

PLOUGHSHARE

April/May 2007

Volume 15, No 3



St Thomas' Brampton
St Peter's, Holymoorside

Share the love of Jesus
We aim to become more like Jesus every day

A new church in Chesterfield



Find out more inside - See page 3 60p per copy (£3.00 per year)

Monthly Service Pattern at St Thomas'

Sunday Services are usually at 9am, 11am and 6.30pm.

9am is Communion, except 2nd Sunday when it is Morning Worship.

11am is Morning Worship, except the 2nd Sunday when it is Communion.

There are children's groups (3 years old to school year 9) and a crèche.

6.30pm is Evening Worship, except on the 4th Sunday when it is Communion.

Pathfinders (school years 7-9) meet 6.30-8pm.

CYFA (school years 10-13) meet from 8.15pm.

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*The **sermon themes and readings** are available in Church or at www.st-thomas-brampton.org/services.html*

***Podcasts of the sermons and readings** are available at www.st-thomas-brampton.org/podcasts.html*

Monthly Service Pattern at St Peter's

Sunday Services are usually at 9.30am and 6pm

9.30am service is Communion.

There are children's groups (3 years old to school year 9) and a crèche.

6pm service is Evening Prayer except

No evening service at St Peter's on the 1st Sunday, instead a joint service is held at Holymoorside Methodist Church at 6pm.

Keep up to date with the news sheet or the web site

www.st-thomas-brampton.org/index.html

From the Rector - Easter Refections

*“Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by?
Look around and see.
Is any suffering like my suffering that was
inflicted on me,
that the Lord brought on me in the day of
his fierce anger?”
Lamentations 1 v.12*



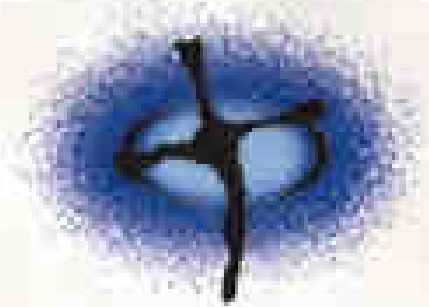
St Thomas' had a visit from the 38th Brampton Cub Scouts the other day! They wanted to visit the church to see what goes on within these 'hallowed walls'. They wanted to discover what was at the heart of St Thomas', why we turn up on a Sunday week after week. As I sat in church a few days before their visit, I mused on what I was going to say and then it struck me. It was a real thunderbolt moment. When you look at the church it's easy to see what's at the heart of this place. Who ever designed this church knew what should be at the heart of this place.

Have you ever sat and looked towards the front of church. When I mean look, I mean actually look. If you do, you will see something wonderful. Did you know that you can see ten crosses at the front of church. Not only do we have the brass cross on the top table, there are numerous crosses woven into the very fabric of this church. The cross is integral to the fabric of the church. So it is with our faith. Remove the cross from Christianity and you have very little left. Without the cross there is no forgiveness, no hope for eternity, no chance for change in our lives. Without the cross we remain enemies of God, alienated from him. But, through the cross of Jesus, we are reconciled to God. As someone once said:

1 cross + 3 nails = 4given

Architecturally, the cross is central to the fabric of St Thomas'. But, is it central to your life? At the beginning I quoted from the book of Lamentations. I know that Christ's death is not 'nothing to you', it means something to you, but, is it everything to you?

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1 CROSS + 3 NAILS = 4 GIVEN

Let God bring all our sin through the blood of His Son, by whom we are saved.



James

“Plenty of Room on Top” or A Church with a Difference

Denise Glover writes about a different type of church in Chesterfield.

My memories of being on the top floor of a double-decker bus are of a crowded space, steamy windows and cry of the conductor “plenty of room on top”.

However in Chesterfield there is now a double-decker with a difference. **“The Church on the Bus”** is the latest addition to the Christian witness in the town centre.

Where is this church? In front of the Town Hall, you will find the green bus parked there on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7-8pm.

The church is run by Church Army Captain Alan Park with support and management from members of Holy Trinity and Christ Church who also finance the project in conjunction with the Church Army. **“Church on the Bus” is also one of St Thomas’ Mission Partners.**

The ministry is aimed at caring for the spiritual and physical needs of the homeless, needy and addicted people of Chesterfield. It is first and foremost a church, the top floor of the converted bus is reserved as a quiet space for prayer, individual ministry and reflection, whilst downstairs is for sharing hot drinks, food and fellowship.

It is hoped that the members of the church will see the bus as their church and come to the variety of services and meetings. The DVD based course *“Start!”* which explores the Christian faith is planned, also the one-to-one course *“A Life Worth Living”* has been tried and as a result some members have started to attend a local church.

The occasion I attended the Church was a bitter November evening, the wind whipping across the Town Hall car park. I was glad of my warm clothes and the promise of central heating when I returned home. However once inside the bus it

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was very different, the welcome given to and by everyone, and the unconditional acceptance of people -no questions asked, coupled with the hot drinks provided the warmth which we all needed. There was cheerful fellowship as the congregation shared experiences, hopes and fears.

Upstairs the quiet area was a place of stillness and sanctuary, the open prayer session gave opportunity for individual intercessions to be made, prayers of heartfelt thanks were said and the joy of being a member of a Christian fellowship was apparent -it was a moving experience and one which reflected the warmth of Christian love and fellowship.

The following testimony by Mick, a member of the church speaks volumes to the ministry of the **“Church on the Bus”**.

“I accepted Jesus into my life, and he is my Lord; and I’ll do anything I can to spread his love to others. We all need Jesus in our lives so all praise and glory to the Lord, he’s the one who keeps us from sin, and pray his light will shine on everyone for ever.”

Captain Alan Park was commissioned by the Bishop of Derby to carry out this work in February 2007. Alan spoke at a Men’s Breakfast at St Thomas’ last year. He told of how he became a Christian. It is a remarkable story.



The ‘Church on the Bus’ Team
Left to right, Keith Gould, Denise Glover, Alan Park, Doris Gould, Rex Brassington and Stewart Hird. (Robert Batten, who drives the bus is missing.)



Alan and Bishop Alastair

Reader's Bible Thoughts

Bill Woodend writes about why we should make God central in our lives.



I think it is fair to say that none of us really know what is in store. That's a good thing because it allows us to look forward with hope and anticipation rather than concern ourselves with worry about what the future might hold.

No doubt at times we shall encounter the usual prophets of doom. There will be the soothsayers and there will be the stratospheric optimists. In reality, I suspect, none of them has any better idea of the future than you and me. One of the exciting things about life is that we never really know what is around the corner.

The great prophets of the Old Testament, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel on the other hand had the distinct advantage that they were each in direct touch with God or was it that God was in touch with them. I prefer the latter.

Whichever way it was, their prophetic messages are amazing and through them their ministry of the word of God has reached many. I know a number of people who would name one of these prophets as their favourite book of the Bible.

The main function of the prophets was to channel communication between God and mankind, acting in both directions at times. That is not only communicating God's divine word to mankind but also on occasion putting mankind's case to God through what we know as intercessory prayer.

It is interesting that neither age nor sex were a barrier to prophecy. There may not have been a great number of women prophets but they did exist. From the Bible we know

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about Miriam, Deborah and Anna for example. Child and youth prophets also existed. Samuel and Jeremiah are examples.

In Chapter 5 of Matthew's Gospel we read that Jesus did not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfil them. In fact Jesus is the complete focus of the Law and the Prophets. The arrival on earth of the Son of God gives full meaning and deep commitment to what is written in the Old Testament.

In 2007 we are more than two thousand five hundred years distant from the great prophets but we can trace the truth and importance of their messages through Jesus. He knew that the word of God was brought to the world by these remarkable, receptive, faithful men and Jesus often quoted from or referred to their works during His own ministry.

In Chapter 6 of Matthew's Gospel Jesus tells us not to worry about life because God knows our needs and if we make God our first priority we can rest assured that He will not fail to provide.

Modern life can be very busy and stressful, but if we get our priorities right it need not be so. By making God central in our lives and putting Him first we know we can be free from anxiety. Perhaps the major benefit is that our time spent with God will bring us that peace which is beyond our understanding.

Bill Woodend

Annual Church Meetings 2007

St Peter's Annual Church Meeting is on Monday 16 April, at St Peter's Church at 7.30pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting is on Sunday 22 April at St Thomas' Church at 6.30pm.

Everyone is invited to attend.

To find out more of what has been going on in our churches in the past year pick up a copy of '*A Year in the Life of our Parish*' from our churches or download it at

www.st-thomas-brampton.org/publications.html



Preparing to Serve in Peru

Paul and Sarah Tester visit St Thomas'.



If you remember in last month's magazine we were asked to pray for Paul and Sarah Tester who were preparing to go out to Peru with SAMS, (the South American Missionary Society). SAMS is one of the mission organisations St Thomas' supports and we have 'adopted' Paul and Sarah in particular.

On Sunday 18 February 2007 Paul and Sarah came to St Thomas'. They spoke at our services telling us a bit about their background and what they will be doing in the future.

Both are from Christian families, Paul is from Aylesbury and Sarah is from Nottingham. They met at Durham University where Paul was studying civil engineering and Sarah modern languages, including Spanish. Sarah felt a call to mission at the age of 14. She was praying about what subjects she should do for GCSE and she felt God was telling her to do modern languages because He wanted her to go and work one day as a missionary in South America.

During one University holiday they went out to do mission outreach work teaching English in Mexico City. However they believed God was calling them further south, to Peru.

After graduating in 2001 they married and went out to Lima in Peru for ten months with SAMS. Paul helped build a local church and Sarah taught English in a school. They also got involved with youth and children's work in the local church.

On their return to the UK they still felt called to go back to Peru. However they were advised to get some practical experience so Paul has worked as a civil engineer for five years and Sarah as a primary school teacher.

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They are now training at Redcliffe Mission Training College, Gloucestershire` in preparation for returning to Peru in August 2007. They are learning more about God and cross cultural mission work. They hope to use their professional skills in God's service in Peru.

Paul and Sarah shared a Bible verse that spoke to them about what they should be doing. It was John 4 v14:

Jesus said "Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The reason they felt this verse applied to them is because Lima is a very dry and barren place. Nothing grows there naturally because it never rains. The only way to get things to grow is to water them. They felt God was challenging them in two ways.

- Firstly to try and meet some of the physical needs of people in Lima as there is a great deal of poverty.
- Secondly, and through the physical help, to be ministering spiritual water, so that people may know Jesus and have a relationship with Him.



So with the skills they have they hope to meet both of these needs.

Please pray for Paul and Sarah as they prepare to do God's work in Peru.

Mark Hoare

If you want to keep up to date with Paul and Sarah contact Peter Rolfe our SAMS link at St Thomas or regularly check out:

www.st-thomas-brampton.org/ms.html#sams

(You can also listen to the podcast of Paul and Sarah speaking here.)

The Extra Mile

Christian Aid Week 13-19 May 2007

Can you go the “extra mile” during the week of 13-19 May which is the designated week that Christian Aid goes to the country to collect a huge amount of money to resource the various relief projects around the world?

St. Thomas’ Church has agreed to go to approximately 30 roads in the parish to deliver and collect Christian Aid envelopes.

Personally, I never find it an easy task, and indeed it does involve a certain amount of commitment and determination to do -BUT, knowing that you are going that “extra mile” to alleviate world poverty and suffering is an enormously satisfying feeling. So please be ready and willing to sign up in the month prior to 13 May for a Christian Aid round. Why not find a friend to go with you -or job share -which could make it more fun!

With my thanks (in anticipation)

Eileen Balch

PS

As I was writing this short article, I received a phone call from Philippa Buswell from St. Peter’s Holymoorside. Philippa is responsible for organising the Christian Aid collection in Holymoorside. I was impressed to learn that the Christian Aid collection is a joint Church venture with St Peter’s, the Methodist and United Reform churches. They aim to visit every house in Holymoorside.



Dear Diary
Forthcoming dates to remember

1pm Thursday 5 April

Rendezvous, St Thomas'

7.30pm Monday 16 April

Annual Church Meeting, St Peter's

7.45pm Wednesday 18 April

Mission Prayer Evening, St Thomas'

6.30pm Sunday 22 April

Annual Church Meeting, St Thomas' (for the whole Parish)

2pm Thursday 26 April

Communion and Cuppa, St Thomas'

Friday 27-Sunday 29 April

Marriage Enrichment Weekend, St Thomas'

Thursday 3 May

Rendezvous, Coach Outing

Sunday 13-Saturday 19 May

Christian Aid Week

7.45pm Wednesday 16 May

People at Prayer, St Thomas'

Monday 28 May

Chesterfield Procession of Witness

2pm Thursday 31 May

Communion and Cuppa, St Thomas'

Saturday 23 June

St Thomas' Fete

Monday 23-Wednesday 25 July

Holiday Club

Keep up to date with our regular activities and other events by reading the weekly news sheet or the church web site www.st-thomas-brampton.org

Holy Week and Easter at our Churches

Palm Sunday, 1 April

9am Morning Worship
9.15am Blessing the Easter Garden
9.30am Communion
11am Morning Worship
6pm United Service

St Thomas' Church
Holymoorside Village
St Peter's Church
St Thomas' Church
Holymoorside Methodist
Church
St Thomas' Church

6.30pm Evening Worship

Maundy Thursday, 5 April

3pm Service

Holymoorside United
Reform Church
St Thomas' Church

7.30pm Service

Good Friday, 6 April

10.30 am All Age Service
2pm 'An Hour at the Cross'
2pm 'Watch by the Cross'

St Thomas' Church
St Thomas' Church
Holymoorside United
Reform Church

Easter Eve, Saturday 7 April

9pm Service of Light

St Peter's Church

Easter Sunday, 8 April

9.30am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6pm 'Easter Songs of Praise'
6.30pm 'Easter Songs of Praise'

St Peter's Church
St Thomas' Church
St Peter's Church
St Thomas' Church



Introducing Irene Jones our New Deputy Warden at St Thomas'



It came as a complete surprise to me when David Mouncer said that he would like me to consider taking on the role of Deputy Warden at the 11 o'clock service, slipping it into the conversation, just before leaving our home after having spent a couple of hours chatting with myself and my husband. My first words in response were "and what exactly is a deputy warden?" Having shadowed Barbara during a very busy baptismal service last Sunday, I'm beginning to find out!

And how exactly did I arrive at St. Thomas's in the first place.....it's a very long story, but for the purposes of this article I'll give you the potted version.

My Christian heritage is something which I'm very proud of. Back in 1925, my maternal grandparents left Belfast for Brazil, pioneer missionaries with very little in their suitcases, where they founded the Acre Gospel Mission. Today it is a thriving ministry, with missionaries not only in Brazil, but also in other countries including Portugal and the Canary Islands. I was brought up in a God-fearing home with my younger brother Donald, in the small town of Dalry in Ayrshire. My family were very involved in the local church for many years, and one Sunday night after evening service I remember my mother praying with me as I asked Jesus into my heart at the tender age of eight.

God was about to lead me on an amazing personal journey, which would bring me closer to Him, (and Chesterfield!) as I sought His plan for my life. After leaving school, I went to Strathclyde University and from there to a local hospital where I was a medical secretary. Whilst at Irvine Central, my interest in a nursing career was born and I subsequently went to Glasgow Royal Infirmary to do my general training. I should add that apart from teaching, nursing was the second worst job I would have chosen to do, so what exactly was God doing?

Anyway, after a few years working in the profession, I took a career break and went to work as a medical representative for a pharmaceutical company. During this time I married my first husband, and moved down to Derby. In between having two children, Bev who is now 20,

and Craig, almost 16, I resumed my nursing career. After eight years of part-time night duty, I went back to work as a medical representative for the company I still work for.

Throughout this period, my circumstances changed dramatically, and I found myself alone with two children, deep in the Refiner's fire. Was there really a God, and if there was, did he really care what happened to me? The bottom had fallen out of my world, but all the while, God was there, quietly working miracles in my life which were to have far-reaching consequences. Since my early years, He had His hand on me, leading me here and there, and He wasn't about to let me down. So, slowly I began to learn some painful lessons, and I can honestly say it was from that point that I truly began to live for Christ, the kind of life I should have been living, daily trusting in Him and relying on the power of His Holy Spirit in my life, not on my own strength.

Seven years later, Ken and I were married in May, 2005 and I moved from Derby to Chesterfield. God was clearly leading me to St. Thomas's, although I had never been in a Church of England before! That was two years ago, and I'm still on my journey, eagerly waiting to see what God has in store for me next, which is clearly helping to support the other Deputy Wardens which will in turn lead to who knows what.

In the midst of my despair, almost 10 years ago, someone gave me a card with the words of Jeremiah 29 vv 11 – 13 on it.

*11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

I clung to this promise of hope, and now I want to give God all the glory and praise for turning my negative life into a positive one. What peace floods my heart, knowing that I am where God wants me to be, doing what He wants me to do, and trusting in Him for each step of the way on the rest of the journey.

So please be patient with me when I officially take on this new role. Not only do I need the Holy Spirit's help, I very much need yours too! Thank you so much, all of you, for making me feel so welcome at St. Thomas's. May God pour out His blessings upon you.

Irene Jones

Marching – as to War?

Last Saturday, 24th February, Charles (my husband) and I set off again – to march in London to demonstrate against our government’s plan to spend up to £76 billion on new nuclear weapons to replace Trident. Our current Trident has nearly 200 nuclear warheads – that is a potential killing capacity of 320 million people.



Recollections:

Travelling up to London this time, my memories went back to that first time (for me) four years ago, on 15 February 2003. That extraordinary day of protest against the Iraq war. Apparently even the most experienced demonstrators never really expected they would see a million people on the streets of London in protest – let alone 2 million – yet it happened. Being one of those 2 million, an experience I’ll never forget – moving slowly up Piccadilly packed from end to end with many like myself who’d never marched before – solidarity literally!! The biggest protest in British history.

I remembered it was reported that the Secretary of State for culture, media and sport, Tessa Jowell had a major concern – she was worried that the march could damage the turf in Hyde Park where it was scheduled to conclude with speeches – she ordered that the march should disperse at the gates of Hyde Park without a single speech being delivered. I remembered listening, packed like sardines, standing on that grass – it survived, unscathed (but I’m not sure about the Secretary of State’s reputation!)

70,000 or so this Saturday marched, and we took a shorter route – starting at Speakers’ Corner in Hyde Park – then past Green Park, Park Lane, down the Haymarket (Pinter showing there, and still “The Phantom” at Her Majesty’s!), down Piccadilly, past St. James’ where some folk came out and waved and gave the thumbs up sign as we passed, which was nice – and so onto Trafalgar Square, our destination point for speeches, music etc.

I was amused and cheered on Saturday by encountering a Christian singing group and conductor, singing with huge enthusiasm and arm movements, on our way through Hyde Park to join the march. They then popped up at intervals along the way, bursting repeatedly into

“we’re marching in the light of God ...we’re marching in the light of God” over and over – their smiling exuberant faces warming our hearts – lovely, especially as it was in fact raining!

When we finally reached Hyde Park it was good to see Tony Benn once again on the platform. Tony Benn along with others who had worked so hard speaking all over the country prior to the 2003 march – as on that occasion, the roar that greeted his introduction was loudest of all.

Other speakers we heard this Saturday in Trafalgar Square included Stephen Cottrell (Bishop of Reading – Aldermaston Diocese), Ken Livingston, Bruce Kent (of CND), George Galloway, and that remarkable man Brian Haw who has camped outside the Houses of Parliament for I don’t know how many years (in protest against war).

There was also an American activist for the non-proliferation of nuclear arms amongst the speakers, and many others. We listened to Julie Felix singing and playing her guitar – “Blowing in the wind”, and then the refrain altered to “the answer, can’t you see, is up to you and up to me, the answer is up to you and me” ...we all joined in – very moving.

During these marches one is alongside people from every creed, race, nation under the sun, all with banners and slogans, demanding peace from our government – decisions and policies leading to PEACE. We smiled and chatted to one another because we all knew we came with the same demand.

In Tuesday’s copy of The Guardian (27 Feb 2007), was the following report:

“The synod, led by its two archbishops, also yesterday came out against government plans to upgrade the Trident nuclear missile system, declaring that it would be contrary to the UK’s obligations in international law and the country’s ethical principles.

The move followed a passionate intervention by Dr Williams that Trident was morally unacceptable. ‘I don’t believe that there is a case for the moral acceptability of nuclear weapons that I could with integrity accept’, he said. ‘I believe that the least a Christian body ought to do would be to issue the strongest possible warnings and discouragements to our government.’

Once again Julie Felix’s song rang in my ears – “The answer, can’t you see, is up to you and up to me, the answer is up to you and me”.

Sue Brown

Furnace –‘Fuelling the Fire Within’



A new worship event created to help develop a deeper understanding and relationship with God.

Fuelling the fire within

Josh Wheeler, a member of CYFA writes:

‘Furnace’ is a new monthly worship event we have created in order to help you develop a deeper understanding and relationship with God. The idea originally arose back in the summer after we attended Soul Survivor where there were great opportunities to get into worship and praise for God through music, prayers and testimonies.

Gareth Simmonds and Becky Riley had a vision and desire to create a similar atmosphere that would take place locally and would happen throughout the year. After consulting Gemma Machin (St Thomas’ Youth Work Co-ordinator) with the idea back in October and getting the thumbs up, preparation and planning for the event began. Myself and Kat Witham were then asked to join the team as we shared the same vision and passion for the event. Then Furnace began.

Furnace is aimed to benefit everyone, not just the youth, not just the church and not even just Christians. As we wanted the event to be something that would attract everyone we have incorporated several different aspects into the event. There is some liturgy, prayers, Bible readings and worship that would be found in a Sunday morning service but we also added other aspects such as longer times of thought provoking prayer, quiet places to go and pray, and different prayer activities to develop personal prayers. We also decided it would be beneficial to have testimonies from local people so we can see how God is affecting everyone and working in their lives. Longer times of more adventurous worship have been added to develop an atmosphere of true worship which you can really get into. So there is something here for everyone.

In February we hosted the first Furnace, which would be fair to say was a great success. We would like to thank Julie Lomas and Leigh-Anna Bird for their contributions to the event, they both shared their testimonies (both are available for download on the church website) which were very hard-hitting, moving and in one case very tearful as well. There was heaps of positive feedback from the event such as:

"...It was a really good evening. The start of something special..."

We are hoping the success of the first event would be a bridge for the event to grow and that word of mouth will encourage more and more to come and share the love of God. The first three monthly events are on a pilot scheme and if successful, we will have the event regularly.

Sue Ward writes:

Where were you on the evening of 23rd February? You missed a wonderful evening of worship and fellowship at St. Thomas' Church. It was led by the Youth Band with both power and sensitivity. Sets of worship songs were interspersed with testimonies, times of prayer and quiet meditation.

The theme of the evening was "Getting through the hard times". Julie Lomas and Leigh-Anna Bird gave inspiring and moving testimonies on this subject. The evening was relaxed yet prayerful. Some of our young people had put a lot of thought and effort into providing the church community of Chesterfield with a great opportunity for praise and worship.

Make sure you do not miss the next Furnace. Put it in your diaries now, and spread the word.

The next Furnace is on 30th March 2007

You can listen to Leigh-Anna's and Julie's testimonies at www.st-thomas-brampton.org/podcasts.html#furnace1

Congratulations to Ian and Katie

Ian Hoare and Katie Couchman are getting married on 28 April 2007 at Enfield Baptist Church.

Ian has been a member of St Thomas' all his life, having started off in the crèche and ended up in CYFA. Katie is a longstanding member of Enfield Baptist Church, where, by coincidence Amanda Roper (wife of our former Youth Worker Neil) now works.

Please pray that God will bless and prosper their marriage.



Dave's First Marathon at 52!

April 22nd is fast approaching – yes, the date of the London Marathon. Dave Simmonds, a member of St Thomas' church is running for the first time, raising money for Samaritan's Purse International, the Christian charity best known for it's annual shoe box appeal, 'Operation Christmas Child'.

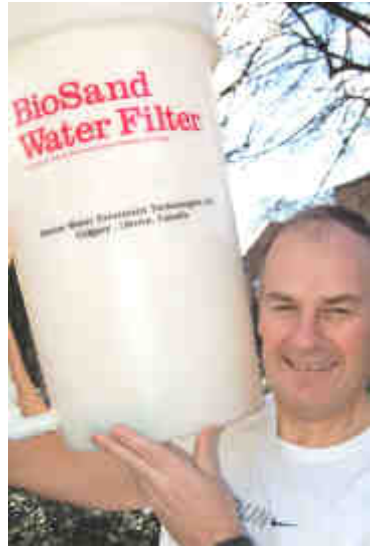
Dave writes

“Having run shorter events in the past, I have quietly longed to run the London Marathon, but have never quite made it. But 2007 is different! I started training last May, slowly building up my stamina and shedding some excess weight - 3 stones so far - and now I am in serious training.

You probably think I'm mad, and you are probably right! Money raised from my marathon effort will go towards various Samaritan's Purse water projects such as the bio-sand water filters

provided in countries such as Mozambique and Liberia. One such water filter, needing no maintenance or chemical replacement, provides safe water for an entire family, for just £40. I would be most grateful if you could reward my efforts by sponsoring me, so that I can help Samaritan's Purse make a difference in the lives of people suffering through no fault of their own.

If you feel you could, there are various ways to sponsor. You could sign the sponsorship form on the clipboard at the back of St Thomas' Church; by contacting me directly either in church on a Sunday or by telephone on 235844. Alternatively you can visit my website – www.justgiving.com/davesimmonds Donating through this site is simple, fast and totally secure. It is also the most efficient way to sponsor me as Samaritan's Purse International will receive your money faster.



For those of you who choose to support me, might I encourage you to gift aid your donation if you are a UK tax payer. If you need more information on this don't hesitate to ask, but basically an extra 28% will be added to your gift at no cost to you, provided you pay tax equal to the amount of gift aid claimed. In anticipation, may I thank you for your support and encouragement and prayers."

Dave Simmonds

Alex and Pat Simpson are Leaving

Alex is our Non-Stipendiary Minister at St Peter's Holymoorside

After six years of ministry at St Peter's, Alex and Pat will be leaving to move to Norwich. Alex says:

"As some of you know, Pat and I have been thinking of moving to Norwich to be near our family. Without really looking for it, a property came up in Norwich that is perfect for our purposes.

We have enjoyed our six years at St Peter's and in this village very much, and people have been very kind to us. It will be sad to leave so excellent a congregation and we would like to thank you for your generous friendship."

Alex and Pat

Thank you Alex and Pat for all you have done at St Peter's and in Holymoorside. May God's blessing be on you both.



Chesterfield Procession of Witness -28 May 2007

St Thomas' have been asked if they will do a tableau as numbers of these have been dwindling. It is a wonderful way to spread God's word. We do however need help to keep this tradition and witness alive. If you can help in any way or would be prepared to become co-ordinators for future processions, please contact Sue Baker.

Read more about previous processions here

www.st-thomas-brampton.org/fromchesterfield.html#6



Pictures from last year

