitors to reach the stadium without being attacked as they passed through the Greek peninsula. I am hoping for a Sacred Truce this time as well – not just safety from terrorist attacks or a safe journey to our event – but in a much broader sense.

Bringing young people together from almost every nation on the planet creatively and enjoyably to engage in competitive sport is an example of how nations could relate to each other, without the need for ancient enmities or violence. The Games are surrounded by a hundred day vigil for peace in the world: peace between and within nations; peace in our own hearts. Let us pray that this will be the true legacy of the 2012 Olympic and Para-Olympic Games.

+Christopher Lincoln:

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## *Tales from the Undergrowth*

Like you and me the plants in the gardens are not sure what season they are in let alone which month!! and biological clocks have gone haywire with the changing weather. The good news is that the vast majority have shown typical 'British spirit' and fortitude continuing to grow despite the rain etc. The roses are starting to come into bud although the rain has

damaged many buds on the rose 'Peace' though I am sure that it will still put on a good show later on. The rose 'Deep Secret' lived up to its name, it has a gorgeous scent and a really dark red colour but did you see it hiding under the flowering cherry at the bottom of the ramp?

The existing climbers, shrubs and perennials continue to flourish though some passed through their life cycle more quickly than usual. Nearly all of the new plants that I have planted this year seem to have established themselves. Several new perennials have been added together with bulbs and corms, which will be more evident later in the year.

Whenever the weather allowed I have tried to cut the grass each week and I was delighted to see Teen Zone using the Garden of Dreams by the garage one night. I would urge as many groups as possible to make use of this outside space and of course individuals too can sit and relax in this garden. The climbers over the arches in this garden have not grown quite as much as I would have liked but I think this is due to the canopy above from the trees, which prevents the rain from reaching the ground. Even in that monsoon rain the ground was quite dry under the trees! My honeysuckles at home have gone wild this year but they are exposed to the rain!

I still have 3 projects lined up but none of them are really urgent. Two of them involve putting up fencing to tidy up the boundary – by the lime tree at the south east corner of the car park and in front of the electricity sub-station.

The third project is to create a hedge with British native species alongside the boundary with the car park on the north side of the church. Peter Wise assures me that the grass verge here belongs to the church so I am planning to plant this hedge to complete the green circle around the church for Wild Life. The idea is to provide even more habitats and food. This is why I have deliberately kept the grass near the building long as you increase the diversity of wild life by leaving some grass longer than usual. I also hope to plant some British wild flowers in the grassed area to provide nectar and habitats. If anyone has any of the following I would be very grateful if you could pass them on to me to use in the church garden.

Agrimony , Bird's Foot trefoil, Bugle, Campion Red/White, Clover red, Coneflower (Echinacea purpurea), cornflower, corn marigold, corn cockle, cowslip, cranesbill meadow, field scabious , Hedge Bedstraw, Jacob's ladder, Knapweed, Lady's smock, Loosestrife Purple, marjoram

wild, musk mallow, orange hawkweed (Fox & Cubs), ox-eye daisy, Poppy, pansy wild, Toadflax, Viper's bugloss, Wild Basil, Wild Strawberry, Yarrow.

*Chris.*



## *Cat's Tale*

Hi Family

'Mummy Ruthie' has been looking after me whilst my other 'mums' are away on holiday. Nice to be looked after in all events! I'm enjoying the better weather, long may it reign! Note 'reign' and not 'rain'!!

Love to you all. **M.D.**



## *Calendar*

### *July*

|               |          |                                            |                                                                       |
|---------------|----------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Evensong</b>               |
| Monday        | 2        | 1-3<br>7.20                                | Befrienders<br>PCC Meeting                                            |
| Tuesday       | 3        | 2.30                                       | Keep Fit                                                              |
| Wednesday     | 4        | 9-3<br>11.15<br>7.00<br>7.30               | Day Centre<br>DC Communion<br>Informal Prayer Meeting<br>Gospel Choir |
| Thursday      | 5        | 9.30<br>1-3<br>7.30                        | Toddlers<br>Twinklets<br>Horticultural Society                        |
| Friday        | 6        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                           |

|               |           |                                            |                                                              |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Evensong</b>      |
| Monday        | 9         | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                  |
| Tuesday       | 10        | 2.30                                       | Keep Fit                                                     |
| Wednesday     | 11        | 9-3<br>7.00<br>7.30                        | Day Centre<br>Informal Prayer Meeting<br>Gospel Choir        |
| Thursday      | 12        | 9.30<br>1-3                                | Toddlers<br>Twinklets                                        |
| Friday        | 13        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>King's Praise</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b> |
| Monday        | 16        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                  |
| Tuesday       | 17        | 2.30                                       | Keep Fit                                                     |
| Wednesday     | 18        | 9-3                                        | Day Centre                                                   |
| Thursday      | 19        | 9.30<br>1-3                                | Toddlers<br>Twinklets                                        |
| Friday        | 20        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Evensong</b>      |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>10.00</b>                               | <b>All Age Communion Service</b>                             |

See weekly notice sheets for details of all events.

**All our groups are taking a well-earned summer break until mid September.**

Girl Guiding UK have units meeting each week here at Christ Church throughout term-time. For more information contact 01780 784091.

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Basement

Regular term time Programme for the Basement

Monday	3-7	Teenzone
	7-9.30	Teenzone sports @ QE
Wednesday	3-7	Teenzone
	7-8.30	Teenzone
Thursday	1-3	Befrienders
Friday	3-4	Teenzone (Careers Session)
	4-7	Teenzone

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## *August*

|                        |           |                             |                                          |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>5</b>  | <b>10.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>Evensong</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>12</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>Evensong</b> |
| Tuesday                | 14        | All day                     | Befrienders trip to Skegness             |
| Thursday               | 16        | All day                     | Toddlers trip to Wickstead Park          |
| Friday                 | 17        | 6.30                        | Cheese and Wine Tasting                  |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>19</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>Evensong</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>26</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>Evensong</b> |
| Monday<br>Bank Holiday | 27        | All Day                     | Teenzone Festival on the Rec.            |
| Friday                 | 31        | All Day                     | Fundraising Market Stall                 |

Teenzone will have a programme of activities throughout the summer.  
See leaflet in church for more details or contact them on 07894571209

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Holy Humour!

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

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*There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is it's still in your pockets!"*

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While driving in Pennsylvania , a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign.....

*"Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass.
Caution: Do not step in exhaust."*

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*A Sunday school teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy. "Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked. "You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... "*

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A Nun Grading Papers

These answers come from a Catholic Elementary Test. Try to imagine the nun sitting at her desk marking these papers, all the while trying to keep a straight face and maintain her composure! Answers have not been altered nor has the spelling!

1. In the first book of the Bible, Guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Arc. Noah built the Arc and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
5. Sampson was a strong man who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like Delilah.
6. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.
7. Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
8. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.
9. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
10. The seventh commandment is thou shall not admit adultery.
11. The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
12. David was a Hebrew king who was killed at playing the liar. He fought the Finklestines, a race of people who lived in biblical times.

13. Soloman, one of David's sons had 300 wives and 700 Porcupines.
14. When Mary heard she was the mother of Jesus she sang the Magna Carta.
15. When the three wise guys from the east side arrived they found Jesus in the manger.
16. Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.
17. St. John the blacksmith dumped water on Jesus' head.
18. It was a miracle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to lift the tombstone off the entrance himself.
19. The people who followed Jesus were called the 12 Decibels.
20. The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.
21. One of the Oppossums was St. Matthew who was also a tax man.
22. St. Paul cavorted to Christianity; he preached Holy acrimony which is another word for marriage.
23. Christians have only one spouse which is called monotomy.

