

PLOUGHSHARE

August/September 2007

Volume 15, No 5



St Thomas' Brampton St Peter's, Holmoorside

Share the love of Jesus

We aim to become more like Jesus every day as we respond to His love for us and as we share the good news of Him with others

What's this all about?



- see the back cover!

60p per copy (£3.00per 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.

However in August the 9am and 11am services will combine and the service will be held at 10.30am.

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

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

From the Rector - 'Be a Revolutionary'

We are revolutionaries! Our Lord was a revolutionary! Consider, if you will, some of his basic teaching. "Love your enemies", "Do good to those who hate you", "Store up treasures in heaven not on earth". All these statements (and more) run counter-culturally to the world around us. But does the world see us as revolutionary? Does our society see us as a threat to their foundational beliefs and lifestyle? The answer, is of course, no!



Why does the world not see us, the church, as being revolutionary? I offer the following 'hymn' for your consideration.

Backward Christian soldiers, fleeing from the flight.
With the cross of Jesus nearly out of sight:
Christ our rightful master stands against the foe,
But forward into battle we are loathe to go.

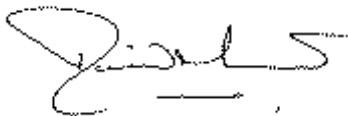
Like a mighty tortoise moves the Church of God;
Brothers we are treading where we've often trod.
We are much divided, many bodies we,
Having different doctrines, not much charity.

Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus hidden does remain;
Gates of hell should never 'gainst that Church prevail,
We have Christ's own promise, but think that it will fail.

Sit here, then, ye people, join our useless throngs;
Blend with ours your voices in a feeble song.
Blessings, ease and comfort, ask from Christ the King,
With our modern thinking, we won't do a thing.

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Read it again, this time apply it not to the Church, or a particular church, but to yourself.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerald S.', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

From the Editor

Aren't people interesting? This edition contains articles by and about several members of our immediate and extended church family. They tell us a bit about themselves, how they came to faith and what being a Christian means to them.

We have also had some powerful testimonies given in church recently. You can listen to them at www.st-thomas-brampton.org/testimonies.html or ask the office for a recording.

On the front and back cover there are pictures of certain members of St Thomas' looking slightly different from normal. Can you put a name to all the faces?

Due to holidays the closing date for articles for the October/November edition is August 24.

Bryn Garland –Deputy Warden at St Thomas’

Bryn has been Deputy Warden at St Thomas’ for a number of years. He tells us a bit about himself and his walk with God.



I have been Deputy Warden at the evening service since 2004, having taken over from Enid Sheldon.

My walk with God began in the then mining town of Bolsover six miles to the east of Chesterfield, where I was born and brought up, my father was a miner who died when I was 9 years of age. We had been brought up in the church and my brothers and I were in the choir and my mum carried the banner for the Mothers Union.

Like many young people at the time, attending church was a duty imposed by your parents but there is no doubt that a seed in my soul had been watered. The germination of that seed happened seventeen years later. In between these years I married Maureen and we had two children, Claire and Richard, and had a seemingly normal life.

When we returned to the Chesterfield area with my work as an accountant in a company making trailers we decided to take the children to church as we thought there was something missing in both ours and our children’s lives. This coincided with the early ministry of Christopher Frith and we soon enjoyed the vibrant family services of that time at St Thomas’. Maureen attended confirmation classes and was confirmed in 1988 and I renewed my vows in 1995.

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Claire in particular grew in the church and was confirmed in 1995. Many of the church family will remember her as an active member of CYFA and keyboard player in one of the many evolving youth bands for which we are blessed at St Thomas'. She returned to St Thomas' in 2001 to be married to Joe another committed Christian. This was a joyful and spirit filled celebration.

Maureen and I joined a house group early in our church life. This helped our spiritual growth through the biblical teaching and its application in the modern world, coupled with the great fellowship and friendship found in a small group. Our last group in which I helped lead eventually broke up with people moving out of the area and abroad and we have moved on to David Holden's group which we enjoy very much.

I can't say why or when we migrated to the evening service but we have been there some years before starting to serve as side persons and with refreshments.

I appreciate as Duty Warden it is so important to make the welcome into church the main priority and the badges we wear remind me of the fact. My sometimes dour demeanour is because I am concentrating on some other aspect of the service such as getting the computer to work! I wish I had the gift of our editor both in getting the computer to work and having a sunny disposition. I will try harder!

This is my walk with God which has been a slow steady journey of commitment to the life of Christ. No pivotal moment, just a series of steps through the preaching, praise and prayer at St Thomas' with which we are blessed, the teaching and fellowship of the house group and the love within the church which makes our walk of witness so fulfilling.

Bryn Garland

Thai Tea Party –a year on



Rosie Welch updates us on the McClean family –our OMF link missionaries.

It doesn't seem more than a year since we were welcoming our new Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) link family Johnny and Ann McClean, Matthew (now 5), Bethan (3) and Joshua (16months) for a weekend visit and a family Thai Tea Party in May'06. They were then about to return to Central Thailand where they work as mission partners for OMF (Overseas Mission Fellowship) as a Christian witness among 30,000 students on a university campus. Thailand is mainly Buddhist and has several different ethnic groups. Johnny and Ann's work is in supporting and encouraging the local Christian fellowships and in sharing and explaining the Christian message.

Since going back to Thailand in July '06 they have had a busy time: significant events have included:

- Adjusting to Thai life after 6months in the UK;
- Due to staffing changes, re-locating to Nakhon Sawan, a city from where they can also support the student workers in the cities of Lopburi and Phitsanalok. They moved in and within days opened their home as a Youth House: a base for evangelistic Bible studies, English club, homework club, Christian Union meetings;
- Developing and leading their "Trained 2 Serve" programme for Christian students, some going on to student outreach work;
- Christmas Camp with 55 students including Christian believers, Buddhists and some Chinese exchange students, 3 later coming to faith;
- Matthew starting Thai infant school in mornings as well as English home school in the afternoons, joined by Bethan. Josh gaining teeth and mobility!;
- A calling to a change of direction towards more leadership, training and mentoring (reluctantly reducing face-to-face student work), to equip and sustain Thai workers. They

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are negotiating to expand the Trained 2 Serve Course nationally in conjunction with Thai International Federation of Evangelical Students (IFES/TCS).

There has also been a coup – thankfully fairly peaceful – as well as major floods. Church groups have visited from Nottingham and from New Zealand and helped with the work, especially at busy times of the new term and the Christmas camp.

They have mourned the death of Johnny’s grandmother in Northern Ireland, and mourned with close Thai friends and co-workers when they lost close family members. They have supported ill friends and people in distress, and been supported through a busy and challenging year by their Christian family, both Thai and other nationalities.

They have prayed for more workers, and seen prayers gradually answered; prayed for help with their home, (which *is* the open Youth House for all the Christian students and anyone wanting to know about their faith), and have been blessed to find Nok, a Christian woman with a small child in need of work, who is now part of their team though from a totally different background to the students.

Johnny and Ann have had a welcome 2-week holiday followed by a retreat with their team, preparing to launch into their new academic year starting in mid-June.....just when we were getting ready to break up! They have many new plans and creative ideas for communicating the Gospel message in a different culture.

So they continue to “talk the talk” and “walk the walk”, witnessing God’s work through their faith and their daily lives. I know when they visited St. Thomas’ many were challenged by their enthusiasm and eagerness to communicate across language and cultural divides. Many remarked that we have similar considerable culture and language barriers in our own country and our daily experience. As they are in Thailand, perhaps we should all be alert for fresh ways to explain and demonstrate our faith in our words and actions every day.

If you would like to keep up with the McClean family and receive their monthly prayer e-mail, please contact me. Updates about their, and other OMF work is available at the back of St. Thomas’ on the world mission notice board – look out for the magazine East Asia’s Billions or visit www.omf.org. The McCleans also now have their own pictures on www.splashblog.com/mccleanblog

Rosie Welch

Introducing Mark Marsden –Warden at St Peter’s

Mark was elected Church Warden at St Peter’s in April. Mark introduces himself and writes about his Christian journey.



I was born in Chesterfield on Coronation Day, 2 June 1953. Until I was eleven I lived in Holymoorside, initially with my parents and elder brother. However my father died when I was just eighteen months old. We moved to my grandparents’ former home on Chatsworth Road in 1964 and then in my late teens to Bolehill in Wingerworth.

In 1953 I was baptised at Old Brampton, the church where my father’s parents had worshiped and my father had worshiped since the early 1920s. I continued to go there for many years.

Both my brother and I went to preparatory school in Bakewell and we attended Morning Prayer every Sunday in Bakewell Church. At thirteen I followed my brother to public school in Hampshire where every day there was assembly and worship for the whole school. Again we had to attend the local village church each Sunday, where again the service was Morning Prayer.

In 1967 aged fourteen I was confirmed and communion was celebrated either in the village church or within the recently created school chapel. I recall around this time there was a change in the delivery of the service as the Alternative Eucharist Service was introduced.

On leaving school I joined the Derbyshire Police Service initially as a cadet and then a regular officer, working in Derby and then Chesterfield.

I was married to my childhood sweetheart in 1975 at St Thomas’, by Vivian Watts Jones. St Thomas’ was the church that she and her family had worshipped in since they moved to Chesterfield in 1958. Strictly speaking this is the very same parish church I should have worshipped in for a large chunk of my, life having lived in the parish for some 20 years.

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I continued to work in Derby before moving back to Chesterfield in 1976. We were obliged to live in a Police House in Grangewood until 1979 when we moved to our current house in Holymoorside just before Christmas of that year. I spent the rest of my police career in the Chesterfield Division undertaking a variety of different roles. I retired in September 2002 having completed my allotted 30 years service.

We have three children, a son 29 years, a daughter 26 years and a daughter 25 years.

From the late 1970s we attended St Peter's as a family on a fairly regular basis. Ken Scott was the first minister I knew, followed by Peter Allan, Brian Porter and Judith Henderson and of course latterly Alex Simpson. My two daughters were baptised at St Peter's by Ken Scott, my son having been baptised at the Crooked Spire by Dennis King before we moved to Holymoorside.

My eldest two children are married. My elder daughter was married at St Peter's in May 2005.

As you can probably gather I have followed a very traditional church upbringing and in the main have continued in the manner I have always known and liked. My mother and more specifically my maternal grandmother had a significant influence on me.

There have of course been lapses in my church attendance, for a variety of reasons but I have always retained my belief. However at times I have struggled with this belief. Initially it was the thought of my mother becoming a widow at 26 years old with two children aged 3 years and 18 months respectively to bring up. Never having known my father was difficult to come to terms with. Later it became clear that this was selfishness on my part.

Latterly when having to deal with the more unpleasant side of policing that has involved children and vulnerable people and other particularly nasty events I have often asked myself how or why can these things be allowed to happen.

As to why I became a Church Warden I suppose it is my way of trying to put something back into the church family. I felt I had something to offer and it was a progression from membership of the St Peter's DCC in the early 1990s. So here I am.

Mark Marsden

‘Don’t worry, Lisa, the everlasting arms will always be beneath you.’

Lisa Mouncer writes about her favourite Bible verse, Deuteronomy 33:27.



What on earth was my mother going on about now, I thought, as she kissed me and hugged me tight. I felt so relieved to be here at last, in Aberystwyth University actually doing a degree in English. My parents and I had not always got on very well and I was happy to be starting a new phase of my life far away from them. But when they had finally gone, I felt very much alone in my new room at the halls of residence. Granted, I had my duvet, mug tree and Led Zeppelin poster but I felt quite nervous and out of my depth all of a sudden.

Then I heard a little tap at my door and there stood my next door neighbour, Netty Palliser. ‘Hi! You’re new! Would you like a cup of tea? Come to my room in five mins!’ Next door I found a little gaggle of girls from the same floor. We laughed and chatted, and, suddenly I didn’t feel quite so alone anymore.

I had come to university as a complete atheist, happy to escape the cloying chapel background of a small South Wales valleys community. But in university I began to make friends, and strangely those friends were, like Netty, Christians. They seemed calm and happy, they had strong moral principles yet seemed to have a lot of fun too. And they went to church. They invited me but for a long time I resisted. My only experience of church had been of long dreary sermons, welsh hymns and old ladies in hats. Finally I went along one evening to a lively baptism service and was amazed. These people had something special and, whatever it was, I wanted it.

I got Netty to buy me a Bible and avidly read it. It was in a modern readable version and didn’t have the old ‘thees’ and ‘thous’ that I remembered. Soon after, I knelt down in my

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room and asked Jesus into my life -it seemed like a real leap of faith, but I hoped He'd catch me. Wow! The feeling was incredible, and I knew that from now on my life was in His hands.

My mother's words to me had become true. And have gone on being true as I have faced good times and bad times. My mother died eight years ago. We wrote these words upon her headstone:

Duw'r oesoedd yw dy noddfa, ac oddi tanodd y mae'r breichiau tragw-yddol.

-Deuteronomium 33 v27

(The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.)

because that was her favourite verse too!

Lisa Mouncer

A Tribute to the Quiet Servers

To those who serve in a quiet way,
Spreading Christ's message day by day,
In what they do, or in what they say,
At home, at school, at work or play.

It may not be noticed what they do,
This power is God's gift to quite a few.
A chat in the train, in the bus, in the queue,
Or showing friendship, constant and true.

Just look around you, who do you see?
Ordinary folk like you and me.
So start quietly serving, then you will be
One of the many, Christ has set free.

Dear Diary

Forthcoming dates to remember

Saturday 11 August

St Peter's Coach Trip to York

Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 August

Summer Rendezvous, St Thomas'

Sunday 19 August

Summer Rendezvous meal and Celebration Service, St Thomas'

Wednesday 22 to Monday 27 August

Holymoorside and Walton Art and Craft Exhibition at St Peter's and Embroidery Exhibition at Holymoorside Methodist Church

Thursday 23 August (7pm)

Blessing of the Well in Holymoorside

Sunday 26 August (10am)

Well Dressing Service in Holymoorside Village Hall

Saturday 8 September

Derbyshire Churches and Chapels Preservation Trust bike and hike

Sunday 16 September

Confirmations at Ashover

Sunday 23 September

Harvest Sunday at St Peter's

Saturday 29 September

PCC Away Day

Saturday 29 September

Harvest Supper in Holymoorside Village Hall

Sunday 7 October

Harvest Sunday at St Thomas'

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

Pentecost Sunday and the 3rd Brampton Scout Group

The Pentecost Sunday 'All Age' church service in May at St Thomas' was led by the 3rd Brampton (St. Thomas') Scout Group. The youngsters were working towards elements of the 'My Faith' and 'Group Faith' awards, which required them to explore and develop their own faiths. The Beaver Scouts, aged 6-8 years performed a sketch entitled 'Church' and depicted a machine, called Church, whose job it was to transport the 'message' from one place to another. However, as the sketch demonstrated, various parts of the machine needed to be in order for the machine, or the church, to communicate this message properly!

The Scouts, aged 10 ½ to 14 years, led the morning prayers and they read out a prayer based on the Worldwide Scout Movement that they had created with the Rector, David Mouncer, at one of their weekly Troop meetings. The Cub Scouts, aged 8-10 years, read the dramatic reading from Acts 2 'The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost'.

Presentation to Terry May



The Beaver Scouts in the sketch entitled 'Church'



Terry May reaffirming the Scout promise to be appointed Group President for the 3rd Brampton (St. Thomas') Scout Group.

In concluding the service, the Group Scout Leader, Ben Widdowson, made a special presentation to the Group's longest serving member, Terry May, and conferred the honorary title of Group President upon him in recognition of exceptional service for over fifty years. Ben told the congregation how Terry was invested into the

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Group by the Scout Group's founder and former St. Thomas' church rector, Canon John Hooley, in 1951. In his Scouting career Terry held various appointments including Assistant Scout Master, Assistant Rover Scout Leader and latterly that of Group Scout Leader. In Terry's period as Group Scout Leader, the Group experienced phenomenal growth and was renowned for its high standards and ability to perform well in district competitions. It boasted two large and successful Cub Scout packs, the Hipper and Rother Packs, and was a pioneer Group in the introduction of Beaver Scouting for the 6-8 year olds.

After the service the congregation was invited to partake in refreshments provided by the parents of the Scout Group.

For information about joining the adventures of the 3rd Brampton (St. Thomas') Scout Group, both youths and potential adult leaders, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Ben Widdowson on 01246 234082 or check out the Group website, www.3rdBrampton.co.uk.

My Journey home -Ray Hearn's Testimony

Ray is one of our senior church family members. He tells us of his journey to faith.



Jesus told the parable of the Prodigal Son who left home. When he came to the end of his resources he decided to return home and offer to earn his keep as a hired servant.

At 16 I left school and stopped going to church but by the time I was 17 I asked the headmaster if I could return to school.

At 19 I failed an exam that stopped me going on in my career so I took a temporary job in order to re sit my exam. However, before I was 20, I became very ill with tuberculosis and had a job on to survive.

During the ten months in hospital two chaplains visited regularly. One was an Anglican who took a patients' Holy Communion service that I decided to attend. The other was a Methodist who stirred something in me that I had never experienced before.

When I was 20 I was discharged from King's Mill Hospital and returned home, although not before I had experienced my first encounter with clinical depression. My mum and dad and I were rehoused in a council house on the border of Nottingham where they looked after me and brought me back to mental and physical health.

During the period of convalescence I started going to the local parish church, St. Martin's at Bilborough Nottingham, but the minister who most influenced me was the priest in charge of the daughter church, just across the road from our home. He had the same spiritual quality of the Methodist chaplain and very gently listened to my opinions.

During that summer I read a book called '*Tell England*' by Ernest Raymond. It told of an Anglo Catholic chaplain preparing two young soldiers for Confirmation and then giving them their first communion. The story tragically tells of the death of these two young soldiers at Gallipoli in the first world war. During their preparation the chaplain convinced the young soldiers that part of their preparation should be to make their confession to him as a priest. I was so moved by this book that I went to my local parish priest and he heard my lifetime confession, all ten foolscap pages of it! I wrote to a dear Anglican sister, Sister Hilary, who was in charge of St. Luke's Home, Newbold, where my mother's cousin was cared for. She had known me for at least 10 years. Her reply to my letter said that she was delighted that I had decided to surrender my life to Christ.

During the time in hospital I retook and passed my exam, and was able to start life as a student at 21, 3 years older than my friends. After five years of a life that was often difficult to fathom I reached the final stage of my spiritual journey, when I became sure that I was a Christian. I date the time I started my return home to God from when I was 19 and began taking regular Holy Communion in the hospital and experienced the saintly ministry of the Methodist chaplain.

About a month after I had started at college a Chinese girl, Pam, invited me to a lunch time meeting of the Christian Union. I had strong reservations about the way this society promoted its message because it seemed to sell Jesus like an American commercial would promote a bar of soap. The time of the meeting came. Having nowhere to go to eat my cheese roll I decided to go to the meeting and that turned out to be the next but last of a chain of decisions over a period of one and a half years that changed my life. The final decision came just after the meeting had ended. The speaker had spoken

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well. My reservations had been silenced but I had two questions on which I needed assurance.

'Was it possible to be a Christian by growing into one gradually?' and secondly, 'How could I be sure that I was a Christian?'

The answer to the first of course is that we can grow into being a Christian and many do. Sadly, many people who are Christians are not sure that they are but the Bible makes it so clear that we can be sure. Jack Wallace, the speaker answered that question for me, using a pen and Luke 11: 13 to help me to be sure. Jack held a pen out and asked me, "What must you do if you want it?". "Take it." I replied.

Jack replied that it was as simple and straightforward to accept God's gift of Eternal Life in His Son as it was to take the pen. He showed me a verse from Scripture. 'If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.' Luke 11:13.

I took God's offer of His Son as simply as I could take the pen by praying that Jesus would come into my life. At last after 5 years I had come home. On the surface I had made a chance decision to go to that meeting but in God's plan I had taken the final step in my way to Jesus. I went into that room with no assurance about being a Christian. I came out sure that God was my heavenly Father and Jesus was my Saviour. Life has never been the same again. It was amazing what happened in my life after that day. Before, I had had so many questions about life. I could not see any purpose in it. After, I was like the blind man whose sight was restored by Jesus. He said, 'Whereas before, I was blind. Now I can see.'

Are you like I was so many years ago? Only you and God know the answer to that question. If you are not sure, the Lord says to each one of us, 'Ask and you will receive, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened unto you.' If you do, life will never be the same again.

Trusting that God will work His salvation in your hearts.

Love in Jesus,

Ray Hearn

New Bishop of Repton Appointed

Rev Canon Humphrey Southern has been appointed as the New Bishop of Repton .

The new Bishop of Repton is the Rev Canon Humphrey Southern. He succeeds the Rev David Hawtin, who retired in October 2006.

Primarily, the Bishop of Repton, a Suffragan (or 'assistant') Bishop, works alongside the Bishop of Derby in leading the Church of England across the whole of the county and therefore it is the second most senior appointment in the Diocese. He is required to advise and consult with key people or organisations involved with the wellbeing of communities in Derbyshire, and it is possible he will acquire national responsibilities too.



Canon Southern, 46, who comes to Derbyshire from the Diocese of Salisbury, where he is Team Rector in Nadder Valley and a Rural Dean.

Canon Southern was consecrated as a Bishop at St Paul's Cathedral, London, on 31 May and a service of installation and welcome took place at Derby Cathedral on June 9th, which marked the beginning of his official duties.

On his appointment he said: "I was astonished and delighted when I heard I was to be the next Bishop of Repton. I have huge admiration for Bishop Alastair, the Bishop of Derby, and very much look forward to working with him as well as with Archdeacons and the rest of the clergy and people of the Diocese. These are exciting times to share in the ministry of the Church of England and I am looking forward with great joy to the future that God is holding out for us all."

Canon Southern began his ordained ministry as a Deacon in 1986 and a Priest in 1987 in the Diocese of Rochester. He was Assistant Curate in the parish of Rainham, Kent for four years, and then moved to the Diocese of Liverpool, where he was Assistant

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Curate for two years in Walton-on-the-Hill and a part-time Hospital Chaplain. In 1992 he became the vicar of Hale, Surrey, in the Diocese of Guildford. He stayed there for seven years, during which time he was also appointed the Guildford Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, promoting relations between churches of different denominations.

In 1999 Canon Southern moved to the Diocese of Salisbury where he was Team Rector in Tisbury. His responsibilities expanded from eight to 12 villages, which became the Nadder Valley Team Ministry. During this time, he was appointed a Rural Dean, leading local clergy of several churches within and around the Chalke area. Last year, he was appointed Canon and Prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral. He is also Chair of the House of Clergy in the Diocese of Salisbury.

Humphrey is married to Emma, a District Nurse, and they have two daughters, Laura, aged nine, and Kate, aged seven. They are all looking forward to getting to know Derbyshire better. They will live at Rep-ton House in Lea, Matlock.

Humphrey said: "The Peak District was our first holiday destination after becoming a family (it was the first summer of Laura's life) and so we have had some insight of the treats that are in store. What's more, my great-grandfather was a GP in Derby at the turn of the last century, so it is clearly time for the family to re-establish its roots in this beautiful county at the heart of England!"

As well as spending time with family, Humphrey enjoys cooking, contemporary fiction, travel and socialising. He has a love for Africa, particularly the Sudan, after two periods of ministry there.

The Bishop of Derby said: "I am pleased to welcome Humphrey as a colleague. He brings a wide range of experience in parochial ministry, the work of ecumenism and roles of leadership. We are fortunate to be blessed with such an exciting appointment."

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Humphrey to St Thomas' in the near future.



A good rummage at the summer fete.

Is Our Bible like Our Mobile Phone?

Do we carry it around in our pocket or purse?

Do we flip through it several times a day?

Do we turn back to get it if we leave it at home?

Do we use it to receive messages from the text?

Do we treat it as if we couldn't live without it?

Do we give it to our children as a gift?

Do we use it when we travel?

Do we use it in an emergency?

Unlike our mobile phones we don't have to worry about our Bibles being disconnected because of an unpaid bill. Jesus has already paid in full. And just think, no missed calls. God hears them all!

St Thomas' Summer Fete

Pictures from St Thomas' fete held at the end of June. It was a very successful day with many local people attending. A big thank you must go to Heather Hollington and the Social Team and all the other volunteers who helped.

