

WORCESTER Diocesan News



October 2009

The Lifepath of Malvern

"A very big thank you for letting our children take part in Lifepath Malvern. The children and staff returned to school buzzing with enthusiasm and clearly inspired - what an excellent day!" (Head Teacher) "A super day - no improvements needed!"

"Please repeat it again next year!" Just some of the many positive comments on the Schools' Evaluation and Feedback Forms after this year's Lifepath held in Great Malvern Priory.

Lifepath is a project initiated by Scripture Union that aims to give primary school children the opportunity to explore something of the Christian faith through the story of those who built the church in their area. In our case, members of several local churches worked together to explore the lifepath of the Benedictine monks who founded the Priory in 1085, and to use this as a springboard to encourage the children to reflect on their own journey through life.

Approximately 100 children, accompanied by teachers and assistants, arrived at 10.00 am each day of the last week in June. Over a week, pupils from fourteen different schools, plus a group from the Chernobyl Children's Life Line, experienced activities that included Brass Rubbing, Calligraphy, a Day in the Life of a Medieval Monk, Medieval Medicine, a Prayer Journey, Singing, and Stained Glass. At the



close of each activity, at the sound of a bell, everything stopped. The words "Be still and wait for the Lord" came over the sound system, to which all responded: "I will wait patiently for Him." Then there was silence for 30 seconds. This was quite awesome, as the children, excited by their activities, stood quite still and kept total silence. The day began and ended with Collective Worship that included lively songs, an interactive Bible story, and the building of a cairn around a Christmas-tree cross. Children, teachers and assistants left the Priory each day, expressing the wish that the day had lasted longer!

By the end of the week, the Team (of around 50 volunteers) was tired but greatly encouraged. We had seen answered prayer in so many areas - from practical and administrative ways to the smiles on the faces of children discovering that prayer shouldn't be boring and that each and every human being is special to God. Everyone seemed to enjoy some aspect of the Lifepath experience. We shall definitely aim to repeat it again next year!

<http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/Lifepath/10352.id>

Mary Barr - (Minister for Children, Youth and Families at Malvern Priory)

Changes at the Diocesan Office



Sue Gromski is the new Secretary/Administrator for the Department of Training and Development and for the Diocesan Director of Ordinands, working both for Robert Jones and for the new DDO Georgina Byrne. All bookings for training events run by DTD and for a few of the events organized by other

departments for clergy and staff will be taken by Sue. Sue's email is sgromski@cofe-worcester.org.uk, the DTD email is training@cofe-worcester.org.uk and the telephone number will remain the DTD number (01905 732812).

Judy Baker has a new role as HR Administrator. This is mainly to do with administration for the new clergy 'terms of

service' legislation on which work is starting now in preparation for next year's launch. Judy's email remains jbaker@cofe-worcester.org.uk, while her new direct dial is 01905 730730. Judy will be responsible for **Andrea Lugo** who will now be the regular point of contact for CRB disclosure applications and for diocesan Child Protection training courses. Working two days per week she will send out and process CRB applications, liaising with parishes through their Child Protection Representatives and arranging venues and taking bookings for Child Protection training evenings. She can be contacted on the new diocesan Safeguarding 'phone number (01905-732811) or by email at alugo@cofe-worcester.org.uk. However, if possible, please contact Andrea on **Tuesdays** and **Wednesdays** when she will be at the diocesan office. As previously, any urgent safeguarding matters should still be referred to Maria Johnson, the Bishop's Representative for Child Protection and for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults.

The Bishop of Worcester is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Sarah Cooke as Bishop's Adviser in Pastoral Care and Counselling, in succession to Mrs Cynthia Harris, who is retiring, with effect from the 1st September. Like Cynthia, Sarah will co-ordinate a team of counsellors who are available to clergy

who need support. Sarah is qualified as a Jungian Analyst and analytic psychotherapist and has a wide experience of working with people involved in Christian ministry. She lives in Evesham and is available on 01386 442253 and can be contacted by email @ sarahcooke558@btinternet.com

Retirements

The Revd Andy Kelso retired as Team Vicar Ipsley, Redditch on August 31st

The Revd Chris Watkins retired as Team Vicar Wordsley on August 31st

The Revd Wallace Brown retired as Team Rector – Ipsley on September 1st

Café@TheOldPalace

The Old Palace restaurant is now fully operational and has a very tempting menu which is available every day of the week. The Old Palace has been a place of hospitality for 800 years, and is a church house for the diocese. We would like to extend this hospitality to everyone in the parishes, in particular, so do call in for a coffee and homemade cake or some home cooked lunch when you are next in Worcester. Those who have vouchers from the Diocesan News published in May, can redeem these until the end of November. To book a table call 01905 732827.

Furthering Mission

As a Diocese our first priority is mission and in focusing on it the Bishop's Council has identified three priorities.

They are:

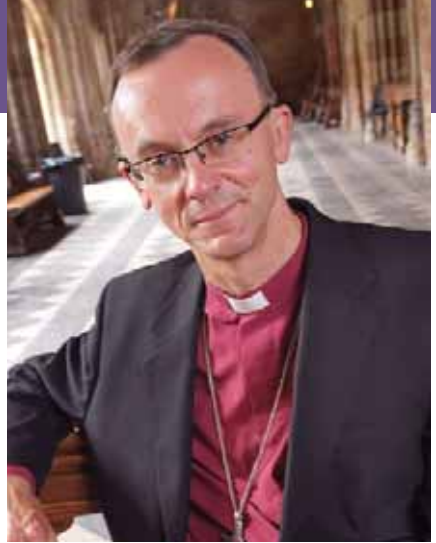
- *The deepening of our prayer*
- *The renewal of our public worship*
- *The equipping people to share their faith*

I am delighted to announce three developments which should help us to work on these priorities.

Bishop David has agreed to chair a group which will be charged with encouraging and helping people to pray and enrich their Christian spirituality, entering more deeply into their relationship with God in Jesus - a necessity for mission.

The Revd Doug Chaplin, Team Vicar in the Droitwich Team and Director of Reader Training, has accepted my invitation to become our Diocesan Worship Advisor. He will help parishes reflect on their worship and will also be taking a leading role in training Worship Leaders as part of the new Authorised Lay Ministry training course. My vision is for a diocese in which the worship of all our churches – however large or small the number of worshippers – will be so deeply attractive to all who experience it that they will be set on fire with God's love.

The Revd David Sherwin has kindly agreed to take on the role of Diocesan Evangelism Advisor, in addition to his responsibilities as Rector of Martley and Rural Dean of Martley and Worcester West. David, who is a member of the College of Evangelists, will be working



alongside the Archdeacon of Worcester to help to equip us all to share our faith in a sensitive and non-threatening manner. He will be training Evangelists for Authorised Lay Ministry and will be able to offer advice to individuals and parishes. We all need to learn to speak of our faith more readily.

These appointments, though honorary and part-time will, I hope, play their part in taking us deeper into our relationship with the Living God, renewing our worship and enabling us to speak of our faith. That way, we shall fully play our part in furthering God's mission.

Our Loving God.

It is your will to reconcile all things to yourself in Jesus.

Help us to draw close to Him in prayer and so to meet Him in worship that our lips and our lives may eloquently speak of your glory, truth and love. Amen.

Bishop John

Above and beyond....

A tribute to a few of the many great people who quietly make churches flourish...



John Nott is a churchwarden at St Peter & St Paul Church, Rock near Kidderminster. John's family have been farming in the parish since the middle of the 18th Century. He was baptised at the church and has been a member all of his 76 years of life. Over the

years John has worked with the 'Friends of Rock' and the PCC to repair and develop the church including the installation of a new kitchen and toilets. It has been team work but John's faithfulness, energy and persistence - assisted by his wife Sheila - have led to the parish receiving a number of important grants.

In Peopleton, near Pershore, **Les Bailey** ran the London Marathon this year, in aid of St Nicholas' Church in the village. There was an explosion in St Nicholas' last November, which left a £12,500 bill for new electrics. Les, who is a seasoned marathon runner with 18 to his name, decided to raise money by running the London race for his church. He picked up an injury just before the race, but battled on finishing in an amazing 4.5 hours. Did I mention that Les is 72? He says that the thought of all the sponsors kept him going 'my legs were very tired at 20 miles, but I had to keep going for the church.' Thanks to his and the efforts of others, the money was raised within 6 months.



The Revd Anthony Attwood, rector in the Dudley team ministry, also ran the London marathon to raise money for people from our diocesan link in Peru.

Legend has it that the Lamb family have been in Ombersley for several hundred years and **Basil Lamb** has been involved with St Andrew's and the village for a lifetime. A bell ringer from age of 14 and PCC member at 16; he has been a Sunday School Organiser, Youth Club leader, clockwinder extraordinaire and sexton who is renowned for his care and oversight of the church yard. Woe betide any stonemason who puts a foot or a stone out of place. A Verger with a sixth sense of what will work liturgically in a church. 77 years old, spouse to Diana, parish clerk and choir mistress, he has only missed one Sunday owing to a quadruple bypass but was back at his station in about two weeks.



With hard work and enthusiasm **Freda Davies** brought the magnificent Flower Festival to fruition and then six weeks later started over again at the Church fete. Both events were wonderful celebrations of the 140th anniversary of Hallow Church. Freda has been an active and stalwart member of Hallow church for over 40 years. In 1965 she suggested that a Sunday school be started, she formed a children's choir and both were very successful. Freda devoted her time, energy and enthusiasm to St Philip & St James, backed up and supported by her late husband David. Freda served on the PCC for many years, was Churchwarden through two interregnums, sexton, choir member, the list goes on. Today Freda remains the main driving force in fund raising for the church. Revd. Robert Latham, vicar of Hallow said "Freda is a marvellous organiser and her dedication has been most profitable in many ways for our church. A BIG thank you to Freda, you are one special lady!"



Poverty and Social Exclusion – What We Can Do.



BLACK PEAR SAVINGS & LOANS **The Worcestershire Credit Union**

Poverty and social exclusion go hand in hand. The issues of unemployment, poor education, low income and poor housing are further compounded by financial exclusion as banks and financial institutions avoid providing services and accounts to poor and low income households, because they are not profitable.

Black Pear say that, despite government pressure on the banks to provide simple bank accounts for all with money transmission services, the poor increasingly operate on a cash only basis. 4 million people now have to pay up to 40% more for their gas and electricity because they cannot, or do not feel able to, use bank accounts, and therefore have to use prepayment meters. In addition, two thirds of those without bank accounts rely for credit on cheque traders, moneylenders and pawnbrokers, whose average rate of interest exceeds 200%.

While the problems of social exclusion are particularly hard to resolve, the ability to provide simple financial services to all should be relatively simple to sort out. Discussions have included post offices and banks working together and the development of the Credit Union network. Credit Unions, an international movement less known about in the UK, are not-for-profit organisations where communities come together to save and borrow money at affordable rates.

Worcestershire has a Credit Union, Black Pear Savings & Loans. 'With over 2000 members we offer a safe, fully FSA

regulated, location for the people of Worcestershire to save. Black Pear is owned and run by volunteers for the

benefit of its members' said a spokesperson from Black Pear. In order to provide a service to the whole community it has members from a very wide range of backgrounds, from those who have been excluded from mainstream financial services to others who want their money to work for the benefit of the community.

According to the Black Pear organisation, 'Banks offer instant loans at headline rates of 9.9%APR on loans of £7,500+, but try and borrow £2000 and it's double that rate, and try to borrow £150 to replace a broken washing machine and they won't even consider you. The Credit Union movement specialises in offering the sort of small loans up to £500 (currently 12.7%APR) that enable people to resolve their financial crises without running up large debts, as it seeks to extract people from the clutches of loan sharks and doorstep lenders whose heavy handed approach brings misery and fear to peoples lives and whose high rates of interest bring further poverty and exclusion'.

Black Pear Savings & Loans, the Worcestershire Credit Union, has branches in Worcester and Redditch and MoneyPoints across the County. It is always looking for new volunteers with a wide range of skills, both financial and personal. Contact Brian Heapy on 01905-612197 or admin@blackpear.org.uk.

Worcester Cathedral

Services Daily (except Wednesday):
7.30am Matins, 8am Holy Communion,
5.30pm Evensong (except Thursday when
Evening Prayer is said).

Tuesday: 1.05pm Prayers for Healing.
Wednesday: 8am Matins, 8.30am Holy
Communion, 1.05pm Holy Communion: Friday
11.30am Holy Communion.

Sunday Services
7.30am Matins and 8am Holy Communion,
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist,
4pm Evensong, 6.30pm Compline.

Contact the Chapter Office on 01905 732900,
or email: info@worcestercathedral.org.uk
for further information

**Details of all events and services can be
found at www.worcestercathedral.co.uk or
telephone: 01905 732900.**

Events at the Cathedral

Saturday 3 October at 6.30pm.

Dedication Anniversary Organ Recital by
David Briggs (Boston MA and Organist
Emeritus Gloucester Cathedral).
Orchestral Suite No3 in D Major by JS
Bach (transcribed by David Briggs)
Symphonic Poem: The Sorcerer's
Apprentice – Paul Dukas (transcribed by
David Briggs), Symphony No 1 in A flat,
Opus 55 by Sir Edward Elgar (transcribed
by David Briggs). Admission £15 on the
door.

Thursday 8 October at 7.30pm. The
English Mutual Group will host an evening
lecture with John Simpson CBE in support
of the Wealth of Happiness Foundation.
Tickets - £25 – Adults, £18 - OAP and
Students £10 - Children 12yrs and under
from 01905 613613 or see
www.englishmutual.com

Saturday 10 October at 7.30pm. Verdi
Requiem. Bournemouth Symphony
Orchestra and Midland Festival Chorus.
Janice Watson - soprano, Catherine Wyn-
Rogers - mezzo soprano, Rhys Meirion –
tenor, Quentin Hayes – Bass, Malcolm
Goldring – conductor. Tickets £19, £14,
£7 (with concessions) from Worcester Live
Box Office 01905 611427, in person at the
Cathedral Shop, or on the door.

Saturday 17 October at 7.30pm.

Haydn - Te Deum, Surprise Symphony,
Nelson Mass. English Symphony
Orchestra and Elgar Chorale with
Jennifer Walker - soprano, Wilhelm
Theunissen - tenor and Donald Hunt -
conductor. A concert commemorating
the 200th anniversary of the death of
Josef Haydn. Tickets £18, £13, £7
available from ESO Box Office 01386
791044.

Forthcoming Concerts in the Cathedral:

WFCS Sat 14 November

Scarlatti Mass and Duruflé Requiem -
Tickets £5.00 to £22.50 available from
Worcester Live Box Office, Huntingdon
Hall, Crowngate Worcester: 01905
611427 or at the door on the night.

Holland House - October 6 – WARM

Day - Speaker: Robert Weston 'A
Spiritual MOT' (Developing our prayer
horizons) Cost: £13 inclusive of
sandwich lunch and refreshments (pay
on the day)
Book through: Robert Latham 01905
748711

What's On - October

Great Malvern Priory 'Lunchbox' talks and music on Thursday lunchtimes in the Priory.

Bring your own lunch at 12.30, coffee/tea available. Talk or concert starts at 1pm.

1 October: Concert by the pupils from the Downs Malvern College Prep School

8 October: 'The Life and Works of Thomas Traherne' Talk by Denise Inge

22 October: Recital by Vanessa Gunter (flute) and Barry Stone (piano)

5 November: 'A Week in Westminster' Talk by Canon John Atkinson

More information: 01684 561020

Singers' Showcase at All Saints', Deansway, Worcester on **10 October** at 7.30pm. Concert of solo and ensemble music from Baroque to Broadway. In aid of All Saints' Organ Fund and NACC. Tickets £6/£4.50 on the door.

Holy Trinity Music Festival 2009 - Link Top - Malvern -

Friday 16 October Evening Concert with the Julian Singers 7.30pm - cost £8 including drink.

Saturday 17 October Evening Concert 7pm "Talent at Trinity" which will include Holy Trinity Choirs - Malvern Male Voice Choir and others. Cost £6 adults children £4 - all tickets include light refreshments.

Sunday 18 October 3pm "Afternoon Tea with Music"- served in Holy Trinity Parish Hall leading into Choral Evensong in Church at 5pm - Cost £4. Festival Pass for the three events £16. Further information: the organiser Richard Garth: 01684 567385 or 01684 561674.

Retired Clergy Association

-Wednesday 14th October, 10.45 am. The Abbot's Kitchen of the Old Palace, Worcester. Roger Morris will speak about 'Old Wisdom for New Times'. Phone Rt Revd Christopher Mayfield - 01905 764822.

christopher@mayfield54.orangehome.co.uk

Collegiate Churches Lecture

An illustrated lecture by author Paul Jeffery at St Mary's Parish Church, Elmley Castle at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 21st October**. Proceeds to the Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust, the Art Fund (Worcestershire), and St Mary's Church Elmley Castle. Tickets £6 to include light refreshment from Steve & Carol Dowling, tel 01905 350156.

Farmers' Overseas Action Group

(FOAG)... concert by Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra on **Saturday 17 October** at Pershore Abbey at 7.30pm. Programme includes: Rossini: Overture The Thieving Magpie, Brahms: Violin Concerto and Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique. Tickets £12.50 from FOAG on 01905 831745 or on the door.

Advance Notices

Forthcoming events at Holland House:

9-11 October: Praying the Way. More information: enquiries@hollandhouse.org www.hollandhouse.org

Salvation Army Band Concert At The Bridge - (formally St. Luke's Church) Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worc's B97 4JX on **Saturday 21 November 2009** at 7.30pm. More information: 01527 542281

For Sale

30 wooden stacking chairs - contact Alison Vincent at the Old Palace on Worcester 01905 732802.

1 Lunchbox at the Priory: Concert by the pupils from the Downs Malvern College Prep School

2, 3, 4 and 5

Flower Festival "From This Good Earth" at St Anne's Church, Bewdley. Open 10am-5pm (12-5 Sunday). Programmes £1.

3 Dedication Anniversary Organ Recital by David Briggs (Boston MA and Organist Emeritus Gloucester Cathedral) at Worcester Cathedral (see page 6).

3 – 5 Flower Festival, St Leonard's Church, Beoley.
The church is open for viewing and refreshments from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the Saturday and Monday. There is a Celebration Concert at 7.30pm on the Saturday and Festival Services on Sunday are at 8.00am, 9.30am, 10.45am and 5.30pm

6 WARM Day – Holland House Speaker: Robert Weston 'A Spiritual MOT' (Developing our prayer horizons)

8 Lunchbox at the Priory: 'The Life and Works of Thomas Traherne' Talk by Denise Inge

8 Evening lecture with John Simpson CBE in support of the Wealth of Happiness Foundation at Worcester Cathedral (see page 6)

9-11 Praying the Way at Holland House (see page 7)


1 Singers' Showcase at All Saints', Deansway, Worcester (see page 7)

10 Wedding Event at St Matthias' Church, Malvern Link from 12 noon. Ideas for planning a wedding on a budget including photography, stationery, flowers and cakes. Fashion Show of wedding dresses through the decades. Lunch available 12 to 1pm. Free admission.

17 Coffee morning and sale of Christmas crafts at St James' Church, Callow End, 10-12 noon to raise funds for new technology in the church.

17 Great Malvern Priory Organ Recital by Ashley Grote (Gloucester Cathedral). 12 noon. Retiring collection. More information: www.malvernprioryorgan.org.uk

17 Haydn Creation Part 1 sung by members of the "Come and Sing Day" with John Jenkin – Organ at Great Witley Church. 4.30pm.




Worcester Diocese
The Church of England
Worcester and Diocese



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

WANTED

Effective Leaders for Church Schools



Our Motto is: To Love: To Learn: To Serve

If you have:

- a love for people young and older
- a love for learning

If you want:

- to serve a school and its community
- pupils to be servants too

If you are:

- a life time learner who wants to find out more about what makes Church schools distinctive

THEN PLEASE JOIN US
At Holland House, Croftthorpe, Pershore, WR10 2ND
On Wednesday October 7, 2009
8.00 am – 4.30 pm
Cost £50

(Draft agenda on the reverse of this flyer)
For registration, please contact:
Lia Eby - Lead or Debbie Pughfield on 01905 722225
or email: education@cofe-worcester.org.uk

Worcester Diocesan News

Editor: Rachel Edwards.

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Fax: 01905 612302 or

Email: newsletter@cofe-worcester.org.uk.

Deadline for copy:

October 23rd for December/January Edition

Printed by: Offset 55

Tel: 0121 707 9441.

The text of this publication is also available in large print on request to Rachel Edwards 01905 20537 or email redwards@cofe-worcester.org.uk.