



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

BROADSHEET

OCTOBER 2009

A MONTHLY NEWS ROUND-UP FOR THE PARISH OF ALDBOROUGH HATCH

Services

Sunday 4th October

*Eighteenth Sunday after
Trinity – Harvest Festival*

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 11th October

*Nineteenth Sunday after
Trinity*

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 18th October

*Twentieth Sunday after
Trinity*

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 25th October

*Twenty-first Sunday after
Trinity*

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 1st November

*Twenty-second Sunday after
Trinity- All Saints*

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Holy Communion

Weekdays

The church is open for private prayer on
Monday and Wednesday (10.30am to
12noon) – except Bank Holidays

Wednesday

10am: Holy Communion

Sunday Club

The newly formed Sunday Club for
children over three will meet in the
church halls at 10.30am on Sunday
11th and 18th October. On Sundays
4th (Harvest Festival) and
25th October the children will join
their parents in church.

All children are very welcome.

Monday Club

5 th October	Cards
12 th October	Open Afternoon
19 th October	Luncheon
26 th October	Bingo

Let's do our bit to save the world

Once a bird flying high overhead saw how our world was becoming polluted. The bird saw the rubbish dumped into the sea and fish struggling to survive, great tracts of land being robbed of trees, the ice-caps slowly melting. So the bird decided that it must tell the humans about what was happening.

The first group would not listen – well, who would believe a bird! The next group were just beginning to make good profits again and did not want anything to be disturbed. A third group said they would happily talk about it for years. No one wanted to do anything. Yet the bird knew that all things were linked together. If the humans destroyed the environment, all the birds and all the animals would suffer. What's more the humans suffered, too. But it was the poorest who suffered most, while the richest caused most of the problems.

Why were the humans so insensitive to their surroundings and to each other? The bird learnt that the humans had lost a sense of awe and wonder. They had broken their relationship with the Creator God. If they would not listen to God, they were not likely to hear a bird.

On 4th of October we celebrate our Harvest Festival at St. Peter's. We will give our harvest gifts to Redbridge Night Shelter, and our collections to a Third World charity. But that isn't enough. So I challenge us all to listen to that bird. And really think about how we treat the world. Perhaps we can recycle more of our rubbish, and ensure the rest is disposed of in the most environmentally way possible. And perhaps we can cut down our use of gas and electricity. Individually we can't affect the carbon footprint of the Western World – but together, if we all do our best, we can. Let's do our bit to save the world.

Revd Clare Nicholson, Vicar



Harvest Supper

St. Peter's Church Halls

Saturday 3rd October at 7.30pm

Tickets £4 from Yvonne Jeffries (020 8599 7250)

Harvest Festival gifts

Once again we will be donating our Harvest gifts to the Redbridge Night Shelter in Ilford Town Centre. This will assist greatly in providing hot meals and shelter all year round for the homeless in Redbridge. We would be pleased to receive any of the following: tinned meat, corned beef, spam, ham, hot dogs, soups, tuna, salmon, potatoes, peas, carrots, mixed vegetables, sweetcorn and tomatoes (but not baked beans, please); tinned fruit, custard, puddings, rice pudding; tomato and brown sauce; gravy granules; tea, coffee, sugar; black sacks, washing powder, floor cleaner, anti-bacterial spray, washing-up liquid, bin liners, toilet rolls, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel, liquid soap (not bars of soap, please), deodorants, disposable safety razors.

St. Peter's Church Presents

Sing Along Mamma Mia!

Watch the DVD on the big screen . . . and sing along at the same time

Saturday 17th October - St. Peter's Church Halls

Door Open 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start

Recommended donation of £5 - Refreshments included

Tickets from Mrs Jean Smith (TEL: 07740151442)

You can dance, you can jive, having the time of your life!

St. Peter's Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale

Saturday 7th November – 10am to 12 noon

St. Peter's Church Halls – All welcome

Around the Hatch



St. Peter's is again taking part in Operation Christmas Child, the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The shoeboxes, containing gifts for a boy or girl overseas who would not otherwise receive any presents at Christmas, will be collected in the first week of November. For leaflets and further details, please speak with Yvonne Jeffries (020 8599 7250).

Flower Festival DVD

A DVD with 88 colour photographs of the flower arrangements and accompanying music is available at £5 (plus £1 postage and packing) from Ron Jeffries, 37 Spearpoint Gardens, IG2 7SX. Cheques payable to St. Peter's – all profits to St. Peter's.

St. Peter's



Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 21st November

Grand Christmas Draw

First prize: Digital Picture Frame

Second prize: Case of Selected Wines

Third prize: Luxury Hamper

plus many other prizes

Draw Tickets available from

Chris Kerrison (020 8599 4368)

Christmas Cards, Crafts, Christmas Gifts, Jewellery, Books, Toys, White Elephant, Homemade Cakes, Preserves, Jigsaws, Refreshments, Plants, Tombola

Where do the flowers come from?

Robert Pye, now living in Bury St Edmunds and researching his Family Tree, tells us that he has 22 relatives buried in the churchyard at St. Peter's. From time to time he has noted that someone places flowers on the grave of Charlotte, William and Maud Alice Pye (the grave is in the second row on the right as you enter the churchyard from Aldborough Road North). Robert would be interested to make contact with whoever is placing the flowers on his grandparents' grave. If you know, please contact me – The Editor.

We continue last month's tales of some of the myths and legends that have grown up over the years at St. Peter's.

Of Sugar Sunday, Pickling Sunday, Raffles and the like

And so to *Pickling Sunday* which this year takes place on 25th October – the first Sunday in the half term week, an important factor when fixing this date. A few days prior to the Sunday, sacks of pickling onions are purchased and conveyed to the Church Halls. At around 2.30pm on Pickling Sunday (having partaken of the customary roast beef, Yorkshire puddings, roast potatoes and all the trimmings, followed by liberal helpings of plum duff and custard), a motley crew of Picklers descend upon the Church Halls. They are hiding their cutting boards and pickling knives lest they be accused by the local constabulary of carrying an offensive weapon or going equipped for theft - for some of them have what might be described as a furtive manner as they slink along Aldborough Road North.

Large tables are arranged in a square in the centre of the hall with a number of bowls – some filled with onions in their prime state and wallowing around in clean water, other bowls waiting to receive peeled onions and yet more to collect the discarded skins. The Senior (and self-appointed) Pickler invites any who may be new to the task to watch as she deftly despatches the brown, crinkly skin of an onion into one bowl and the fresh white onion into another. Various methods of removing the skin are offered to the novice. Personally I prefer the 'top' and 'tail' method, whereby the onion is held firmly on the cutting board and its 'top' and 'tail' are removed with a swift cut with the knife – for the remaining skin tends to fall away without complaint.

Depending on which Picklers turn up to take part, the conversation around the pickling tables will be either enthralling or as dull as ditch water as tales of previous pickling sessions are exchanged, interlaced with the latest gossip. The Big Moment will be awaited in eager anticipation - for no-one has mentioned, prior to Pickling Sunday or on the day itself, that there will be self-induced tearfulness, something that experienced Picklers look forward to in the days, weeks and months leading up to the Big Day. Almost invariably the first person to cry will be a novice as the experienced Picklers roll about in uncontrollable laughter. However, the air soon fills with onion vapour and before you could shout "*Call the Archdeacon*" or "*Not 'Guide me, O thou great redeemer again, Vicar*", more and more of the Picklers are shedding tears or more. Tables and floor fast become awash with both water from the peeling and from the tears – but relief is at hand, as the last few onions are lifted from the sacks.

The Picklers retire to their homes, sure in the knowledge that come Boxing Day when the cold turkey and ham are on the table, the centrepiece of the buffet will be St. Peter's Pickled Onions – fresh, gleaming, crunchy and sharp to the taste.

What happens after the Picklers depart and until the jars of St. Peter's Pickled Onions appear on the preserves stall at the Christmas Bazaar is a dark and closely kept secret known only to the most Senior and Revered Chief Picklers. Their lips remain sealed from year to year, but occasionally titbits will leak out. For example, the half term week is chosen to allow the pickling process to take place in the Church Hall kitchen, undisturbed by the tiny feet of the Pre-School Day Nursery, whose members will also be on their holidays. Salt and vinegar are involved, but the why and the what are not divulged.

Finally there are the St. Peter's Raffles. In days of yore, when cash was needed to repair the drains or replace the tiles on the roof, the favourite fundraiser at St. Peter's was the whist drive. In the 1940s Mrs Cooper, wife of the Churchwarden named (not surprisingly) Mr Cooper, would call upon all and sundry to attend a "*little Whist Drive*". I heard recently from an acquaintance of the Coopers that when they retired and moved to the South Coast, Mrs Cooper continued to exhort all and sundry to attend one of her "*little Whist drives*".

Nowadays, whist drives have disappeared from the scene and the raffle is the flavour of the month – and has been for some years. I have heard it said on more than one occasion that "*when two or three are gathered together at St. Peter's, there shall be a raffle*". Indeed I have been told that this injunction appears in the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*, but whilst I cannot claim to have read every word and every page, I have to say that – yet again - I have not been able to verify this statement. If you find it, please let me know – a note on the back of a fiver posted through my door would do fine.

In most cases the prizes for the raffles are the sort of things you would be happy to win, but at other times this is not the case. There have been raffles when I have prayed that my number will not be pulled out and I have even been known not to place the second part of my raffle ticket in the basket from which the winners are to be drawn. Bottles of wine appear to be worth winning, but it is a fact that some of the bottles that appear have been doing the rounds of the St. Peter's raffles since I was a boy – if not before!

If another of your tickets is drawn after you have received a prize, it is considered bad form to take a second goody. One is expected to do the decent thing and ask for the ticket to be redrawn. From time to time there will be a cad amongst us who does not observe this unwritten rule. We are all too polite to say anything, but if looks could kill the perpetrator of this dastardly crime would be a goner within seconds, if not before. **RJ**

St. Peter's Organisations
Monday Club - Monday 2pm
Beaver Scouts - Monday 5.15pm
Cub Scouts - Monday 6.30pm
Scouts - Monday 7.45pm
Brownie Guides - Tuesday 7pm
Guides - Wednesday 7pm

Vicar: Revd. Clare Nicholson – 020 8599 0524 **Churchwardens:** Roger Goffee – 020 8590 1610, Martyn Stewart – 01277 821790

Reader: Brian Kerrison – 020 8599 4368 **Hall Bookings' Secretary:** Stella Fletcher – 020 8599 3115

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