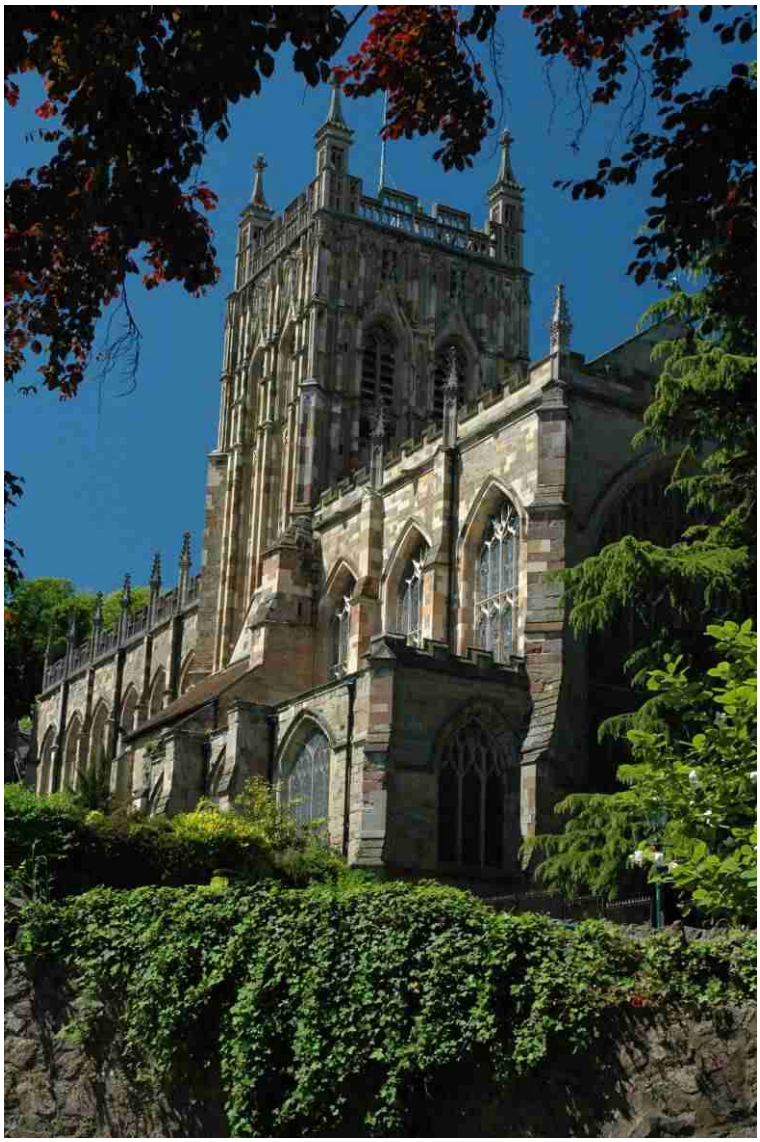
Malvern Priory Magazine



The Parish Church of St. Mary & St. Michael

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March 2011

From the Vicarage

Facing Challenging Times

Dear Friends,

I wonder if, like me, you have seen the recently released film *The King's Speech*? Many people have been drawn to this powerfully portrayed story of the challenges faced by the late King George VI. In order to overcome his stammer, Bertie (his family name) – who was at the time Duke of York - went to Lionel Logue, an unorthodox speech therapist from Australia. The two men become friends as they worked together, and after his brother abdicated in 1936, the film tells how the King relied on Logue to help him make a radio broadcast at the beginning of the Second World War.

In George VI, we see someone who found himself having to face many challenges in his life. He suffered from a stammer, as well as poor health, both of which could be traced back to his early years. Here was a reluctant king who had this high office thrust upon him. It was an office that demanded so much, not least because it also coincided with the Second World War. And yet Bertie rose to the challenge, and the film shows his courage, and commitment, in facing adversity. It also shows how the co-operation of others – especially his wife, and Lionel Logue – encouraged him to persevere, and so to live out his calling in a faithful and fruitful way.

It strikes me that the theme which inspired *The King's Speech* also provides a picture of the Christian life. You and I find ourselves living in challenging times, times of widespread uncertainty and anxiety. We too may have particular personal challenges to face in responding to our high calling as Christ's followers. And yet, with courage and commitment, as well as through co-operation with others in the family of faith, we too can persevere and fruitfully live out our Christian calling.

The season of Lent, which begins this month, is an opportunity to receive afresh the Lord's resources to become more fully the people He is calling us to be. This Lent, as you will read elsewhere in this magazine (see page 5), we are invited to listen to the whole of the New Testament in 40 days. If you haven't already signed up to *You've Got the Time*, may I encourage you to do so, as I'm sure that it will be a real blessing to all who choose to take part. Whatever challenges you and I may find ourselves facing, may the season of Lent encourage us to grow in the faith, hope, and love that God has revealed to us in His Son Jesus Christ, and that the Lord inspires in us by His Spirit.

Wishing you every blessing in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

John Barr, Vicar

Priory People

Newcomers

We warmly welcome Melanie Kirby and her son Piers of Alexandra Road, Richard and Monica Crookall of Mason Close, Rachel and Andrew Huntley St. Peters Road and Ann Stephenson of Albert Park Road who have recently started attending the Priory.

– o0o –

Lifepath is happening again in the Priory in 2011! Lifepath Malvern – inspired by the Scripture Union Lifepath project – first began in the Priory in 2008. Over the past three years, it has attracted growing numbers of children from local Primary Schools.

This year we are inviting new schools, as well as those who have already taken part, and are introducing a new Science and Faith activity workshop. This means we shall also need more volunteers to help. One of the great things about Lifepath is the wonderful teamwork between folk from lots of local churches. Please think and pray about who might be involved from *your* church for a day or more – perhaps it could even be *you*?! (CRB checks are essential for all who will be working directly with the young people).

Helping can start now - for example, we need white sheets to make some extra Monk's habits! Financial provision is also important, and we are very grateful for kind donations already received. Above all, please pray for Lifepath; pray especially at this stage for the Steering Group doing the planning and for the booking information that has been sent to schools, and for those preparing to lead activity workshops. May Lifepath enable future generations to discover more about the story of Christian faith in Malvern, and relate it to their own journey through life.

Lifepath Malvern 4: 20th – 24th June 2011

Commissioning Service in the Priory: 6.30 pm Sunday 19th June

For more information, contact Mary Barr (via Contact Us).

Financial donations from churches and/or individuals may be sent to the Lifepath Treasurer, c/o The Priory Parish Office, Church Street, Malvern, WR14 2AY. Please make cheques payable to 'Lifepath Malvern.'

Sunday Tea Club

A year ago, in March 2010, I wrote an article for the Priory Magazine about the start of the Sunday Tea Club, which was in response to increasing awareness of the number of older people in Malvern who live alone and for whom Sunday is a particularly lonely day. I appealed to the local churches to offer hospitality and I was overwhelmed with their generous response. At present, 12 churches host the Club on a rota basis, and they have all been extremely welcoming.

The Tea Club takes place on the second Sunday of each month, and most of the members have mobility and sight restrictions, so providing transport is a necessity. The first tea was held at Lansdowne Methodist Church on 14th February 2010, with 18 visitors. The venture has been so successful that we now average 35 to 40 people, and I have recently had to explain to new enquirers that at present we do not have room for more. The accommodation of some churches or church halls is limited, and we also desperately need more car drivers, even though we use both Community Action minibuses as well as private cars.

I am very grateful to those from the Priory who help with transport, and who give prayerful and practical support in other ways. The Sunday Tea club has really highlighted the extent and impact of loneliness and isolation amongst older, less able people and to witness the appreciation and enjoyment of our members is a huge reward in itself. It is, however, increasingly apparent that perhaps there is a need to start another group on a different Sunday in the month. This would be a big step of faith (did you hear our Vicar's sermon at 10.30 a.m. on 30th January?), and we would need more venues and offers of hospitality, as well as help with transport, and people willing just to sit and listen.

When we set up the Tea club, we had no money at all. We have recently received a small grant specifically for developing this project, and it will enable us perhaps to hire other venues if necessary, but there would still be a need for a team of people willing to provide and serve teas.

I really believe that the Lord is blessing this great opportunity to share and demonstrate our faith in action to those in need. The Vicar described faith as "fantastic adventure in trusting Him". Could you be part of this particular adventure?

Jen Boyer, Co-ordinator of Sunday Tea Club

...to "Hear the Word of the Lord!"

In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Authorised King James Version of the Bible in England, 2011 has been designated The Year of the Bible. Churches across the land are challenged to use this significant anniversary as a springboard for activities that teach the Bible, promote its usage in personal and public life and grow national awareness of it and confidence in it. We shall do this here in the Priory in different ways throughout the year. In particular, our Lent focus this year – in sermons, House Group studies and personally – is a Bible Society initiative called "You've Got The Time" (*YGTT*).

In all the pressures of daily life in the 21st century, how on earth do we find time to get to know more than just our few favourite Bible verses or bite-sized extracts we hear in church on Sundays? The *YGTT* 40-day listening plan enables us to hear the whole of the New Testament during Lent. And yes, ideally, it is about hearing and listening: either by downloading for free the whole of the New Testament, recorded by Riding Lights Theatre Company, from the Bible Society website; or by filling in a Pledge card and returning it to the clergy or Parish Office as soon as possible to receive the recording on an MP3 player (sent to the Priory Office for you to collect). Bible Society would appreciate donations of between £15 - £20 to cover the cost of each MP3 player. Then, whether you're on a lunch-break, at the gym, walking the dog, cleaning the house, cooking, gardening, commuting to work, or whatever, you can listen to Scripture for half-an-hour each day during Lent. (We hope also to make the recording available for playing on DVD players at home - please tell the Parish Office if you'd like a DVD - cost approx. £2.50.)

Of course, if you really dislike the technology, you can simply follow the plan and *READ* each day's chapters from your Bible. But then you may miss out on part of the purpose – which is to *LISTEN* to God's Word. So the readings for each day will be played aloud in the Priory from 1.00 – 1.30 pm; why not come along and listen with others? (NB not Sundays nor on occasions when other events have to take precedence - see each week's Notice Leaflet for details.)

We will be blessed by listening to God's word; we can bless others by passing on the material to friends and family. And we can also bring blessing to people who wouldn't otherwise have any access to the Bible. The added dimension to Bible Society's project is that churches using the *YGTT* material also support the *Faith Comes By Hearing* project, making a donation towards Proclaimers. ►

Proclaimers are little black boxes: wind-up or solar-powered audio players that enable folk in developing countries to listen to Scripture in their own language too.

The challenge to us is to make this coming Lent – starting on Ash Wednesday, 9th March – 40 days of listening to the whole of the New Testament. Do collect Pledge Cards and Listening Plans from the Priory as soon as possible.

Mary Barr

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CPAS: Making Mission Possible

'Making Mission Possible', the latest initiative from CPAS, the Church Pastoral Aid Society, is a new programme of events taking place throughout the 43 English dioceses. 'Making Mission Possible' aims to equip lay and ordained leaders for mission. It complements the existing CPAS 'Arrow' Leadership Programme for 25 – 40 year olds, the 'Leading Edge' Forums and 'Lifecall'.

CPAS General Director John Dunnett comments, "with effective, mission-focused lay and ordained leadership in local churches across the country, we can see men, women and children discover the good news of Jesus."

Making Mission Possible events cover a variety of different themes, including:

- Enabling action – turning vision into mission and ministry.
- Developing lay leadership (using the Growing Leaders resource).
- Biblical models of leadership to inform parish leadership teams.
- Building and maintaining teams in local churches.
- Sustaining oneself in leadership – staying strong in energy, conviction and vision.

There are specific events for those involved in youth and children's ministry, including:

- Growing and discipling young people.
- Developing a strategy for youth or children's ministry.
- Running residential ministry (weekends away, etc.).

To find out more about CPAS and to find out how CPAS resources might help you, visit www.cpas.org.uk or look at the Priory Mission Board during March.

To find out more about CPAS Ventures and Falcon Camps and about participation as a young person or leader, visit www.ventures.org.uk, check the Youth Table in the Priory or see the Mission Board in March.

Do please continue to pray for the work of CPAS in 2011.

David Guy

Free Exhibition For
Sunday School Teachers/Youth Group Leaders
On Saturday 19th March in the Lyttelton Rooms

The Lyttelton Well is holding a Free Exhibition of material and resources for Sunday Schools and Youth Groups, on Saturday 19th March 2011 between 11 am and 3 pm. Its aim is to provide an opportunity for everyone interested to look at and purchase material and resources currently available from Publishers and Suppliers Worldwide.

Our exhibition is being held in conjunction with the Worcester Diocesan Children's and Youth Officers, who will be displaying Children's and Youth Resources from the Diocese, in Great Malvern Priory on the same day from 9:30am to 12 noon. This will be the first time that such a wide range of material will have been available to view in Great Malvern. Don't miss this exciting opportunity.

More information available if you call 01684 573702.

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Thoughts….Worries…..Prayers

I was worrying about a few things as I sat in my car under a shady tree at lunchtime. Then a robin, with a fat worm dangling from its beak, landed near my door, and looked up to me. The robin was a vivid reminder to me of Jesus' words in Matthew Ch 6 vv 25 – 26: *"Do not worry about your life.....look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they are?"*

Years ago, in an article in a magazine called "Focal Point", Paul Borden gave some helpful suggestions for worriers:

Start a Worry List: Write down what you are worried about. The Bills. Your Job. Your Children or Grandchildren. Your Health. The Future.

Turn your Worry List into a Prayer List: Ask the Lord to work in those situations you're worried about. Pray specifically for your needs, and depend on Him.

Turn your Prayer List into an Action List: If you have any insight that there's something you can do about your cares, then **do it.**

As we turn our worries into prayer and action, Paul Borden says, "Paralysing anxiety can be replaced by concern for the responsibilities of life".

Why not start your list now?

Don't fret about your future; or be consumed by cares.
Instead take all your worries, and turn them into prayers.

What you have made a matter of prayer, should cease to be a matter of care.

Brian Stowe

“……..and into the Fire”

(the continuing saga of a trip to Australia)

In last month’s magazine we had escaped frozen England to find ourselves in the floods of Brisbane. At last, by-passing flooded roads, we had arrived in the little seaside town of Arrawarra, in northern New South Wales. There we had a blissful week. The grandchildren revelled in the sand and the sea. Even the shark which we spotted one day just off shore left us in peace.

Then began the long 3 day journey inland to Paul and Nicky’s home in Cunnamulla, deep in the outback. It involved a 1,600 km detour to avoid flooded roads. Finally we made it. Cunnamulla welcomed us with the hottest weather it had experienced for a long time – temperatures of 47°C (115°F) in the shade. We saw for the first time Boulders – Paul and Nicky’s project for a café, indoor soft play area and cinema. The sheer magnitude of the challenge struck us – the huge amount of work that they have already done, with the help of friends; and the amount still left to be done. Boulders stands at the centre of the little outback town (population 3,000). It is one of the oldest buildings in town. The large, high-ceilinged main room which fronts onto the street – the area that will serve as coffee house and cinema – is almost ready. The kitchen is fitted, the large communal banqueting table in place, the smaller tables and chairs on order. Rosemary spent hours on her knees, cleaning the newly laid vinyl floor of glue and paint marks.

The rear part of the premises consists of a huge corrugated iron structure, and this is where the play area will be. Already Paul and a friend have rebuilt the floor, and insulated and lined with plasterboard part of the walls. My job was to help Paul put in 4 toilet windows. During our first week in Cunnamulla it was too hot to do any building work – the temperature in this corrugated iron part of the building rose to over 50°C (122°F). The second week was a bit cooler (only 40°C), and we got the windows in. Paul now has to finish lining the walls, put up a ceiling, and plumb in the toilets.

As we joined in events in the town – Australia Day, Aiden and Gideon’s school swimming gala etc – we were met with friendliness, and many said how much they appreciated Paul and Nicky, and how much they are looking forward to the opening of Boulders after Easter. Initially it will be just the café. The soft play area and cinema will follow as funds allow. Paul’s role as Lay Chaplain in the secondary school has meant that he knows the town’s youngsters well, and wherever we went he was greeted by shouts of “Hi Paul!”

We had fun as well as work – cooked dampers by the Warrago river, explored the nearby sand dunes, and did an expedition 100 miles into the bush. It was lovely to have time with the grandchildren, each a little character in his own right. Aiden and Gideon swim like fishes in the town swimming pool. Jarius we called “The Professor” – forever on his haunches, bush hat pulled down over his eyes, intently studying beetles, ants, grasshoppers, frogs – anything that moved. Silas ►

meanwhile smiled and crawled about, trying to compete in volume with his brothers.

Our 2 weeks in Cunnamulla passed all too quickly. We had to fly, not bus, out to Brisbane because of floods. The goodbyes were, as ever, hard and painful. But we have come away with so many memories, and a much clearer idea of what Boulders is about. Cunnamulla is not an easy place to live. And Paul and Nicky so much need our continuing prayers as they move forward, step by step, with the work they believe God has called them to, in this isolated place where they believe He wants them to be.

David and Rosemary Webster

Date for the diary

David and Rosemary will give an illustrated talk about Cunnamulla, and the Boulders project, at the Powerpoint prayer meeting in the Priory at 7.30 pm on March 23rd.

The Friends of Malvern Priory

(Registered Charity No 503383)

Coffee Morning With Bring And Buy

Saturday 26th March

At Ivydene, 12 College Road, Malvern

10 am until 12 noon

To raise funds to help pay for the maintenance and preservation of Malvern's historic Priory Church

Worcester Diocesan News

As you will have read last month, the Diocese has ceased producing printed copies of the Diocesan News which was inserted in each Priory Magazine.

It is still being produced and a copy is available on the internet – see www.cofe-worcester.org.uk – and follow the link to Diocesan News.

However, a selection of the articles will be published in the Priory Magazine each month: two items from the March 2011 issue follow on pages 13 and 14.

Churches Together In Malvern

LENT TALKS 2011

'THE MORAL MAZE IN MEDICAL ETHICS'

Dr June Jones, Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Ethics,
University of Birmingham

During this series of Lent talks we will reflect on the challenges of delivering health care in the UK, focusing on the ethical dilemmas regularly faced by patients and professionals. We will go beyond the headlines that we read in the newspapers to explore what really happens and what the real challenges are.

Our theme for the period of Lent will be:

He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Week 1 MONDAY 21st March	**WHAT IS GOOD (the 'good' in health care)** Malvern Priory, Church Street, Malvern
Week 2 TUESDAY 29th March	**DO JUSTLY (allocation of resources)** Elim International Centre, West Malvern
Week 3 WEDNESDAY 6th April	**LOVE MERCY (abortion and euthanasia)** Malvern Priory, Church Street, Malvern
Week 4 THURSDAY 14th April	**WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD (truth telling)** Elim International Centre, West Malvern

All meetings will start with coffee at 7.15p.m
Talk at 7.45p.m
Followed by Questions at 8.30p.m

There will be a Lyttelton Well bookstall with recommended books to purchase

Car parking is available at the Elim International Centre
There will be two Car Parking Stewards, one in West Malvern Road
and one at the main gate in De Walden Road

Outline of Talks

Week 1- what is good This evening we will consider how we decide what good is. In a liberal society 'good' is often portrayed as relative- we will examine the effect this has on medicine and medical ethics. We will use case studies to examine how we can have different views about what is good in health care. We will look to God's word to see what He describes as good, and use this to see if we can understand ethical dilemmas in a more helpful way.

Week 2- do justly This evening we will explore how decisions about distribution health care are made. Decisions about which patients receive transplants are particularly difficult, so we will consider how these decisions are made. Doing justice can sometimes involve speaking out against injustice, so we will consider the duty of professionals to tell the truth, even when it involves exposing poor practice. We will consider what God has to say about doing justice and telling the truth, applying this to health care

Week 3- love mercy This evening we will explore how it is possible to love mercy in modern health care. We will focus on the challenge of caring for the vulnerable at the beginning and end of life. We will discuss abortion and euthanasia, considering how loving mercy can be demonstrated in these difficult situations. We will consider the value God places on life, and how the mercy He shows us can help us to show it to others.

Week 4- walk humbly with your God This week we will consider the role humility has in health care. The days of doctors making decisions for their patients have gone- patients are now encouraged to make their own decisions. We are each free to ask for and accept health care, but some don't know whether to or how to ask, some ask when it is too late and others ask for things that the NHS is unable to supply. As we move towards Easter, we will consider the need for humility in all aspects of life. Humility requires that we consider how we live in relation to God and to others- we will use some of the time during this last evening to reflect on all the themes that have arisen during these lent talks.

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List of recommended books available at the Lyttleton Well bookshop and on sale at the Talks.

Denial of the Soul: spiritual and medical perspectives on euthanasia and morality.
M. Scott Peck

Matters of Life and Death: human dilemmas in the light of the Christian faith
John Wyatt

Issues facing Christians today
John Scott and John Wyatt

Health care and Christian ethics
Robin Gill

Church and Society Commission (CSC) of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) reports that:

EU takes recent violence against Christians seriously

The European Union is taking seriously the recent violent attacks perpetrated against Christians in Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan and Nigeria. More recently, in Alexandria, an attack on the Coptic Church on New Year's Eve killed 21 worshippers. On 20th January 2011, the European Parliament adopted a resolution addressing the situation of Christians in the context of freedom of religion. The European Council of 31st January was expected to discuss the violation of religious freedom with a view of adopting a more proactive policy to ensure the protection of that universal right. The EU leaders regularly condemn major atrocities but now there seems to be a political will for more concrete action. Similarly, the "47 member states of the Council of Europe strongly condemn such acts and all forms of incitement to religious hatred and violence".

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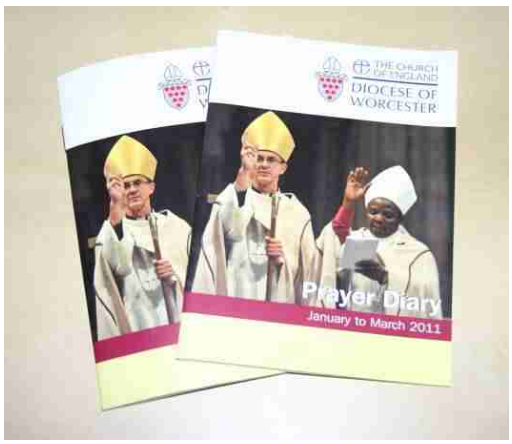
The New Prayer Diary

I hope that by now everyone has seen and is using our new prayer diary. The deepening of prayer is one of Bishop John's key priorities for the diocese and with that in mind, it was felt important to place greater emphasis on our intercessions diary to enable it to be accessible to everyone.

The prayer diary is pocket-sized to enable it to be carried around or simply kept by your bedside; as well as being suitable for use in church. It features news happening around the diocese as a basis for prayer (as well as praying for the individual parishes as has always happened). Hopefully it will be an effective prayer tool as well as an alternative way of communicating some of the great things that are happening in the diocese.



The diary is free to all parishes and there should be enough for everyone who wants one to have a copy, it's definitely not just for readers and clergy. If you haven't seen it, then please do ask in church and make sure you get your copy! It's also available on the diocesan website and I'm happy to produce versions in large-print if people contact me.

The January – March edition is the second prayer diary in the new format and it still continues to evolve, so I'd really appreciate any feedback and thoughts about what you find most and least useful.

Sam Setchell
Diocesan Communications Officer
ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk

Street Pastors – the Word on the Street

Worcester has welcomed Street Pastors to its Saturday night-time economy. Already successfully operating in Kidderminster, Redditch and Stourbridge, these volunteers are beginning to make a big difference to the people out in town during the busiest party night of the week.

Every Saturday night specially trained volunteers have been walking the Worcester streets in a group of 4 to care for, listen to and help those out and about at that time. The church-run, ecumenical initiative began in London nearly 10 years ago, as a Christian response to today's social problems. It's a very practical way of helping people, sharing the love of Jesus and reaching a section of society who are missing in church life. There are now over 150 schemes in towns and cities around the country overseen by an administrative body called The Ascension Trust. In Worcester, the scheme has been set up in association with the Police and Worcester City Council.

Talking a person out of attempting suicide or picking up broken glass so that bare feet are safer, can be all in a night's work, the volunteer church members helping their community in a quiet but effective way to 'calm' their city streets. Their presence can slow down potentially violent situations.

Archdeacon Roger Morris has helped to set the scheme up in Worcester. He said: "Street Pastors make a real difference on Worcester's streets and it's great that we've been able to get the scheme up and running so soon. The response from the churches has been tremendous and we have a growing number of volunteers at various stages of their training."

Larry Kinneman, a volunteer in Worcester says, 'It's a very real ministry which makes a real difference in the community and for people. We can be God to the people that we encounter.'

Larry and his colleagues patrol the Worcester streets from 10 pm until about 4.30 am every Saturday night. He relishes the opportunity to talk to an age group that he wouldn't normally come across and show the love of Jesus in a practical way. Larry is delighted that the service is already becoming recognised on the streets and that people are seeking the team out to help the most vulnerable. One man who was struggling to assist another very drunk friend who was lying helpless on the pavement saw the Street Pastor team and said, 'Oh good - you are the help people,' - praise indeed.

Whether it is offering a drink of water, a pair of flip flops for weary feet or just chatting with the folk in the night economy, the Street Pastors' ministry is already making a real difference in Worcester.

The Bishop's Letter – from Bishop John

When Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them to pray, he gave them the prayer which is so well known to us which begins with the words 'Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.' The prayer is so familiar to us that there is a danger that it may well just wash over us. If that happens we shall miss a great deal: the heart of our faith is packed into those first few words of the Lord's prayer and we would do well to reflect on them anew this Lent.

They first remind us that through Jesus we have been adopted as God's sons and daughters and can call him our Father. That's an awesome thing if you stop to think about it, and is the best piece of news we shall ever have: the God who created the heavens and earth is our loving Father. Second, we are reminded that our response to this great good news, in gratitude, should be to hallow God's name. That means putting our relationship with God first in our life and doing all that we can to encourage others to do so, too. Then, finally, we are to await, and pray for, and seek to bring about the advent of God's Kingdom.

How can we hallow God's name and work for the coming of the kingdom? The best way to start is surely to do all we can to ensure that God rules in our own hearts and lives. As the old song puts it, 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.' To that we might add, let there be justice and mercy and compassion and kindness and love and freedom and goodness and truth on earth and let them begin with me. In other words, let all the characteristics of God's reign be manifest in me. May God's Kingdom come in me.

Most Loving God,
I thank you that in your wonderful love
you have adopted me as your child.
In the power of your Spirit,
Give me a thankful heart and help me properly
To hallow your name.
May your Kingdom come in me
As I submit to your rule in my life
In and through Jesus Christ,
Who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Annual Meeting 2011 – a date for your diaries

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the church on Tuesday 12th April at 7.30pm. It is an important occasion in our church calendar when we meet together to look back over the past year (with happy reminders in a powerpoint slide show) and look forward to the year ahead.

Each year six new PCC members are elected to serve for a three-year period of office, and this year there are also six vacancies for the Deanery Synod, whose members also serve on the PCC. The PCC is a registered charity, so PCC members have an official role as trustees.

Please talk to one of the Churchwardens if you or someone you know would like to consider being nominated for this role. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church.

If you have a question that you would like to bring up at the meeting it would be helpful if you could forward it to me in advance.

Christine Wells PCC Secretary

The Priory Bell Ringers

The Band has experienced a few difficult months whilst John Clements, our tower captain was unwell and the weather not helping. Gill Munro (Assistant) has skilfully kept us together, despite one of our valued members, Annie Burge, leaving on Christmas Day.

Our February AGM unanimously nominated our current officers en bloc. Also, an additional new appointment of Steeple Keeper, was very warmly welcomed by all. We are particularly grateful to the Rev'd John Barr for ably acting as Chairman for our meeting and also for his kind ministry. A booking for 6th February 2012 was made for our next AGM.

Anything used regularly needs to be maintained. Despite new bell-ropes, two have needed "splicing" following wear and tear on the garter rings. David Roskelly volunteered his services out of the blue to do this work and is now Steeple Keeper. David has also offered to give help with learner training together with Gill. A promising future outcome! Hopefully, there will have been a positive outcome later in February, when a key meeting will have been held in regard to the bell frame.

Our early meeting sets the dates for the year. We hope to ring again at Grosmont and Skenfrith for our picnic on 5th June. A new date of 17th September has been set for our Outing this year, when the band may travel to the Ludlow area. Both occasions welcome Ringers and friends from other Towers to join us.

Ringing Room and Belfry Open Afternoons are being finalised. The first opening will be on Monday 25th April from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm.

The Priory Ringers

Malvern Priory Lunchbox

Holland House

In the second of the Lunchbox 2011 programme of talks and recitals, the Rev'd Ian Spencer came to talk about the work of Holland House which is located at Cropthorne near Pershore. Ian and his family are well known in Malvern as he was the Curate at the Priory for three years.

Ian took up the position of Warden of Holland House in the summer of 2008; after full ordination he was looking for a parish position to develop his ministry but a chance look at the Tablet took him to an interview at Holland House.

Holland House was donated to the Diocese of Worcester in 1946 for use as a house of retreat and reflection; in the 1980s it was vested in a board of trustees and now operates with the same terms of reference but as a charity.

The house has twenty six bedrooms and several conference rooms and all its facilities including its restaurant are open to the general public for both overnight stays and lunch and dinner – although booking is required; it is a member of the prestigious Sustainable Restaurant Association whose members include Jamie Oliver's "15" restaurant. Membership brings the benefit of the SRA's help and support in finding ethical and sustainable ways of operating catering and restaurant activities.

During 2011, there is a programme of Craft Days in the Garden when well known lecturers will talk about garden-related subjects including herb gardening and flower arranging; each day costs £40 including coffee, lunch and tea. The full programme is downloadable from the web site, and some courses can be booked on-line – www.hollandhouse.org.

Ninety members attended Lunchbox and made a contribution to the event by buying tea and coffee – over the past year, Lunchbox has been able to contribute £200 to Priory funds.

Roger Sutton

– o0o –

Smile Lines

There will be a procession in the grounds of the Monastery next Sunday afternoon. If it rains in the afternoon the procession will take place in the morning.

A member of a Church gave the Minister a gift of cherry brandy on the condition that he would say thank you in the Church magazine. The thank you read: "Thank you Mrs Makintosh for the gift of cherries and the spirit in which it was given."

Malvern Division

100 Years of Guiding in Malvern

The first Girl Guide Company in Malvern was formed in March 1911 by Miss Alice Baird, Headmistress, at St. James' School West Malvern. She met Lord Baden-Powell in April that year at a Scout display at Malvern Winter Gardens, and she soon became Worcestershire's first Guide Commissioner. Lord and Lady Baden-Powell were her friends and they were on the school council in the 1930s. Both their daughters, Heather and Betty, attended the school for part of their education.

A Girl Scout Troop began at the Abbey School, Malvern Wells, in 1911 with female scoutmasters. It took Lady Baden-Powell visiting them in 1916 to persuade them to give up their hats and staves and become Girl Guides. The 1st Malvern Girls' College Guide Company opened in 1914.

As you can see most of the early Guide companies were attached to schools, later on they were sponsored by churches, some still are, but most now function independently.

Brownies started in Malvern Wells in 1920 and Rainbows at the Wyche in 1995. 2010 was the Centenary of Girlguiding UK when the whole country celebrated with a number of adventures and special events. Malvern Division held their finale event "VISION" at Regents International College, the former St. James School, when everyone renewed their promise, with the rest of the country, at 20.10 pm on 20.10.2010. The evening ended with fireworks.

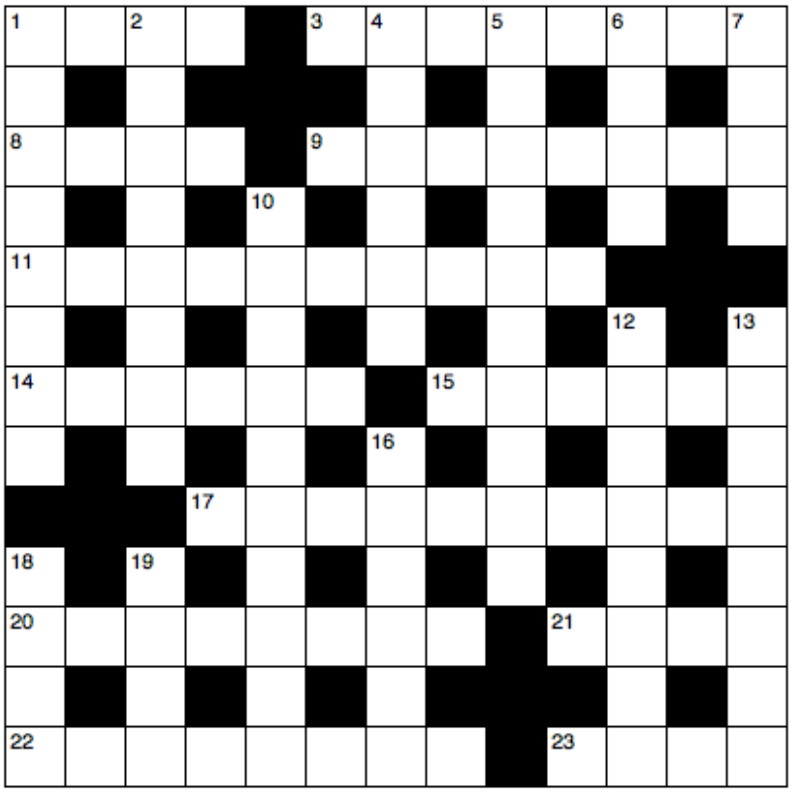
In 2011 Malvern Division is celebrating its own centenary. There are currently about 400 members in the Rainbow (5 – 7 years), Brownies (7 – 10 years), Guides (10 – 14 years), Senior Section (14 – 25 years), Adult Leaders and Trefoil members formed in 22 units covering Malvern, Welland, Upton, Longdon and Callow End. There will be an exhibition of past and present photographs displayed in Malvern Library from 7th – 21st March.

A reunion Coffee Morning will be held in Somers Park Church Hall on Saturday 26th March from 10am until 4pm when archives collected by Heather Talbot, the County Archivist, will be displayed. This will also be an opportunity to support some of the 11 girls that have been selected to go on International guiding trips this summer.

A BBQ fun day at Callow End on May 21st will be our main fund raising event when the big prize draw will be drawn. The Division is holding a Centenary Celebration camp/Sleepover and Activity fun day at Blackmore Campsite in July.

Finally if there is anyone who would like to volunteer in any way, we always welcome new leaders. Please contact us on 01684 893490.

March 2011



February 2011 Solution

		P	R	O	S	P	E	R	I	T	Y	
P		R		V		A		E		I		
R	A	I	S	I	N	S		A	D	M	I	T
O		D		D		T		F		O		R
V	I	E	W		C	O	N	F	E	T	T	I
I				K		R		I		H		D
D	I	S	T	I	L		G	R	O	Y	N	E
E		A		N		S		M				N
N	A	V	I	G	A	T	E		W	H	I	T
C		I		S		A		R		A		I
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		U		I		U		M		E		E
	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	E	S	S		

Across

1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — — ' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
8 Seep (4)
9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12–13) (6)
17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
21 Sail (anag.) (4) 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
23 Eye sore (4)

Down

1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)
12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)