

GOOD NEWS



The start of the Agape Meal

GENEROSITY BREEDS GENEROSITY

As this issue is being prepared our church is involved in the Step Up Stewardship Challenge when we consider all that God has done for us and assess what we might give to Him. We are also in the middle of Christian Aid Week and it is good to report that the "bring and buy" Plant Sale raised more than £450. A promising start to the week.

On Maunday Thursday about 120 of the church Family joined together for an Agape Meal. This involved a simple hot supper with worship between courses and an informal eucharist. A collection for the Wau Link (see front page) raised nearly £180. The Agape Meal was followed by an all night vigil with opportunities for many forms of prayer. This was an admirable preface to our Good Friday and Easter celebrations.

Following presentations by Eric and Margaret Stevens on their Bible Society Vision Visit to Ethiopia, more than £400 has been donated by church members. This is sufficient to supply ten solar powered Proclaimers. If that puzzles you ask Eric or Margaret.



A happy plant buyer

WELL, I NEVER KNEW THAT

CONFIRMATIONS AT DAWN

It was still dark when Jo-Anne Acland, Wendy Heighes and John Cornish arrived at Salisbury Cathedral for the Dawn Confirmation Service on Easter Day 2011. We all assembled outside around a bonfire and the Easter Candle was lit. Then everyone lit a candle and we processed into the Cathedral. The whole service had a sense of moving from darkness into light. The flickering candles gave some light but not enough to find each other in the crowd. We began to see more as dawn broke and we moved down the nave to the font where a little girl was baptised.

There were about 350 people supporting the 22 candidates presented at the Crossing and confirmed by Bishop Christopher and Bishop Graham. The candidates then moved to the High Altar where most received communion for the first time. After the service the West door was opened and the candidates and congregation spilled out into the sun. Photographs were taken and breakfast was served before we returned to our parishes and our Easter Day celebrations.

Not everyone is confirmed in a Cathedral but it is always special for those involved. Last July Bishop Graham confirmed 16 candidates in our Parish Church and in July 2008 Bishop Tim confirmed 9 candidates from our parish. It has been exciting to see how much God has been at work in people of all ages since they were confirmed. Young people have become involved in worship and music as well as enjoying their youth groups and encouraging friends to come and join them. Some adults have been involved in courses such as Shape and Alpha while others have joined home groups or the monthly Monday Discussion group.

Jean Alexander



Jo-Anne and Wendy hold their candles. John missed the photocall



EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Thursday 2nd	Ascension Day Holy Communion	7.30pm
Sunday 12th	Pentecost Sunday	
Wednesday 15th	Link Group Roma Davies	2.30pm
	Deanery Synod St Mary's Longfleet	7.00pm
Friday 17th	Holy Communion Llewelin Court	
Sunday 19th	Fathers' Day - Bring and share lunch	12.00noon
	Youth Service, Corfe Mullen Baptist	6.00pm
Monday 20th	Men's Fellowship	7.30pm
Tuesday 21st	Messy Church: Jesus says "Ask.,seek, knock"	3.15pm
Saturday 25th	Summer Fair LMPC	12.00-4.00pm
Sunday 26th	Cream Teas The Vicarage	3.00-5.00pm
Wednesday 29th	PCC	7.30pm
Thursday 30th	Teaching evening: "The Kingdom of God"	7.30pm

JULY

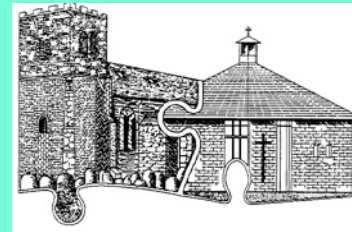
Friday 1st	Home Group Leaders meeting. Vicarage	7.00pm
Saturday 2nd	Quiet Day at St Dunstan's	
Sunday 17th	No services at St Dunstan's or LMPC. See below	

CONNECT AT HOLTON LEE 13th-17th JULY

Over thirty South Dorset churches will be coming together for five days of worship and ministry in Word and Spirit at Holton Lee. There will be no services in our churches on Sunday 17th and you are invited to join this celebration instead. Top international speakers. Programmes for kids. Camping facilities. Leaflets are available and more details can be found at www.connect2011.org.uk.

Thanks to Richard Tazewell and Jean Alexander for contributions and to Graham Hall for his photographs. Have you good news for What's Up?

To order What's Up by email or to get your event into the Church Calendar email to churchoffice.1@btconnect.com or telephone 624622. Email news and photos to eric.stevens2@virgin.net or telephone 886473.



WHAT'S UP in Upton and Lytchett Minster

News from Lytchett Minster Parish Church & St Dunstan's, Upton



IMPROVING LINKS WITH WAU

Moses Deng, Bishop of Wau Diocese in South Sudan, visited us on Sunday 15th May. This was part of a packed 12 day schedule which included taking part in the Christian Aid walk from Poole to Bournemouth. The bishop was visiting churches and Christian organisations in Poole to establish a partnership between Poole Deanery and Wau Diocese. He joined in our worship, visited Holton Lee with the Mens' Group and visited Messy Church. Asked what he most hoped for from the Partnership, Bishop Moses quoted Acts 2 and replied, "Close Christian friendship between the two communities, sharing and prayer."

Adrian Kerr and Jim Welch are working on plans to supply one or more refurbished Land Rovers to help the Bishop in getting around his diocese. At the moment he has no motor transport. If you think it's a long way to Salisbury, consider the fact that Wau Diocese is nearly 400 miles across and there are no tarmaced roads in that whole area. Richard Tazewell

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