

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME D'ABITOT NEWSLETTER

JULY and AUGUST 2008

40 Pence

Forthcoming Events

Severn Stoke & Environs

Saturday 19th July

**Friends of St Denys
SUMMER FETE At
2.30 p.m.**

**Rose & Crown
Green, Severn Stoke**

CROOME CHURCH SERVICE & picnic

**11.00 a.m. Sunday
20th July**

**Open Air Service and
Barbecue at
KNIGHT'S HILL,
Severn Stoke**

**Sunday 24th August
at 4.00 p.m.**

Kempsey

**Saturday 28th June:
7.30 p.m.:**

**PHILAMUSICA
SUMMER CONCERT
in ST MARY'S
CHURCH.**

**Saturday 5th July:
2.00 p.m.:
St MARY'S
CHURCH SUMMER
FETE!**

John Henderson
Tel & Fax: 01905 371 218

E-Mail;
johnandcara@hotmail.com

Technical Assistant :
Cara Henderson

**Please submit Copy by 2nd
Monday next month**

The Rector's Message

Dear Friends,

It was a great pleasure on the evening of Sunday 15th June to welcome to St Mary's bell ringers from many churches, including our own, for a special celebration service to congratulate two of our ringers, Malcolm Hollingshead and Philip Barker-Brown, on 60 years of bell ringing. A wonderful achievement which was recognised by both being presented with an engraved tankard. Long may they and all of our ringers continue to ring those bells to the glory of God. It was a good opportunity to thank all those who ring our bells both at St Mary's, St Denys' and wherever, for the sound of bells floating across town and village, field and meadow, is one of the hallmarks of our British countryside and, in my view, cannot be equalled in any other nation. Just as the towers and spires of our churches are the visible symbols of God's presence among us, the sound of the bells are most certainly the audible symbol. They call people to worship and to prayer and to recognise that there is a power greater than our own and a love that will not let us go.

This is why, for me, bell ringing is far more than a pastime for every time a joyous peal is heard it is a statement of faith and a declaration of intent. The faith that no matter what might be happening in the world or in our own lives there is He who is greater than it all and who, through His Son Jesus, has conquered sin and

Reverend Peter Holzapfel

death. The bells are a sound of hope and a declaration that, come what may, we shall never give in to hopelessness and despair.

I recently took an assembly at Kempsey school when I showed the children a photograph I took of a sculpture depicting a small child nestled securely within a large hand. The children were quick to spot that we are the child and that the hand is the hand of God. I then showed them another image of a photograph I had blown up to a very large size, so that all you could see were a series of small squares. It was impossible to tell that in fact the photograph was of a pig sleeping and snoring sweetly after its dinner time meal! The picture was aptly entitled "Sweet Dreams!" I pointed out that we couldn't see the whole picture when we were too close to it.

Our lives are like this in that they are a mixture of good times and bad, happy times and extremely painful times, when we can easily feel that we have fallen out of God's protective hand and that somehow He's forgotten us and has ceased to love us. When we feel like this, and some of you reading this letter might feel like that now, it's so important to remind ourselves that we don't see the whole picture, but that God does. We're only aware of what's happening to us right now, this moment, but God does have a plan and purpose for our lives and He sees and understands it all. One day we too will see and understand, but for now please know that you haven't been forsaken or

Continued from Page 1

abandoned and that God still cares for you, as He holds you in His loving palm.

This is the hope and loving assurance that the Christian faith can give you. I'm not pretending that it's easy and I certainly don't find it easy, but every time I see a tower or spire or hear the bells ringing out joyously, it reminds me that there is hope and a love that will never die and which has conquered all things. So wherever you travel or wherever you find yourself this summer, even if it's sitting in your own front room, don't forget to look for those beautiful signs of God's presence and His abiding love for you as He holds you safe in His hand of love.

Wherever you travel, whatever you see and whoever you are may God continue to bless you as you journey through your life.

With every blessing.....*Peter Holzappel (Revd.)*

United Benefice of Kempsey and Severn Stoke with Croome d'Abitot – Church News

United Benefice Prayer Meetings – Welcome to our meetings (usually every other Monday) for an hour, **from 8.00 p.m. on Monday, 7th and 21st July, 4th and 18th August and 1st September. We meet each fortnight at the homes of those taking part.**

Contact John and Cara (W/ 371 218) for the next ensuing venue.

We give thought and prayer for people and projects around us and for the health and enhancement of the Churches' work. You don't have to say a word unless you wish, but just be with us.

Saturday 12th July: Please pray for our representatives at **The Diocesan Conference at Swanwick** that they will be really blessed during their few days there and return to enthuse and inspire us in our parishes.

Sunday 3rd August: Please pray for Peter and the group going from our church to the **NEW WINE CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL** in Shepton Mallet, that they may all be blessed and strengthened by God's Holy Spirit and refreshed to continue their ministries among us.

EARL'S CROOME WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Tuesday, 8th July 6.30 p.m. at Dunstall House – A Garden Meeting.

MOTHERS UNION – Upton Deanery

Thursday 24th July at 2.15 p.m. Upton Church Room – A report on Conference and Council.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU **Are you a victim of discrimination?**

Malvern Hills District Citizens Advice Bureau is urging anyone who has suffered from discrimination to use the CAB as a first port of call for free confidential assistance and support. They can help with discrimination at work, being treated unfairly in shops and when purchasing goods and services or where discrimination on grounds of sex, race, age, disability, faith or sexuality is involved.

For further information and advice, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or see www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Malvern CAB is open: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wednesday (Specialist Debt Advice - by appointment) Tel: 01684 563611

CHURCH SERVICES at ST MARY'S, KEMPSEY

Every Thursday 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

Every Friday 11.00 a.m. Mothers and Toddlers Service to Friday 18th July – **please note that this is the end of the school term and this service will now be on holiday until September.**

A BIG THANK YOU to Libby and Anne and all their helpers for all the hard work they have put in to making this service such a blessed and happy time for all concerned.

JULY

- Sunday 6th: Trinity 7: 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP: Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.
- Sunday 13th: Trinity 8: 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. : Informal Family Communion, 3.00 p.m.: Holy Baptism, 6.00 p.m. Evensong BCP.
- Sunday 20th: Trinity 9: 11.00 a.m.: United Benefice **PRAISE SERVICE at St MARY MAGDALENE, CROOME** followed by a **Picnc**, 2.00 p.m.: Holy Baptism, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.
- Sunday 27th: Trinity 10: 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. Parish Communion, **6.00 p.m.: Evening Praise at The Firs.**

AUGUST

- Sunday 3rd: Trinity 11: 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP: Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion.
- Sunday 10th: Trinity 12: 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m.: Informal Family Communion, 3.00 p.m.: Holy Baptism, 6.00 p.m. Evensong BCP.
- Sunday 17th: Trinity 13: 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.
- Sunday 24th; Trinity 14: 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. Family Communion, 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism, **4.30 p.m. OPEN AIR SERVICE & BARBECUE at KNIGHT'S HILL, SEVERN STOKE (take the turning opposite The Old School House in Severn Stoke)**
- This is an outreach event for the whole United Benefice and it would be great if as many folks as possible could support it. I do hope to see you there.**
- Sunday 31st: Trinity 15: **(5th Sunday)** 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP, **10.30 a.m.: United Benefice Holy Communion Service at St Mary's, Kempsey**, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday 7th: Trinity 16: 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP: Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, **12.30 a.m. Friends of St Denys' Annual Village Barbecue at HILL HOUSE, Severn Stoke**, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.

PARISH REGISTER – St Denys' Church

Wedding: 17th May -Tim Benjamin and Liz Reeves.

HAPPENINGS IN SEVERN STOKE and Environs

Sunday 20th JULY – Joint Benefice Croome Church Service at 11.00 a.m. and a picnic afterwards, overlooking the magnificent Croome Court and Malvern Hills; by kind permission of the Churches' Conservation Trust and The National Trust. Do join us for this ever popular service. It is a great opportunity to use St Mary's Croome for the purpose for which it was intended, the worship and praise of Almighty God.

PLEASE PARK in the National Trust Car Park and go through Reception and be counted, saying you are attending the service. If you are members of The National Trust, please show your cards, as it helps with visitor statistics.

Remember to bring your picnic and garden chairs or blankets!

NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT!

Sunday 24th AUGUST –

OPEN AIR SERVICE OF PRAISE at KNIGHT'S HILL, Severn Stoke at 4.30 p.m., followed by a BARBECUE.

Do join us for this service as we take the church out into the community to share the Gospel and to have a good time together, followed by good food! Hopefully we shall be joined by lots of people from the village and elsewhere and by the local residents of Knight's Hill on this special occasion.

I look forward to seeing you there. It may be helpful to **bring a chair** if you're not local. Please pray for fine weather. In the event of bad weather, the service will take place in the church.

Please note that there will not be a morning service in St Denys'. *Peter Holzappel (Revd.)*

SEVERN STOKE PARISH HALL

A grant is to be sought to re-board the remainder of the outside of the Hall. It looks marvellous after its make-over and needs **BOOKINGS!** It now has excellent modern Kitchen facilities. The Hall looks very smart with its new blinds, comfortable new chairs and sturdy tables.

Speak to Maggie or Trish (W/317339)

The National Trust - Croome Park

Wednesday 2nd July – Watercolour Landscapes with David Birtwhistle. Booking essential.

Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th July – Learn about the 1940's and RAF Defford. Fun for all.

Saturday 26th July Bat Walk. Booking essential.

For more details: Contact W/ 371 006 or e-mail: croomepark@nationaltrust.org.uk

RECTOR: Reverend Peter Holzapfel

Office Address; St. Mary's Church House
Squires Walk,
Kempsey.

(For messages and letters)

Tel: 01905 820 740

E-mail address; cherrytree@tesco.net

Cherry Tree Rectory
3, Oakfield Drive,
Kempsey,
Worcester, WR5 3PP
Tel: W/ 820 202

CHURCHWARDEN: Mr. Bryan Hadley
Severn Stoke **01905 371 383**

Assistant Churchwarden: Mrs Gail Brookes
Kempsey **01905 821 823**

CHURCH SERVICES at St Denys' Church, Severn Stoke

JULY

Sunday 6th : Trinity 7 10.30 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP
Sunday 13th: Trinity 8 9.15 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP
Sunday 20th: Trinity 9 **11.00 a.m.: UNITED BENEFICE PRAISE SERVICE at St Mary Magdalene, CROOME, followed by a PICNIC. bring a garden seat or picnic blanket AND your picnic.**
Please
Sunday 27th: Trinity 10 10.30 a.m.: Morning Praise

AUGUST

Sunday 3rd: Trinity 11 10.30 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP (**Please note that as from September this service will become an informal service of Morning Praise as on the 4th Sunday**)
Sunday 10th: Trinity 12 9.15 a.m.: Holy Communion CW
Sunday 17th: Trinity 13 9.15 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP
Sunday 24th Trinity 14 **4.30 p.m.: OPEN AIR SERVICE OF PRAISE at KNIGHT'S HILL, Severn Stoke followed by a BARBECUE.**
Sunday 31st: Trinity 15 (5th Sunday) 10.30 a.m.: United Benefice Service of Holy Communion at St Mary's, Kempsey.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 7th: Trinity 16 **10.30 a.m.: INFORMAL SERVICE OF MORNING PRAISE**
 At a recent meeting of the PCC, it was decided to make this first Sunday into one of informality and Morning Praise in order to try and attract more families and children. The 4th Sunday at present is our best attended service and we hope and pray that by making this one more informal also we shall increase the size of the congregation. The situation will be reviewed early in the new year –

Peter Holzapfel (Revd.)

12.30 p.m. Friends of St Denys Village Barbecue, Hill House, Severn Stoke Stoke. (For more information – see inside)

Further copies of this Newsletter can be obtained on-line:

www.stmaryskempsey.org.uk and click on **Home Page** for St Denys' news and events.

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME d'ABITOT PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

After the Flood

Replacement carpets will be laid in the next fortnight and restoration of the flood damaged organ will be completed. The Church is open on Sundays for visitors, so please come and see how beautiful it looks after the ravages of last year's floods.

A special word of thanks to David Revill of Sandford for his very generous contribution to the crates, cleverly camouflaged under blue tarpaulins in St Denys' Church. We hope to save the pews from being damaged in the next flood, by using the crates to support the ends of each pew to lift them out of flood's way. Simple but brilliant!

CHRISTIAN AID

The house to house Collection round the Parish raised £755.00 this year only £5.00 off the record total of last year. There are so many places round the world in desperate need of assistance, whether there is famine, drought or recovery from natural disasters. Thank you for your generosity and to those who helped with the Collection.

THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH IN THESE PARISHES

We don't need to go abroad to find hardship, family turmoil and unhappiness. Christian beliefs, deeply embedded in our culture, have been lost by parts of society, which recognise only self indulgence and greed.

Church members want to make contact with those, who are realising that life surely must hold more for them than suffering alone the effects of family rifts, drugs, debt, drunkenness and illness. We want to make our Church more relevant to modern needs, to welcome you, exchange views and inform, so as to encourage and embrace more members to build a stronger Church in these Parishes.

We are planning an open air service in the Knights Hill area, followed by a Barbecue on 24th August, with more opportunities to find out more at an Open Day, possibly in November. We should welcome your views and help.

SEVERN STOKE SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

Wednesday 2nd July – Coffee Evening in aid of the Air Ambulance at the Earl's Croome HQ.

Wednesday 9th July – Group Medieval Evening at The Hill Centre, Upton

HAPPENINGS at KEMPSEY

The Cornflower Club - Meets on Wednesday, 2nd, 9th, 23rd July at 2.30 p.m. in Kempsey Parish Hall. **Please note that the Cornflower Club will now break for the Summer and will resume on Wed 3rd September.**

Age Concern Coffee Morning - meets every Thursday at 11.30 a.m.. Please note that for the foreseeable future this will take place in St Mary's Church.

SATURDAY 5th JULY: 2.00 p.m.: ST MARY'S CHURCH SUMMER FETE! Bigger and better than ever with more stalls as well as Donkey Rides! All the usual stalls will be present and we shall be using St Mary's House (newly restored) as well as the Church grounds. The Church will also be open and there will be live music and dancing provided by the children of Kempsey School. There is so much for everyone to enjoy so do come along and have a really great time!

SEVERN STOKE and CROOME d'ABITOT PARISH COUNCIL

A recent case of dumped rubbish, including a TV, in Ham Lane, Severn Stoke has lead to the culprit being traced.

A Fixed Penalty Fine has been issued by M.H.D.C. – Yes, it has also been paid.

If you have unwanted items for disposal then please drive to the Upton Recycling Centre by the Countrywide Store. It is normally open Wed, Sat & Sun from 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m..

Alternatively, the Malvern Recycling Centre is also open 7 days a week and also has a "ChemiStore" for disposal of paint tins etc. The Site is near the Countrywide Store at the Worcester Road roundabout.

Parishioners will hopefully have noticed the major impact the new Lengthsmen are having on footpath clearance in the Parishes.

The reformation of dozens of roadside verge 'grips' has relieved road surface water ponding.

There has also been a considerable amount of drainage & ditch maintenance works in Kinnersley, High Green & Croome.

Please watch this space, we are planning to carry out more works over coming months.

The letters, telephone calls and direct contacts of encouragement received by the Parish Council are very much appreciated.

Your Chairman, Hugh Hanmer.

St DENYS' CHURCH, Severn Stoke

CHURCH CLEANING – SEVERN STOKE

JULY

- 4th Mrs Henderson and Mr Henderson
- 11th Mrs Humphrey and Mr Humphrey
- 18th Mrs Everitt and Mr Everitt
- 25th Mrs Joan Price and Friend

AUGUST

- 1st Mrs Hanmer and Mrs Ewins
- 8th Mrs Gaywood and Mrs Linsey
- 15th Mrs Bedwell and Friend
- 22nd Mrs Henderson and Mr Henderson
- 29th Mrs Humphrey and Mr Humphrey

SEPTEMBER

- 5th Mrs Everitt and Mr Everitt

CHURCH FLOWERS – SEVERN STOKE

JULY

- 5th and 12th Mrs Opie
- 19th and 26th Mrs Henderson

AUGUST

- 2nd and 9th Mrs Foulds and Mrs D Derrett
- 16th and 23rd Mrs J Westwood
- 30th and 6th Sept. Mrs Opie

Church Cleaning: We desperately need more volunteers, who would be able to give a couple of hours, every two or three months, to help clean the Church on a Friday or Saturday, vacuuming, dusting and mopping. If you can, or would like more information, contact John Henderson.

Flower Arrangers: Please will you show your talent, by joining the Rota – Every help will be given to new volunteers. Please contact John Henderson (W/371 218)