

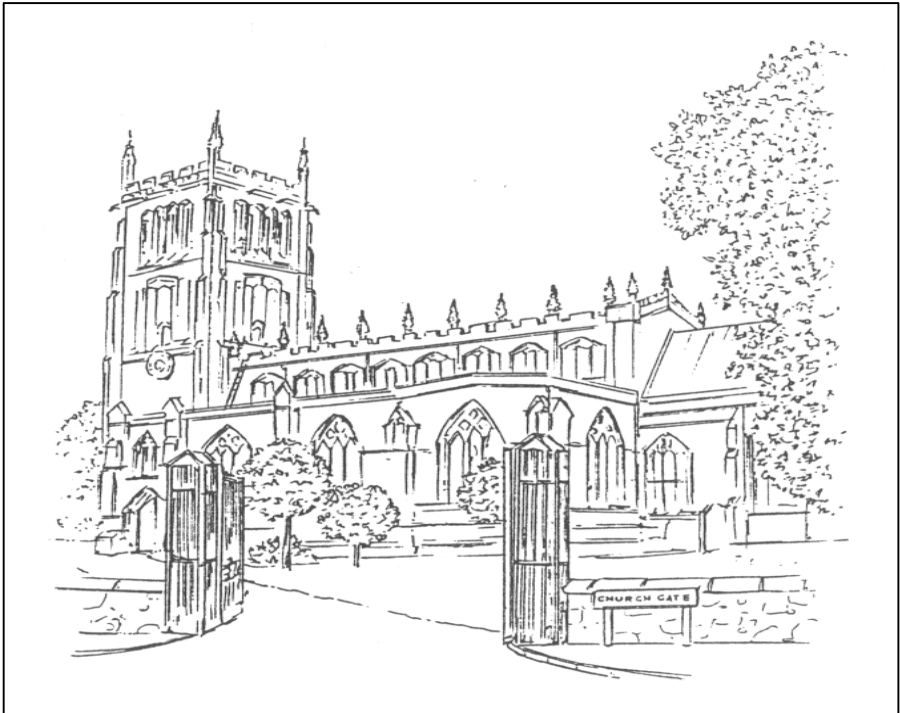
# ***THE TOWER***

*Parish Magazine for All Saints with Holy  
Trinity.*

*Loughborough*

***AUTUMN 2008***

*50p*



## CONTENTS

Welcome	1
The Rector Reflects	1
Home Start	4
Quotes	5
From the Pulpit	5
News from the Pews	7
Charities	7
Greenbelt	8
Time	9
Concert Review	10
Launde Abbey	10
Conversation	11
Kids Corner	14
Time Wise	14
The Unanswered Question	17
Curates Corner	18
From the Past	19
Love is...	23
Contacts	24

## WELCOME

Welcome to your Autumn edition of the Tower Magazine. As usual you will find the answers to quizzes from the previous edition. We have some new articles in this edition for you which we hope you will find of interest.

If you wish to contribute to the Winter Tower, then please contact the Parish Office.

Enjoy!

*Parish Office*

## RECTOR REFLECTS

*Angel voices, ever singing  
Round they throne of light,  
Angel harps, for ever ringing,  
Rest not day nor night;  
Thousands only live to bless thee,  
and confess thee  
Lord of might.*

As the end of September approaches the Christian calendar celebrates the festival of Michaelmas. This name was traditionally given to the autumn term at schools, colleges and universities, but what of the religious significance? Michaelmas is the feast of St Michael, an angel. Do you believe in angels? The bible assumes the existence of angels, that humans and animals are not the only living beings. The psalmist reminds us that God made humans 'a little lower than the angels' (Psalm 8). St Paul writing to the Colossians warns against false worship of angels lest it should challenge their belief in Jesus Christ.

Today the danger might be to confuse angels with fairies. These fanciful creatures contrast greatly from the mighty angels of the

bible. The meaning of the word 'angel' is messenger. In the letter to the Hebrews we read 'are they not all ministering spirits sent out in God's service'. There are three things which the bible teaches us about angels:

- a) Their adoration of God
- b) Their guardianship and help to humans
- c) Their ability to do battle against evil.

a) Each week at the Eucharist we are reminded of the awe and wonder of Isaiah's vision of the six-winged seraphim worshipping God with the words 'Holy Holy Holy'. Each Christmas we recall the terror of the shepherds turning to searching as the angelic host proclaim the glory of God.

b) How do angels minister to humans? Let's be clear that where the bible tells of angels ministering to human beings there are no winged creatures in sight. Where angels have taken visible form it appears to be in the form of a human. The three visitors to Abraham and Sarah telling them of the birth of their child, the visitation of Archangel Gabriel to Mary are two examples. However today the concept of a personal guardian angel has gained popularity. The bible does not have this concept as such, instead angels do appear to protect us but for particular purposes and for set periods of time. For example God sends his angels to protect Hagar and her son, when as Sarah's slave girl she is turned out through jealousy, to die in the wilderness.

c) There are passages in the bible in which warfare, the long struggle between good and evil can only be undertaken with spiritual help. Archangel Michael, who figures in Daniels dreams, is not a messenger angel in the usual sense but a warrior angel who fights evil. Revelation tells us 'war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated.'

In today's world we may struggle to 'understand' angels and we may in our times of need simply want them to make us feel cosy and safe.

The truth is much more exciting and challenging. Angels are not just there to serve us; we and angels are part of a cosmic struggle between good and evil. God is bringing the whole of the created order to renewal. Just as Michael fought the dragon and his angels we have to discern whether the comfort we seek is simply from selfish motives or part of God's purposes for good. God has always offered his people times of rest and safety but these are temporary and not places for us to live. God's purposes for us are bigger; we are part of healing a broken world. Jane Williams in her book 'Angels' says 'Behind, around, underneath and through the day to day world that we inhabit is the song of angels. It is beautiful, endless, joyful and terrible. It will be sung whether we join in with it or not, but imagine the sensation of stepping into that angelic harmony and being caught up in its power and majesty. This is what the angels invite us to do. They long to teach us their song, so that we, with them, can sing a hymn of praise to the glorious universe and its maker.'



*Jane Williams 'Angels' published by Lion. I have a copy if you would like to borrow it.*

***Rachel Ross***

## HOME-START

### **Help a Family – Become a Home-Start Volunteer**

Home-Start Charnwood is a local family support charity who recruits and trains volunteers to provide emotional support and practical help to families with at least one child under the age of five, within the Charnwood area.

Their Family Support Volunteers are all parents, giving them parenting experience to draw upon, and have an open, friendly and non-judgemental attitude. Volunteers visit families at home for 3-4 hours each week. The support varies depending on the family's circumstances, and could include support of mother suffering post-natal depression, helping a parent who has twins, or helping a family who are new to the area and feel isolated. Whatever the reason a family needs a Home-Start volunteer, the support provided makes a tremendous difference to their lives.

“Volunteering is an ideal opportunity for self development or simply to show that you care” said Annie Shaw, Volunteer Recruitment Worker at Home-Start Charnwood. “In return we pay expenses and provide ongoing training and support, as well as social events. If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, give us a call, we would love to hear from you.”

### **Home-Start Charnwood will be running their next Volunteer training course in Loughborough:**

Start Date: Tuesday 28 October 2008  
Duration: 6 weeks –Tuesdays only  
Time: 9.30-2.30pm (to fit in with school hours)

If you are a parent and have a spare 3-4 hours per week to help another family, and would like more information, contact Home-Start on **01509 239786**

Charity no: 1108575, Company no: 5373643  
Funded by the National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund

## QUOTES

"You are worried about seeing him spend his early years in doing nothing. What! Is it nothing to be happy? Nothing to skip, play, and run around all day long? Never in his life will he be so busy again".

*Rousseau, in 'Emile'*

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind"

*Dr Seuss*

"We all have the strength to endure the misfortunes of others"

*Duc de la Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)*

And finally, as it is Ralph Vaughan-Williams anniversary year...

Vaughan - Williams had listened patiently at Cornell while a student played him one of his own distinctly modern, lengthy compositions on the piano; after which Ralph said to him: 'Very interesting, my boy, but if a tune should occur to you, don't hesitate to write it down.'

*The Heffer biography of RVW*

## FROM THE PULPIT

Matt 11; 25-27

25. At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children; 26. yes, Father, for such was your gracious will 27. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

## The Revelation to Little Children.

In this passage Jesus speaks of the revelation of truth in the context of relationships.

He speaks of the 'Father', who is the 'Lord of heaven and earth' and who is the Father of Jesus himself. Jesus speaks of the exclusive relationship between the Father and the Son, each known by the other and not known by any other except by revelation. A revelation that is dispensed by the will of the Father and the Son.

Thus another relationship is created, one between 'the childlike' who receive this revelation, and God the Father and Jesus.

The familial language breaks down, or is not applied, to the 'wise and the learned'. They do not have either revelation or familial relationship with the Father.

Thus through revelation some are drawn into relationship with God, whilst others are excluded.

This passage sounds disturbing. Does God really choose who is admitted into revelation and relationship on the basis of how childlike or knowledgeable they are?

I myself may have a particular concern as I have just completed a degree in theology and so now have a certificate to prove I am both 'wise and learned'. As I enter ministry, has theology excluded me from relationship with God my father?

Or am I redeemed by the childish aspects of my character? The fact that I watch the Simpsons, the fact that I skip when I'm happy- so long as I think no-one is looking, or the fact that displays of cakes in bakeries send a shiver of excitement through me. Do these things make me childlike enough to receive God? And what about you? Are you like a little child or are you 'wise and learned'?

Well, here's what I think. In Jesus Christ God chose to reveal himself to all humanity, Jesus preached in the market place, was crucified on a hill and appeared resurrected to crowds of people. I believe God reveals Himself in creation, in acts of love, in beauty and in tragedy. God seeks constantly to be seen by all. The clever and the learned rely on their own revelations, whereas the childlike person accepts the wonder of things, and delights in the joy of knowing that there is more to this existence than can be grasped. Children enjoy mystery and it is in mystery that God reveals himself.

I thank God that for all my theology, by some mystery beyond my imagining I am still His child.

*Revd Stephen Gamble (16<sup>th</sup> July 2008)*

<b>NEWS FROM THE PEWS</b>
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### **CHARITIES PAGE**

Our charity for April and May 2008 was the Family Holiday Association and we raised £75.99 which will help a disadvantaged family to have a break this year. Over the summer we remembered Brian and Carol Felix and the wonderful work they are doing in South Africa with their breakfast kitchen. Thanks to your generosity I have been able to forward £156.40 to their project in Vrygrond. The charity for this month is the Church Urban Fund.

Thanks to all who sponsored me for being in church on Ride and Stride Saturday. I was sponsored for £85.00, some of which we shall recoup from the Historic Churches Trust.

*Sue Fordham*

## **GREENBELT FESTIVAL 2008**

Myself and Dot went to our first Greenbelt Festival over the August Bank Holiday. It is held at Cheltenham racecourse and attended by some 20,000 people. The majority of people camp in tents, including us as we enjoy the healthy, hardy life.

It was an amazing experience to be among such a large number of Christians with a wonderful and uplifting atmosphere. There are so many things happening on the site you cannot possibly go to everything. Being our first time we tried to get as much of a taste as possible of everything that was happening.

The largest and perhaps the major highlight of the weekend was the outdoor Eucharist held on Sunday afternoon. It was attended by many thousands of people and the service was led from the arena stage. The wine and bread was shared in groups of around twenty people. There was an amazing feeling of fellowship.

One of our favourites was the Christian Aid tent. They had recreated a global garden which was based on their work in Burkina Faso in West Africa. It explores some of the ways communities are adapting to water shortages by using new water and soil conservation techniques.

There was a great variety of music and singing. A highlight of this was the 'Big Sing' which was held on the steps of the main grandstand. People from the Iona Community led us through songs from all over the world. The sounds produced by such a large number of people were a pleasure to the ear.

We met up with a Catherine and Lisa, friends of Rachel's from her previous church. This was in the real ale tent at 'beer & hymns'. A nice substitute to evensong.

A particularly uplifting experience was an act of worship called 'Glow'. This was led by Sanctus 1. They are a Manchester-based community of people who gather together to discover more about Christ, culture and community.

It was a wonderful experience to immerse ourselves fully in an event surrounded by loving and welcoming people. And, to do all of this in green wellingtons.

Now, you may well ask would we go again next year..... **You bet!!**

*By Alan & Dot Emberson*

### **TIME**

Time moves on, never standing still.  
Ageing the young and the old.  
No consideration, no feelings.  
Yet it is as precious as gold.

Night or day, fair weather or foul.  
Months soon pass into years.  
Time has no past or future.  
Only in the present it appears.

Make full use of every second.  
Wonder where, when, or why.  
Decades later you can recall.  
A lifetime of moments gone by.

*By Beryl Ballard*

## CONCERT REVIEW

Fiori Musicali came to Loughborough on the evening of Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July with a programme of music by Vivaldi, they performed the Four Season and several operatic arias for soprano and strings. The splendid vaults of All Saints Church were filled with the sounds of Vivaldi's expressive music and the audience transported in mind to the romantic canals of Baroque Venice. The naturalistic effects of the Four Seasons were particularly well realised, the viola barked roughly as the Shepherd slept in 'Spring', and the staccato gnats bit hard in 'Summer'. The soloist, Kerstin Linder-Dewan, produced an even, sweet tone in the slower parts of the music. The evenings other soloist, the Soprano Miriam Allan, matched the violin solo for virtuosity and sang with great characterisation in the less familiar Arias. A commentary was helpfully provided by the Director, Penelope Rapson, creating an intimate and informal atmosphere in the church.

*Review by Stephen Gamble.*

*(By Kind permission of the Leicester Mercury)*

<b>LAUNDE ABBEY RETREATS AND QUIET DAYS:</b>
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**20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

**5 Day Individually Guided Retreat**

**Led by The Deputy Warden and Glenn Martin**

The desire for God, the desire to know the fullness of life that God offers and to accept at an even deeper level the call to follow Christ may lead us to make a retreat. Here we have a chance to become more aware of God's love for us, more aware of the quality of our response, and the time to consider the next step in our discipleship. An individually Guided Retreat can be a great help in reflecting on God's action in our lives, considering our present situation and facing choices to do with the next stage of our journey. Price: £275.00, including all meals and accommodation

**28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008**

**The Transfiguration of Jesus – Glory and Challenge**

**Led by Angela Ashwin**

Now fully booked

**24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**Spiritual Directors' Consultation**

**Led by Henry Morgan**

Henry will use his experience in spiritual direction to help those participating in their own development to equip their ministry and discernment as a Spiritual Director. Those applying for places at the Consultation should already be practicing a ministry in their chosen field. Price: £175.00, including all meals and accommodation

**Mondays 6<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008**

**Friends of Launde Quiet Days:**

Launde Abbey Quiet Days are held monthly and are open to everyone. The outline of the day is usually as follows:- coffee at 10.00 am, followed by a talk, a short service in the Chapel and lunch. In the afternoon there will be a second talk, Holy Eucharist followed by tea and cake at 4.00 pm. Price: £22.00 for 'Friends of Launde Abbey' and £27.00 for others. Everyone is welcome.

For further information about any of these Retreats and Quiet Days or to book, please contact Launde Abbey on 01572 717254, via e-mail [laundeabbey@leicester.anglican.org](mailto:laundeabbey@leicester.anglican.org) or visit

<b>'CONVERSATIONS'</b>
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'Conversations' is a series of interviews with members of the Church about matters that might be of interest or concern to the congregation and parish.

**Interview with Deb Green, by Stephen Gamble.**

The interview with Deb took place at 'Dreamers', a youth club for young asylum seekers.

As I entered the room I saw young men playing pool, others sitting on sofas talking, there was modern middle eastern style music playing, the Olympics were on the TV, and there was the sound of youthful excited male voices with occasional laughter. I guess that there were about twenty five young men in the room and one young African woman. The Youth Workers came in from the office every now and then and asked individuals by name how they were and conversations often ensued.

When Deb arrived she explained the situation to me. The club runs twice a week, it is for asylum seekers under the age of twenty - one. It allows them to relax in the company of people in similar circumstances to themselves. Most of them live in the All Saints Parish.

As I spoke with Deb members of the club would come over and ask if they could talk with her, they did not seem to mind me sitting in. The lads were boisterous but polite.

I asked Deb who she worked for, she replied it was the 'County Council', but that she did not actually work at the club, 'here I am a visitor, the club is owned by the young people themselves - this is their place, a relaxed place for them to talk to me, less confrontational than the office'.

I then asked how she came into contact with the young asylum seekers, she explained that they arrive in this country at places such as 'lorry parks or motor way service stations' and the police call her to assist. 'There are official things to do, I give support and advice - they have often been given bad advice, I make it clear who they need to trust'.

I then asked if the Asylum process was fair, Deb paused a while before answering this, 'If you speak to the lads here about their situation they are terrified - terror may not be objective, but they are genuinely scared. I think that only a handful of the hundreds I have met are playing the system. They are children under huge pressure asked to give evidence of circumstances they do not fully understand. They have to tell their story and prove it'. Deb went on to give me some insight of the traumatic things these children had experienced before facing the asylum process, including violent death of

loved ones and horrific journeys across countries they have little understanding of. One young man explained to me that when he arrived in London he thought that London was an actual country and that as he had been told to go to England he must be in the wrong place.

I asked what support the young asylum seekers got. Deb explained, 'they get financial support depending on their circumstances. They are not allowed to work until they have been given a decision on their asylum claim, but also can't claim benefit until they are eighteen because they are under leaving 'Care Support'. We provide them with a safe place to live and develop independence skills. I encourage them to study. There is some conflict with us being officialdom - we are funded by the Home Office'. Deb explained that she was passionate about her work 'because of the people. They are amazing. The experiences they have been through. What they have achieved as well. It is really hard to get asylum, only one of the lads in the room has been given asylum, I cried when he got his decision.'

The young people I heard speak certainly had achieved remarkable things, surviving horrific personal situations, moving from childhood to adulthood during the stresses of the asylum process, gaining qualifications, making friends in uncertain places and times. One young man, after writing a letter to Gordon Brown concerning Afghanistan, had been invited with others to the Home Office to give their opinions about that country.

Deb explained that 'working with these young people I learn something every day'. She added, 'The support that they give each other is huge. They are the only ones that understand'.

One young Afghan lad sat with us a while, Deb explained to him that I was interviewing her about what she did, 'do you know what I do?' she asked him. He replied with a broad grin, 'No, I don't know. What do you do?' Deb answered, 'I don't know!' They both laughed. Then he turned to me and said, 'She helps me. I ask her and she helps me. She is my mother. She is very good'.

When he had gone, Deb quietly told me that he had lost his entire family in an attack on his village in Afghanistan. The attack had been on the news in Britain.

## *Revd Stephen Gamble*

*If you know of anyone who has an interesting story to tell please let us know for the next edition*

### **KIDS CORNER**

#### **TIMEWISE**

It was a warm sunny day in August and Sarah aged twelve and Daniel aged six were spending the day with their Grandparents.

Sarah and her Grandma had gathered the last of the raspberries, now they were getting the rhubarb sticks. "Most homes grew some rhubarb when I was a girl" said Grandma "my Mother made rhubarb crumble, rhubarb and date tart, rhubarb and ginger jam, rhubarb wine, and we would eat it raw dipped in sugar, it was lovely and crunchy. Shall we have lunch on the patio today?" "Oh yes, that would be nice" said Sarah, "Right lets go inside and see what we've got to eat."

Granddad and Daniel were in the vegetable garden, "What are those," said Daniel "Peas, ready for eating," said Granddad "like to try one." he takes the peas out of the pod and offers them to Daniel, who puts them in his mouth " Are they really peas, I've only seen them frozen in plastic bags, I think I like them cooked best." Granddad moves further on "These are runner beans which grow up canes all the same way round and round, and these on the ground are onions and beetroot."

Daniel gazed at the ground and said "I thought they all grew on top of the ground and only the root was in the soil. Are they little cabbages?" Granddad smiled "No, they are lettuce, Grandma wants a lettuce and some tomatoes for lunch, I'll cut a lettuce, you see if there are some red tomatoes." Daniel said "Yes, I can see some, hiding under the leaves, can I get them." Daniel picked the tomatoes and

handed them to Granddad who put them in a bag with the lettuce. "Right, take the bag in to Grandma and tell her that you have got green fingers, I'll get the chairs and table out"

Daniel went into the kitchen with the salad food and said "Granddad said I'd got green fingers but they are not green." "Well, wash your hands over at the sink" said Grandma. Daniel started to wash his hands, suddenly he shouted "Look, look Grandma the waters going green, its magic" "That's because you've touched the tomato leaves, there's a towel to dry your hands."

Daniel went outside to help Granddad. Sarah and Grandma brought out the lunch which was soon eaten, then raspberries and ice cream. Sarah said "When I was getting the raspberries some got squashed so I had to eat them. You have a lot of flowers in the garden, do you have a favourite one Grandma." " No I don't think so" replied Grandma "I like plants which remind me of some biblical stories, the Passion Flower, Trinity Flower, Moses in the Cradle, Jacobs Ladder, Joseph's Coat, Rainbow Plant, Angels Tears, and a lot more" "Have you got a favourite vegetable or fruit Granddad" asked Daniel, "Yes a fresh tomato off my own plants, I don't like shop bought ones" replied Granddad.

Sarah said "We've got some daisies growing on our lawn" Grandma said "When I was at school, in the summer holidays we played on the village green, daisies were growing there, and we made daisy chains, threading one stalk through another daisy stalk until we had a long string of them, then we would decorate ourselves with them, or we laid them on the grass in patterns and jumped in and out of the patterns. Sometimes we played Hop Scotch, or Rounders, or Statues, and a long piece of rope for five or six to skip together."

Granddad remembered "Boys would go to the playing fields, kicking a ball about, or playing cricket with a bit of wood for a bat, we would make obstacle races, or go to the river looking for wildlife, we made our own entertainment. Now, here's a question for you, no one

owned a watch, so how did we know when it was twelve o'clock to go home for dinner." Daniel shouted "I know, your Mum called you on your mobile phone." Granddad laughed, Grandma chuckled "Oh lovely, only the doctor, the vicar, and the shops had a telephone then." Daniel looked surprised then said "Well, your tummy told you it was hungry" "That's not the answer" smiled Granddad. Sarah answered "Was it where the sun was in the sky." Granddad said "That's good, but some days it was cloudy, no sun, I'll give you a clue, there was not much traffic, villages were quiet places." Daniel said "Did your Mum come and shout that it was dinner time." Granddad replied "Not quite correct. I'll tell you, we used our ears, the village church had a clock on the tower and it would chime every half hour, so when we heard it strike twelve we knew we had to go home." Sarah looked puzzled and asked "How did you know the half hour to the one o'clock chime?" "Good question" said Granddad "Well the half hour had a different tone to the hour chimes so we knew the difference."

Grandma and Granddad collected all the plates, dishes, mugs and glasses and took them into the house. Sarah whispered to Daniel "I didn't know Grandma and Granddad were so old, we ought to help them in some way." "Yes," said Daniel "What can we do, I could pull weeds up but I don't know which is weeds and which is plants." Sarah said "No I don't either; it's no good getting them a gardening magazine because they know everything about their garden." Daniel replied "It's no good bringing them a packet of biscuits; they wouldn't eat them in case they got fat." Sarah said "I like coming here, and I love them both. Do you think if we told them that, it would cheer them up and make them happy?" Daniel replied "Yes, I think so; we could give them a hug too." Sarah said "That would be good, so that's what we'll do." Daniel muttered "I'm going to touch the tomato leaves, that was real magic turning the water to green." Sarah answered "I'm coming with you, show me what to do." and off they both went to the tomato plants.

*By Beryl Ballard*

## THE UNANSWERED QUESTION

Is he young or is he old?  
Is he timid or oh so bold?

Is this God really a 'he'?  
Or maybe just a girl like me!

Is he like we think him to be?  
Or just a silly fantasy?

Is he brown or is he white?  
Is he really our guiding light?

How can he be here and there?  
How can he be everywhere?

Is he sat upon a cloud?  
Viewing the world, feeling proud?

Or is he here amongst us now?  
And if he is, where and how?

Is he casual or is he smart?  
Or is he dressed like a tart!

Does he have pj's to go to bed?  
And a fluffy pillow to rest his head.

In fact, how does he spend his time?  
Is he partying on cloud nine?

Does he live in heaven or hell?  
Those that know are not here to tell!

Who will answer my questions please?  
Or is the bible one big tease?

God, why can't you speak to me, are you there?  
Give me a sign, show me you care.

Why the silence, where's the proof?  
Are you teasing us, you're so aloof.

*By Tiffany Young (age 12)*

## CURATE'S CORNER

Welcome to 'Curates Corner', your Curate's eye view of All Saints Church!

Firstly, I must say thank you for the welcome I have received at All Saints. In particular I would like to thank all those people who have welcomed me into their homes during the course of my Pastoral Visits. If anyone still remains who has not had a visit please let me know, I have enjoyed finding out about the Church, about Loughborough, and about people's lives through these visits. If anyone would like another visit, please tell me.

I would also like to thank all the people who have welcomed me into the workings of All Saints. I have had the opportunity to work with many Lay people and Readers, and everyone has taken the time to explain to me how they serve the church and to give helpful answers to my questions. Jackie in the office has been particularly helpful, and Rachel has been very patient with me.

It is always very encouraging to enter into a worshipping community where so many people are willing to give of their time and energy to serve God and each other. I hope I can encourage and add to that faithful service in my time here.

I am here as a continuation of my training, and I have learnt a great many things in my first few weeks; from the liturgical role of a Deacon to church fellowship through Curry Nights; from ecclesiastical finances to securing plastic sheeting to de-leaded church roofs. I have met Loughborough characters as diverse as Andy Reed the local MP, and Poppy, the white-bearded chap who plays the tin whistle on Steeple Row.

What, I ask myself, is the most significant thing I have learnt in my first few weeks at All Saints? Perhaps, that being an Ordained Minister of the Church is an incredible privilege, and that being an Ordained Minister at All Saints is a unique privilege.

***Rev. Stephen Gamble***

**THE LATER MEDIEVAL RECTORS OF LOUGHBOROUGH  
1473 – 1494 MASTER JOHN FYSSHER**

Master John Fysshier B. Cn. L. (Bachelor of Canon and Civil Law) was admitted as an acolyte to the Rectory of Marston Trussel, Northants on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1442, but vacated this living by December 1470. In 1445 – 6 and 1447 – 8 it would appear that he was at Cambridge University, a resident in the parish of St Mary the Less, paying personal tithes to Peterhouse in respect of his lectures, but on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1449 he was admitted to a degree at Oxford. On the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1457 he was granted a papal dispensation to hold an additional incompatible benefice. At this time he was still in residence at Oxford, living in Beef Hall (on the south side of Beef Lane) where he was Principal in September 1457, but resigned on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1459.

He became a Canon of Lincoln and prebendary of Welton Painshall to which he was collated on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1462, but had vacated by December 1492. In 1462-3 he is recorded as being an official of William Witham, archdeacon of Leicester. On the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1463 Fysshier was collated Rector of Asfordby, Leics, and became a Canon of the Newarke Hospital and College of Leicester, which he exchanged in November 1465.

That same year, on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1465, he was admitted Rector of Knaptoft, Leics, which he had vacated by May 1485 with a pension of 100 shillings a year. On the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1470 he was admitted Vicar of Holbeach, Lincs, which he vacated in March 1473. That same year, on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1473, John Fysshier was admitted Rector of Loughborough, to which he had been presented by Sir William Hastings and he retained this living until his death.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> June 1473 Katherine Bothe of Oadby, widow, daughter and heir of Hugh Pake, deceased, quick claimed three acres of land in Oadby to Robert Stanton esquire, John Fysshier, clerk and Roger Wyggeston of Leicester, merchant.

Concerning Fysshier's incumbency in Loughborough, several facts are known. Work was afoot to enlarge and restore the tower of the church.

The coat of arms around the west window and the spandrels above the west door are believed to be those of the benefactors who made this work possible, and one is thought to be that of John Fyssher himself.

A record of 1483 states:

*“It was agreed and concluded between John Fyssher, Parson of Loughborough and the commonalty of the same town on the one hand, and Richard Clerke of Lockington on the other part, that the said Richard has granted to make sufficiently a chime of two keys on the steeple of the said church of Loughborough, upon the same five bells there being in the same steeple and accordynge upon the song of Kerie Rex Splendens with this verse “Ave gemina celi luminar” at his own proper costs and expenses as well in stuff as in workmanship\_\_\_\_\_ to go and endure by night and day at every fourth our\_\_\_\_\_ . For this Maister Fyssher with the assent of the commonalty of the said towne of Loughteburgh have granted to give and pay to the said Richard Clerke £10 of lawful money.”*

It is possible that the five bells, which are mentioned, had been cast by Giles Jordan, fishmonger and bell founder of London, who was buried in the church, near the old vestry door in the North Transept, along with his wife, Margaret, earlier in the fifteenth century. Only fragments of the brasses from their tomb now remain, attached to the wall near the font.

Another Merchant of Loughborough, Thomas Marshall, who had died on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1480, was also buried in the church, at the upper end of the nave, in a cross aisle facing south, along with Agnes, his wife, and six sons and six daughters. The brass figures from their memorial still remain.

The following year, on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1481, there had been a fracas in the town when Gilbert Meringe, a gentleman of Nottinghamshire, had been slain, together with two of his servants, Oliver Farneworth and John Lilley. Both Burton and Nichols record that Gilbert Meringe was buried at All Saint’s Church at the upper end of the nave.

In August 1485, on the eve of the Battle of Bosworth, the inhabitants of the town would have been fearful, wakeful and vigilant, possibly making preparations to seek sanctuary in their church. Some of the men folk would have been required to perform their military obligations, but there are no actual records concerning them. However, Burton states that a soldier

killed at the Bosworth fight had been buried in the church. This fact was not mentioned by later writers and a grave has never been identified.

In 1483 Richard III made Sir Robert Harrington, Knight, bailiff and steward of Loughborough manor and keeper of Loughborough Parks, with an annuity for life of £20 out of the issues and profits of the Lordship. However, on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 1485 Richard III made a grant during pleasure to his servant, John Langton, of the office of bailiff of the Lordship of Loughborough co. Leics. With the accustomed fees from the issues of the Lordship. Langton presumably lost his appointment after the Battle of Bosworth, for on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1485, Henry VII appointed Libius Dygby during pleasure as bailiff of the town of Loughborough and he was granted for life the office of keeper of the park there. The next year 1486, Henry VII visited Loughborough on his way from Coventry and is said to have stayed at Lord's Place or the Great House in Church Gate, but a stone's throw from the Church and Rectory.

That same year John Fysshier, Rector of Loughborough, was called as a witness in a Court Case, and in 1494 he attested the Will of Thomas Burton, the Great benefactor of the town. Burton died the following year and was buried in the church, in or near the North Transept. One of the bequests in his will provided for the setting up of a Chantry and the maintenance of a priest to celebrate in the Parish Church of Loughborough masses for the salvation of his soul, "*the souls of my wife, of our kindred and friends and of all the faithful departed, as long as it shall last out.*"

John Fysshier lived to see two lords of the manor come and go. His patron, William Hastings, who was suspected of taking part in the death of Prince Edward, son of Henry VI, after the Battle of Tewkesbury, later earned the enmity of Elizabeth Woodville, wife of Edward IV. He was charged with treason and executed at the Tower of London in 1483. He was buried in the North Aisle of Saint George's Chapel, Windsor and his lands reverted to the Crown.

In November 1485 William Beaumont was restored to his lands, but unfortunately about 1486 he became insane and his estates were committed to the care of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, at Wivenhoe. From the following entries in the Paten Rolls it would appear that until William Beaumont's death the Crown administered his lands.

*“26<sup>th</sup> February 1505. Grant for life to Richard Chilton of the office of keeper of the warren of the town of Loughborough co. Leics and of the close called Le Conyngery”*

*“9<sup>th</sup> February 1508. Grant for life to the King’s servant William Lathbury, Serjeant of the hall, of the offices of keeper of the warren of Loughborough co. Leics. Lately held by Richard Shyltonm and keeper of the outwoods there, which Ralph Smyth lately had; in the King’s gift by reason of the death of Lord Beaumont.”*

*“30<sup>th</sup> February 1508. Grant for life to the King’s servant Robert Sheffield, Knight of the office of steward and stewardship of the lordships and manors of Beaumanor, Loughborough, Shepshed, Blayston, Haloughton, Laughton and Ernesby co. Leics and Stoke Bardolf, Shelford and Gedelying co. Notts, late of William Viscount Beaumont, deceased; with £6. 13. 4d a year wither in demesne or in reversion.”*

William Beaumont, Viscount Beaumont, had died on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 1507 and he was buried at Wivenhoe. Soon afterwards his widow, Elizabeth, married John de Vere, Earl of Oxford. On the 30<sup>th</sup> November 1509 John, Earl of Oxford and Elizabeth his wife widow of William Beaumont late Viscount Beaumont and Lord of Bardoff, were granted the manors including Loughborough, Shepshed and Blaston co. Leics to hold to the said John and Elizabeth during the life of the said Elizabeth, and in full satisfaction of her dower, and so they remained until her death in 1537.

John Fyssher seems to have died in 1494, but there is no record of where he was buried. He must have left a Will, for his executor was William Mason, clerk, L.L.D., who would appear to have been somewhat dilatory in his duty. An entry in the Pardon Rolls 1509 -1510 No 438 – Im – 18, dated the 28<sup>th</sup> November 1509, states:

*“William Mason, clerk L.L.D., commissary and official of the Archdeaconry of Leicester, president of the Consistory of the Bishop of Lincoln, Canon of the New College of St Mary, Leicester, Rector of West Deeping, Lincs, Executors of John Fyssher, Rector of Loughborough, Leics and of John Mason late of Loughborough.”*

Even after a long search, I have been unable to find either of these Wills.

***By Margaret Baker***

## LOVE IS....

What love means to a 4 – 8 year old...

“When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn’t bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands get arthritis to. Tha’s love”

Rebecca – age 8

“Love is what makes you smile when you are tired”

Terri – age 4

“Love is when mummy makes coffee for daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him to make sure the taste is ok”

Danny – age 7

“Love is what’s in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen”

Bobby – age 7

**ALL SAINTS WITH HOLY TRINITY  
LOUGHBOROUGH  
A CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY**

<b>RECTOR</b>	Revd Rachel Ross	217029
<b>CHURCHWARDENS</b>	Penny White	560375
	Geoff Parton	215842
<b>READER</b>	Derrick Hewitt	261909
<b>CURATE</b>	Stephen Gamble	217029
<b>ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Jackie Mulroy	217029
 <b>BELLRINGING</b>		
Tower Captain	Jennie Paul	260234
Tower Secretary	Alison Godfrey	
<b>CHURCH MUSIC</b>		
Organist	Peter Underwood	
Orchestra	Barbara Nunn	828204
<b>CHURCH CONTACTS</b>		
Sacristan	Phillipa Taylor	556552
Secretary to PCC	Anne Johnson	556083
Treasurer	John Richards	556357
Chair of Finances	David Johnson	556083
<b>ORGANISATIONS</b>		
Scouts	David Johnson	556083
<b>CHURCH SCHOOL</b>		
Head Teacher	Lisa Milbourn	263430
<b>FEARON HALL</b>		
Centre Manager	Zoe Whetherly	230629
<b>COMMUNITY POLICE</b>		
	PCSO Peter Kershaw	0116 2222222
	PCSO V Patel	“ “
 The Parish Office	 Fearon Hall, Rectory Road Loughborough, LE11 1PL <a href="mailto:office@aswht.org">office@aswht.org</a>	 01509 217029  <a href="http://www.aswht.org">www.aswht.org</a>