

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME D'ABITOT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

The Rector's Message : Reverend Peter Holzapfel

40 Pence

Forthcoming Events

Severn Stoke & Environs

**Sunday 6th September
At 12.30 p.m.
SEVERN STOKE
ANNUAL
BARBECUE
at Sheepcote Farm
Advance Ticket Only**

**HARVEST FESTIVAL
Service
at St Denys' Church
Sunday 4th October
at 10.30 a.m.**

**Saturday 10th October
at 7.30 p.m.
Kempsey and Severn
Stoke joint
Harvest Supper
Kempsey Primary
School**

See inside for details

Editor:

John Henderson
Tel & Fax: 01905 371 218

E-Mail;
johnandcara@hotmail.com

Technical Assistant :
Cara Henderson

Please submit Copy by 2nd
Monday next month

Dear Friends

A few years ago I came across a Church Notice Board that gave the Vicar's name as "Rev Churchman." What a wonderful name for a clergyman, I thought, until I saw his initials "D.E.D" which rather took the shine off it! I'm sure that the Rev Churchman was anything but "dead" spiritually but it was a reminder that even the smallest change can make a big difference.

I was fortunate enough 10 years ago to visit the Holy Land and one of the most beautiful places was The Sea of Galilee. The area is very lush, green and highly cultivated and as you gaze out over the water you can easily imagine Jesus and His disciples crossing over the water or the disciples fishing in its silvery waters. The sea is surrounded by hills and from those hills flow the tributaries that make the River Jordan and feed the sea. As one writer put it "The Sea of Galilee laughs in the sunshine. Children play on its banks and people build their houses near to it, and birds their nests and every kind of life is happier because it is there."

The River Jordan then flows south into another and very different kind of sea, which is known as The Dead Sea. The water is so heavily salted that nothing can survive. It is an utterly barren place without habitation of either man or beast and the air hangs heavy above its water.

These two stretches of water are not that far apart so what makes this profound difference? Has the water changed? No. Has the nature of the soil or countryside changed? No. This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another drop flows out. The giving and receiving go on in equal measure. The Dead Sea holds on tenaciously to what its got and every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives, shares and lives. The other sea gives nothing and it dies hence its name. There are two kinds of people in the world just as there are two seas in Palestine.

Which are you? Which are we as a church? Are you as willing to receive as you are to give to others? If we fall down on generosity of Spirit and fail to recognise the gifts of others and embrace them or if we hoard our blessing then indeed we will become "Dead Churchmen or Churchwomen" and remember that we're not commissioned to make Church-people but Christians and Christians both give and receive in equal measure.

With every blessing.....

Peter Holzapfel (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 September and 5th October. We meet each fortnight either in St Mary's Church or 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.

The Severn Stoke Fellowship and Study Group

meets fortnightly on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month and to coincide with school terms (roughly!) at 2.30 p.m. at the homes of various Members.

Next dates: **10th and 24th September and 8th October**. Everyone is most welcome to join this group, which is informal, very welcoming and stimulating. Please contact John and Cara (W/ 371 218) for details and next Venue.

HOME-START MALVERN HILLS

Home-Start Malvern Hills wants to make sure that every parent in our area has the support they need to give their child the best possible start in life. To this end we offer friendship and practical help to parents with young children.

Families are referred to Home-Start Malvern Hills by health visitors and other health professionals, Children's Centres, nursery staff, social workers, schools and the families themselves contacting us direct to ask for help.

We cover the whole of the Malvern Hills district and thus need volunteers throughout the area. At the moment we urgently need volunteers in your area. No special qualifications are needed except experience of parenting and an open mind. Volunteers come from all age groups and all walks of life. Each volunteer attends a Preparation Course and is regularly supervised and supported.

Our volunteers make at-home visits to visit families who have at least one child under five, and offer them support. Each volunteer visits a family every week for an average of 6 - 9 months. This support is free, confidential and non-judgemental.

It is both rewarding and demanding—an average volunteer stays with us for two years which means we must continually recruit and train new volunteers.

Home-Start Malvern Hills is supported by Home-Start UK and its volunteers are among 16,000+ trained parent volunteers across the country.

We also need new trustees particularly people with experience of business, media and fund-raising. The current recession means that we, as a voluntary organisation, have entered a very testing time for charities and we need all the expertise we can muster.

If you think you have something to offer either as a volunteer or as a trustee please ring Jan at Home-Start Malvern Hills on 01684 893125 or e-mail homestartmalvern@btconnect.com.

The National Trust - Croome Park

The Park is open seven days a week to 31st August between 10.00 a.m. and 5.30 p.m..

12th September - Heritage Open Day.

4th October—Autumn Walk with the Head Gardener, Katherine Alker.

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

St. Mary's & St. Denys' website - a new, updated look www.stmaryskempsey.org.uk, – **Check out this website!** Please do get in contact, via the Contacts page, if you have anything to contribute.

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. "Little Angels" for Mothers, babes and toddlers from 11th September.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th: 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP at Kerswell Green,
 10.30 a.m.: Family Service including Holy Baptism, 1.30 p.m. Holy Baptism, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.
 Sunday 13th 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. Informal Family Communion,
 6.00 p.m.: Evensong BCP.
 Sunday 20th 8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer BCP, 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Praise Service,
 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (BCP).
 Sunday 27th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. Family Communion, 6.30 p.m. Evening Praise at
 The Firs.

OCTOBER

Sunday 4th 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP at Kerswell Green,
 10.30 a.m.: Family Service including Holy Baptisms, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.

HAPPENINGS at KEMPSEY

Cornflower Club starts up again in The Parish Hall on Wednesday 16th September at 2.30pm:
 This is a very lively Club for the over fifties with a varied and enjoyable programme including visiting speakers and outings. Everyone is most welcome and if you would like to come along, then please do so and be assured of a warm welcome. If you want to find out more or need help with transport to the club, then please leave a message for Peter on 820202.

Age Concern Coffee Morning - meets every Thursday at 11.30 a.m. at St Mary's House.

Women's Fellowship – meets on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30 p.m. at St Mary's House.

"Little Angels" for Babes & Toddlers starts again at St Mary's Church—Friday 11th September at 11.00 a.m.: This was formerly known as Mothers & Toddlers but you can be assured of the same warm welcome and happy and enjoyable time. All are most welcome to come along any Friday and have a lovely time together.

Men's Group - Monday 5th October: 7.30pm: Communion Service in St Mary's House.

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME d'ABITOT PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

We are very grateful indeed to David Price for his generous work, which is nearing completion, to enlarge **the Garden of Remembrance in the Churchyard**. This area has been set aside to receive Memorials following cremations.

The Text from one of the 17th and 18th Century Donation Boards, near the Font, which has become difficult to read, has been typed up and framed by Barry Comley, to whom we are most grateful.

It makes interesting reading and reminds us that, as now, Church Funds were always short and relied upon the generosity of people, who wish to see St Denys' Church continue to serve this Community.

PARISH REGISTER – St Denys' Church

Baptism: 28th June: Thomas Albert Boddington Sutcliffe.

Wedding: 11th July: Andrew Wilkie and Bernadette Evans—Congratulations!
With every good wish for health and happiness.

SEVERN STOKE SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

Mrs Angela Broadhead has kindly volunteered to continue the Brownie Group—wonderful news! Brownies, aged 7 to 10 years old, meet on 9th September, after the summer holidays and then every Wednesday between 5.30 and 7.00 p.m.. New Brownies, contact Mrs Broadhead on 01684 296 349.

As it is the Centenary of Guiding this year, the Theme will be—”Working on Brownie Traditions.”

Urgently needed: A further Adult Helper—please contact Angela, as above.

EARL'S CROOME WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Tuesday, 8th September—”Fairtrade and Kenya” a talk by Mrs Philippa Charlesworth and the Competition is “Which three Food Imports would you miss the most?”

Tuesday, 13th October—”Worcestershire Remembered”, a talk by Mr Roy Sturdy and the Competition is “An old photograph of Town or Country.”

MOTHERS UNION – Upton Deanery

Thursday 17th September — 7.30 p.m. at Upton Church Room— “ A finger in every pie.”, a talk by Mrs Jean Swift.

Learn Italian! - Planning a holiday in Italy?

Looking to meet new people or learn a new skill? This is for you!

Beginners' Italian classes starting in Kempsey, mid September 2009.

No prior knowledge necessary. Small groups and a fun and friendly atmosphere.

For further information or to reserve a place, please contact:

Louise Lilly: Tel. 01905 821007 e-mail— lilly.home@tiscali.co.uk

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAUX

If you're having a baby, you may be able to get benefits such as Statutory Maternity Pay or Maternity Allowance.

You can also get a new one-off grant of £190 called a Health in Pregnancy Grant to help you prepare for the birth of your baby. This will not affect your tax credits or any other benefits. Everyone gets the same amount and you will not be asked about your income.

For more information about Health in Pregnancy Grants, go to the HMRC website at:

www.hmrc.gov.uk

If you're pregnant, you may also be entitled to free vitamins and Healthy Start vouchers to help with the cost of milk, fruit and vegetables. Whether or not you can get this help may depend on your income.

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

RECTOR: Reverend Peter Holzapfel

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

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

Tel: 01905 820 740)

E-mail address; cherrytree@tesco.net

CHURCHWARDENS: Mr. Bryan Hadley
01905 371 383

Mrs Gail Brookes
01905 821 823

CHURCH SERVICES at St Denys' Church, Severn Stoke

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday 6th: Trinity 13** 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion CW, followed at 12.30 p.m. by the
Annual Village Barbecue at Sheepcote Farm, Severn Stoke.
- Sunday 13th: Trinity 14** 9.15 a.m.: Morning Prayer and Praise. 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism.
- Sunday 20th: Trinity 15** 9.15 a.m.: Holy Communion. 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism.
- Sunday 27th: Trinity 16** 10.30 a.m.: Morning Prayer and Praise

OCTOBER

- Sunday 4th: Trinity 17** **10.30 a.m.: HARVEST FESTIVAL Service & Holy Communion (CW),**
 3.00 p.m.: Holy Baptism and Marriage Blessing.
- Sunday 11th: Trinity 18** 9.15 a.m.: Morning Prayer and Praise.

CHURCH CLEANING – SEVERN STOKE

SEPTEMBER

- 4th Mrs and Mr Henderson
 11th Mrs Cox and Mr Cox
 18th Mrs Humphrey and Mr Humphrey
 25th Mrs Everitt and Mr Everitt

OCTOBER

- 2nd Mrs Joan Price and Friend
 9th Mrs Hanmer and Mrs Ewins

CHURCH FLOWERS – SEVERN STOKE

SEPTEMBER

- 4th and 11th Mrs Faulds and Mrs Derrett
 18th and 25th Mrs Westwood

OCTOBER

- 2nd and 9th Mrs Henderson
Harvest Festival—Church Decoration on
Saturday 3rd October from 10.00 a.m.
All welcome to help.

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.