

# May Magazine

Dear All,

I find the return to a church which uses the lectionary to be a real joy. It gives the year a sense of regularity and rhythm. Easter is just over and after a few Sundays after Easter we move to Ascension Day and Pentecost. The regularity as events come round enable us to study carefully the bible stories of these events. As I remember these stories I recall how in my youth the stories came from the Authorised version of the Bible. This year is as you probably know the 400th anniversary of the King James version. Those of you who were familiar with that version will recall how magnificent and poetic was and is the language. You will also remember how difficult much of it was to understand. We are so fortunate to have modern translation which we can read and make much more sense of what is happening in the Bible stories. To commemorate this anniversary, I thought it would be good to have the AV read in church for all the services one Sunday. I suggest that this is done on the 5th June.

You may be surprised to see that I am planning to be here that far beyond Easter, but I have volunteered to stay on helping to found the partnership with St Georges. I have offered to stay through until September, but as Anne and I have booked our holidays I have suggested that I might have two Sundays off each month. I hope you see this as good news!! The main difficulty I see is that it disguises the changes which will I am sure be necessary in working out this partnership with St Georges.

While mentioning partnerships I have become very aware of a partnership which already exists in Christ Church. I am talking about the Projects which are running from the church. There must be a hundred people each week who come through the doors because of the different groups which meet each week. Some of the groups are manned by paid staff, while there are many volunteers who help on a regular basis. Thank you to all the people involved in the work. As well as the different groups we find visitors coming to the car scheme office, drivers and people wanting to use the mini-buses. Thanks to the Toddlers and Twinklets groups, the Guides, Brownies, and Rainbows all of whom are run by volunteers.

Of course we cannot forget the Fun and Fitness Group who meet throughout the year on a Tuesday afternoon. It is a wonderful work which we provide for the community. Thank you each and everyone.

May I wish you all a really blessed month.

Peter.

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### Collections

|                | <b>Open Plate</b> | <b>Env/Gift Aid</b> | <b>Env. (NTP)</b> |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>March</b> : | £281.55           | £810.00             | £251.85           |

Gail.

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### June Magazine

Could all entries for the above edition of the magazine be given to me by Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Publication will be the following Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup>.

Jane Richardson.

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### 200 Club

The next draw will take place on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> during the Day Centre meeting.

Draw result for March will also be published next month.

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# Bishop-Elect Christopher visits Christ Church.

Following approval of his nomination by The Queen, the formal announcement was made by Downing Street at 10am on Friday April 15.

Seven hours later the VIP visited Christ Church! What a great day and honour for our church family! The VIP was the Venerable Christopher Lowson, and his appointment was for his election as the new Bishop of Lincoln, in succession to Bishop John Saxbee, following the latter's resignation on the 31 January.

Although a small number of us had been informed a few days earlier through the diocesan office of a proposed visit by a "VIP", we did not know the name of the new Bishop-Elect and were under strict instructions that the planning for the visit needed to be kept secret until the official announcement was made. Despite the difficulty of planning for a secret event, all went smoothly: the new Bishop, his wife and his team, including the Archdeacon and the Bishop of Grantham, arrived by coach, spent time talking to some of our church leaders over tea and cakes, met with several members of two of the church outreach programmes (including StartaFresh and Teenzone), and had a quick conducted tour of the church facilities.

Their visit ended with Evening Prayers in the church, led by the Bishop himself. And sixty minutes later, the visiting team was back in the coach and on the road again, with the Bishop needing to catch a train back to London for further duties there.

So Christ Church has the privilege of being the first venue for the new Bishop to lead an act of worship in the Lincoln Diocese. We pray and believe that we will be able to welcome him again in the not-too-distant future. And thanks to All who helped make the visit such a success.

Mike Mills.



# Bits and Pieces

## Jane Holmes

Jane will be with us for the 10 am Sunday service on June 5<sup>th</sup>. She will not be able to come in the evening so if you would like to see her come to the morning service!

On Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup> we are planning to travel to Gayton to attend a service led by Jane Holmes. The service is at 11 am which means we will not need to leave too early, probably around 9:30 am. We hope to have lunch at the Crown in Gayton after the service. There will be a sign up sheet in the entrance hall; please sign up as soon as possible as we will need to know numbers for the coach and lunch. There will be a charge but that will depend on the number going. If you have any questions please see Jane C.

## Timothy Dicken

Some parishioners will remember the Rev. Timothy Dicken who was vicar in charge of Christ Church when the church moved from Willouby Road to Green Lane.

He has recently retired and he and his wife Elizabeth are going to come and visit us here at Christ Church and join us in our service on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Refreshments will be served after the service giving us a lovely chance to meet and talk with them again.

## Licensing of Martyn Taylor as Priest in Charge of Christ Church

It has been agreed with all the 'i's dotted and t's crossed' that Martyn will be licensed as Priest in Charge of Christ Church on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. This was agreed at the last PCC meeting. More details will be in next month's magazine.



# Fundraising

Our sincere thanks go to Peter, Maria and David for doing their 'sponsored slim' during Lent. Let's hope they were successful in losing weight! If you sponsored them please let them have your money and the total raised will be announced next month.

The Service Provision Project Open Day which had been planned for Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> has been postponed and is now likely to be held in June. This will be confirmed in next month's magazine.

Our next major fundraising event is now the Market Stall which will be held on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. (Fingers crossed for fine weather!!) Full details of this will also be in the next magazine but start having a look around your home now for any good quality items you no longer need!

On Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> we will be having our 'Strawberry Teas' afternoon so let's hope for more fine weather which will also help fill the Sunshine Bags to be distributed during that month.

Don't forget we (the committee) are also looking for sponsorship 'ideas' for the four of us to 'do' something during the summer so, again, sensible (!!!!) ideas welcome!

There will be a fund raising quiz for the street pastors at 7.30pm on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June. Cost is £5 per person, with teams of 6 people. More info next month!

## Fundraising Committee.



## Day Centre

Last month we were delighted to discover Janet Ingram had nominated the Day Centre for the Stamford Mercury Community Champions Award. We are keeping our fingers crossed but wish all the nominees the best of luck.

This month sees another Day Centre Member celebrate their 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday. Mary Noble will reach the milestone on May 19<sup>th</sup> and we look forward to joining the celebrations. Congratulations Mary!

On May 4<sup>th</sup> we welcome Chris Thorley who will talk to us about local history. The following week Alex Naylor returns to play more organ music and finally on the 25<sup>th</sup> Louise Marsh, Chief Executive Officer of the Evergreen Trust will speak about the services they provide in Stamford.

The Foot Health Practitioner will be with us on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

The next Day Centre Communion takes place on May 4th at 11.15.

## Amy & Carolyn.

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### Mothers Union

The next M.U. Holy Communion Service, followed by the meeting, will be held at All Saints Church on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 10.00am. All are welcome.

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### Teenzone

Teenzone has been opening throughout wind and rain this term, and the figures don't seem to be affected by the ever-changing weather. Our highest and most impressive figures show that on a Monday night (when we run a café, drama and sports session) we engage with up to 62 young people. Teenzone is happy to have seen its numbers increase throughout the term with new memberships being taken out, and also with great interest from parents who are learning more about the work that Teenzone does.

Working alongside Teenzone is Stamford Youth Panel, a group of representatives from the three schools in the surrounding area (Queen Eleanor, Stamford School and Stamford High School), whose aim is to act as a voice for young people in the town, whilst reaching young people and providing them with opportunities when available. This year, like previous years, Stamford Youth Panel and Teenzone are joining forces to compete in Stamford Carnival, a float parade in which organisations decorate a lorry and drive through the town (you have to see it to believe it!). This

year's theme for the floats is 'Fairytale's' and the Youth Panel have decided that our float this year is to be based on the brilliant story of 'The Wizard of Oz'.

With the carnival on June 25<sup>th</sup>, there is no time to hang around; Stamford Youth Panel have been thinking up ideas of how the float is to be arranged and how to include as many characters as possible onto the 40ft lorry.

Teenzone will be open for set times throughout the Easter Holidays, and with all of our fingers crossed, we will hope for a continuous steam of high attendance figures, clearly showing a positive impact to young people in the area.

**Ali.**



## Working with Families

### **Toddlers**

We've had two more arrivals! Evie arrived on February 15<sup>th</sup> and Riley on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Aunty Barbara has had a set back and not been too well. We hope she is now on the right track and look forward to welcoming her back soon.

We had a lovely Mother's Day Kings Praise Service with daffodils for mums and grans. For Easter we made fluffy tailed bunnies and chicks.

We are now back meeting once again welcoming members old and new!

**Granny Ruth and all!**



# Bishop of Grimsby's Letter

Dear Friends,

The announcement of the Venerable Christopher Lowson as the new Bishop of Lincoln was warmly greeted across the Diocese. I do ask you to keep Christopher and his wife Susan in your prayers as they prepare to come and join our pilgrimage as God's people discovering how to share the good news of Jesus Christ in our generation.

2011 has so far proved to have been historic year and perhaps it will be remembered as a year when there was a coming together of events which have changed the shape of things to come. Internationally our headlines have been captured by the Arab Spring, with its rejection of totalitarian regimes, horrific natural disasters in both New Zealand, Australia and the sheer devastation in Japan. These events have each brought with them heartrending stories of human despair, loss and countless personal tragedies.

Domestically our national story continues to be reshaped by the effects of Government cuts changing the landscape for public services, the NHS and education. At the same time rising prices, an all-time high price for fuel and high levels of unemployment bring with them stories of hardship and anguish.

Life is just full of stories. Whilst the media, with its inability to stay with any story for very long, moves on hungry for new material, the reality is that for the people involved in the headlines, the story goes on and has to be lived out.

A church active in God's mission no option other than to be caught-up in the ongoing human stories which shape the future for individuals and for their communities. It is only when we have lost sight of this connection that we suggest that the church shouldn't be involved in politics. Being caught up in what is happening in other people's lives starts with our prayers, but then has to go on to being actively involved in sustaining, supporting and sharing in the stories which are being lived out all around us.

The story at the heart of the Christian faith is the story of an active God whom we find in Jesus Christ engaged with the ongoing story of life.

So a Church caught up with the active God will be a busy place, not for its own sake or its own future, but busy keeping up with a God who is deeply involved with the human stories which ultimately make and shape history.

**+David Grimsby**

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**Thankyou!**

I would like to thank everyone who supported me on my sponsored slim!

Over the Lent period I lost one stone which I was very pleased with. I am going to try to continue to loose weight until my holiday in August!

Many thanks,

**David Wise.**

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**Cat's Tails!**

Hi Family!

I've been enjoying the sunshine just lately as I'm sure you have too but I think the warm weather has put me off my food a bit – maybe my tummy is telling me I have the beginning of middle age spread! Plans are afoot to make a cover for my 'yummies' to keep them out the sun.

I've attended Evensong again, paying full attention to the sermon!

Love you loads,

**M.D.**

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# Calendar

## May

|                 |           |              |                                      |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>1</b>  | <b>10.00</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>                |
| <b>Easter 2</b> |           | <b>6.30</b>  | <b>Evensong</b>                      |
| Tuesday         | 3         | 2.30         | Fun and Fitness                      |
| Wednesday       | 4         | 9-3.00       | Day Centre                           |
|                 |           | <b>11.15</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>                |
|                 |           | 3.30         | Day Centre Committee                 |
|                 |           | 6-8.30       | Teenzone Dance                       |
| Thursday        | 5         | 9-1.00       | Pilates Class (B'ment)               |
|                 |           | 9.30         | Toddlers                             |
|                 |           | 1-3          | Twinklets                            |
|                 |           | 7.30         | Horticultural Society                |
| Friday          | 6         | 1-3          | Befrienders                          |
|                 |           | 4.30-5.30    | Teenzone Glee Club                   |
|                 |           | 6-8          | Brownies                             |
|                 |           | 8.00         | WWF Meeting                          |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>8</b>  | <b>10.00</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>                |
| <b>Easter 3</b> |           | <b>6.30</b>  | <b>Evensong</b>                      |
| Monday          | 9         | 1-3          | Befrienders                          |
|                 |           | 6.30         | Teenzone Drama                       |
|                 |           | 7-9          | Guides                               |
| Tuesday         | 10        | 2.30         | Fun and Fitness                      |
| Wednesday       | 11        | 9-3.00       | Day Centre                           |
|                 |           | 6-8.30       | Teenzone Dance                       |
| Thursday        | 12        | 9.30         | Toddlers                             |
|                 |           | 1-3          | Twinklets                            |
| Friday          | 13        | 1-3          | Befrienders                          |
|                 |           | 4.30-5.30    | Teenzone Glee Club                   |
|                 |           | 6-8          | Brownies                             |
| Saturday        | 14        | 9-1.00       | DC Food Hygiene Course (B'ment)      |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>15</b> | <b>10.00</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>                |
| <b>Easter 4</b> |           | <b>6.30</b>  | <b>Churches Together in Stamford</b> |
|                 |           |              | <b>Celtic Evening Prayer</b>         |
| Monday          | 16        | 1-3          | Befrienders                          |
|                 |           | 6.30         | Teenzone Drama                       |
|                 |           | 7-9          | Guides                               |

|                            |           |                         |                                               |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday                    | 17        | 2.30                    | Fun and Fitness                               |
| Wednesday                  | 18        | 9-3.00<br>6-8.30        | Day Centre<br>Teenzone Dance                  |
| Thursday                   | 19        | 9.30<br>1-3             | Toddlers<br>Twinklets                         |
| Friday                     | 20        | 1-3<br>4.30-5.30<br>6-8 | Befrienders<br>Teenzone Glee Club<br>Brownies |
| <b>Sunday<br/>Easter 5</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>10.00<br/>6.30</b>   | <b>King's Praise<br/>Holy Communion</b>       |
| Monday                     | 23        | 1-3<br>6.30<br>7-9      | Befrienders<br>Teenzone Drama<br>Guides       |
| Tuesday                    | 24        | 2.30                    | Fun and Fitness                               |
| Wednesday                  | 25        | 9-3.00<br>6-8.30        | Day Centre<br>Teenzone Dance                  |
| Thursday                   | 26        | 9.30<br>1-3             | Toddlers<br>Twinklets                         |
| Friday                     | 27        | 1-3<br>4.30-5.30<br>6-8 | Befrienders<br>Teenzone Glee Club<br>Brownies |
| <b>Sunday<br/>Easter 5</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>10.00<br/>6.30</b>   | <b>Family Communion<br/>Evensong</b>          |

## Basement

### Regular term time Programme for the Basement

|           |                          |                                                                           |
|-----------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | 12.3-3.3<br>5-7<br>7-9.3 | Stroke Association (every other week)<br>Teenzone<br>Teenzone sports @ QE |
| Wednesday | 4-5<br>5-7               | Teenzone table tennis<br>Teenzone                                         |
| Thursday  | 1-3                      | Befrienders                                                               |
| Friday    | 5-7<br>7.3-10            | Rainbows<br>Teenzone                                                      |

- See weekly notices for details of all events

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## Subject: Hymn No. 365

A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said,

'If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

With even greater emphasis he said, 'And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, 'And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The hymn-leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing, 'For our closing hymn, let us sing Hymn No.365, 'Shall We Gather at the River.'

Smile, life is too short not to!!

See you at the river!

*(Hope I haven't printed this piece of prose before. I couldn't find it in my 'back' copies of the magazine. If I have I'll put it down to a senior moment now I've reached 'a certain age'!! Editor.)*