

OCTOBER 2006

# EAST ANGLICAN

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## *Racing Rector*

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# Round the World Rector



For one Suffolk vicar, 2007 holds the promise of adventure on the High Seas. The Revd Robin King is preparing to join the crew of one of ten 68 foot Ocean racing yachts beginning the Clipper 07-08 Round the World Race in September next year.

Robin, Vicar at Bures, plans to join other enthusiastic amateurs on the first leg of the contest from Liverpool to Salvador in Brazil.

"The first four days take us to Portugal," says Robin. "Each identical yacht is skippered by a professional yachtsman or woman. It will be a sort of shake down for all the crews. The leg to Brazil will then take three to four weeks depending on how quickly we pass through the doldrums."

Training for the adventure has already begun. Robin will spend a week onboard later this month, preparing for the 4,600 mile leg. "We will be developing our racing skills and techniques," says Robin, who agrees the Trans-Atlantic crossing is an unusual way of spending a sabbatical away from his normal parish work. "For a month next year I will be a working member of the crew, taking my turn on watch, mending the sails, doing whatever's necessary to win the leg for my boat."

Round the world yachtsman, Robin Knox-Johnson started the Clipper race in 1995. Next year's race will be the sixth. After landfall in Brazil, the flotilla sets sail on legs to South Africa, Western Australia, China, the Pacific North West Coast of America and the Caribbean before returning to Liverpool in the summer of 2008.



## Bishop Clive writes ...

I knew Violet in her seventies. I listened to her story more than once, how half her life she had been crying. Grief for the daughter killed in the war – not in the blitz, but crushed in the entrance to a London underground station. An air raid alarm had panicked the crowd to seek safety. The enormity of the tragedy was censored at the time in case it damaged morale. (What has changed?) But Stella's death left grief for the rest of Violet's life. In world conflicts, it is the images of

children, dead, or horribly injured, which penetrate our humanity, and move the sluggish and compromised conscience of the international community.

This is what galvanised Archbishop Sentamu in his prophetic act of identification in prayer and lament in York Minster - John in his tent, carrying our prayers, as only he can, reminding us both that Jesus wept, and that Jesus is angry at the abuse of children which war brings in its wake. Jesus highlighted the way we treat children as the ultimate test of responsible grown-up humanity. The millstone of forfeiting of our humanity altogether is the ultimate consequence of abuse.

Outrage at the suffering of children comes from deeper down than sentiment. It speaks to us, no, it shouts to us, of our shared humanity, of life as precious gift. The careless or deliberate harming of children betrays this God-given humanity and contrives to stifle the infinite potential of love. When children are hurt we all fail as human beings in our responsibility for each other.

The image of the generous God of life is glimpsed most clearly in the child. A child's death or injury casts back the precious gift, as it were, into the face of God. The potential for changing the world by love is diminished by our carelessness or indifference.

Knowing something of God's purpose for our lives means the child in all of us is to be cherished to grow into the full stature of Christ, mature adults taking responsibility for each other. In those pictures of grieving of parents, the countless *Pietàs* of the TV news, we see the passion of God for justice and love, in the tears that fall down the face of Mary. (*There's a fine Pietà in a window at Long Melford Church.*)

What should we do? Through prayer and action ask for grace to grow up, to take responsibility for the children, as God does for us in Jesus. It was an old priest, glimpsing something beyond human hope, who sang to a miracle child yet unborn "You, my child, will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation, by the forgiveness of all their sins..."

+ Clive

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## Ten in a Row

This month marks the tenth anniversary of the Diocesan Ministry Course. On the 21st October ten newly ordained, licensed or commissioned local ministers will be receiving their diplomas from the University of Wales, Bangor at a service at the Cathedral.

Another five ministers will be receiving their degrees in Ministerial Theology which they have completed through the continuing ministerial education programme.

"Over 120 readers, Ordained Local Ministers and Acknowledged Local Ministers have been trained on the course and are now ministering in the diocese," says Christine Amjad-Ali, Principal of the DMC.

"All those who have been involved with local ministry, students, tutors, parish priests have been invited to share in the celebrations," she says.

## The Diocesan Choir Festival

It is that time of year again for the annual Diocesan Choir Festival.

The Cathedral doors will swing open on Sunday 1st October for all to enjoy the singing of choirs coming together from parishes across the whole diocese.

Up to 300 singers will fill the Cathedral with the sounds of great hymns and harmonies.

Mary Addington, Secretary of the Diocesan Music Committee, who organise the event says, "It is a joy to be able to sing in harmony with so many people, it is a real highlight of the year, a lovely event."

## Readers Day

More than 230 people minister as Readers in our diocese and Saturday 14th October is an important date for all of them. Many will be at the Cathedral for their Annual Service during which Bishop Richard will admit and license four people who have completed the Diocesan Ministry Course and also welcome a Reader moving into Suffolk.

Bishop Richard will go on to chair the Annual Meeting. "The focus will be on Readers who have interpreted their ministry in terms of working in the community. Kathleen Ben Rabha, Diocesan Community Affairs Adviser, will also contribute to the discussion," says Canon Lionel Simpkins, Warden of Readers.

"The Readers of Suffolk bring many gifts and much experience to their public ministry on Sundays. As lay people who are theologically trained they are in a key position not only to lead in worship but also to inspire in mission and witness," he says.

## Our New Readers

Bill Herbert *St John's Woodbridge*

Helen Matter *Combs & Lt Finborough*

Gay Nichols *St John's Woodbridge*

Mark Trevitt *Debenham & Helmingham*

## New Reader Transferring in

Elizabeth Chenery  
*Suffolk Heights Benefice*

# Open Churches Week

An exciting, county wide project to open every parish church in the diocese to visitors for a week in July 2007 is launched this month.

The ambitious plan is being organised by the Revd Margaret Blackall, our Church Tourism Officer. "There are almost 500 churches and I hope nearly all of them will join in the celebration," says Margaret. "The week offers us the opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the many thousands who visit our churches every year and to say something about how each building serves the community in which it stands."

Margaret's ambition is that every church will be open through the day, during the week of 15th - 21st July 2007

In addition, Margaret hopes that many will take the opportunity to promote themselves. "The special week offers us the chance to mount exhibitions of photographs of the parish and its activities; To organise events and concerts; Contact local people and invite them in for a visit; Serve refreshments. It doesn't need

to be a big event but anything that will bring new and local people into our many extraordinary buildings."

Suffolk boasts 479 churches, of which 94 percent are listed historic buildings. For more details and ideas contact the Revd Margaret Blackall 01728 747326 or [mgtblack@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:mgtblack@globalnet.co.uk)



# Kagera Visitors

Two visitors from Kagera, our link diocese in Tanzania, will be in Suffolk later this month. Diocesan Secretary Godfrey Mbelwa and his colleague Jackson Bahemu join us for three weeks.

“There’ll be many opportunities to meet them and hear more about our link,” says the Revd Christine Axford, Chairman of the World Mission Group.

For more details please call 01379 742708 [chris.axford@metronet.co.uk](mailto:chris.axford@metronet.co.uk)



Godfrey Mbelwa on an earlier visit to Suffolk



## Destination Dennington for Danish Choir

A thirty strong choir of 14 to 16 year olds from the Danish capital performs at Dennington church later this month. The Copenhagen Girls' Choir drawn from pupils Sankt Annæ Gymnasium is one of the best in the country and their concert in Suffolk on October 10th is part of a short UK tour.

“The choir will sing a mixed programme of secular and religious music on Saturday night,” says the Revd Jonathan Olanczuk, “And then will join us for our Eucharist on Sunday morning, which will make it a very special service.”

Tickets for the Saturday Concert are £10 from 01728 638345

# Holy Fools Harvest Festival

Holy Trinity church in Bungay is preparing for a really foolish Harvest Festival. Several troupes of clowns will be joining the congregation and the Revd Ian Byrne for a very special Harvest service with the theme of Hope and Growth on October 8th at 10am.

The Holy Fools, clowns who use humour and slapstick to tell Christ's Good News, are holding their AGM at nearby

Ringsfield Hall over the weekend. “They were looking for a church service to join in with on Sunday,” says the new Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity. “Even though I wasn't yet in post, I approached the PCC and asked if they'd be happy to host the Fools,” says Ian, “They had no hesitation in saying 'Yes'.”

“We'll be joined by around twenty clowns,” says Ian. “The Fools will be

welcoming people at the door in their own unique style. We are keeping to traditional Harvest hymns and themes with the fools 'dramatising' the Gospel and filling the sermon slot too. It should be a hoot! We hope to fill the church with as many 'youngsters of all ages' as possible. There is an open invitation to everyone come and join us in this slightly off-the-wall service.”



# STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY



There is a churches toolkit available at [www.bond.org.uk/campaign/toolkit](http://www.bond.org.uk/campaign/toolkit) with a host of ideas to get involved. Also see [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org) for great ideas or get in touch with Sue Young on 01473 233525 or Email [sueyoung@fish.co.uk](mailto:sueyoung@fish.co.uk)

It is the Global Month of Action against poverty. Events are being held across the globe to "Stand Up Against Poverty," and so can you!

October 17th is the International Day for the Eradication for Poverty which also marks the fourth White Band Day, so don't forget to wear yours!

There is also an opportunity to be part of a global world record attempt on the 15th & 16th October. Across the globe people are literally standing up against poverty in churches, schools and homes. Why not join in and be part of a record breaking day!

Sue Young, World Development Advisor for the Diocese says, "It's a great opportunity for your church to combine prayer and action in solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the globe."

The campaign is run by the Global Call of Action Against Poverty (GCAP) a worldwide alliance of national campaigns working to tackle poverty around the world.



Bishop Richard and the Xpression05 crowd at Portman Road

## *Crozier Continued*

Diane Abrey of Bury St Edmunds sent us this photograph of Bishop Harold Morris taken in the 1950's at a Girls Friendly Society event in the town. She wonders "Who are the girls in the picture?" Do you know?

Answers to the East Anglican Editor.

The Suffolk Crozier story in September's East Anglican contained a number of inaccuracies. Bishop Morris' son, Desmond, writes to point out that his father used the name Harold as Bishop and that the Crozier was presented to the diocese after his death by the Bishop's three brothers and not his mother.



### **A Quiet Day for The Feast of St Michael & All Angels**

led by Bishop John Inge, Bishop of Huntingdon

*Friday 29th September £16*

### **Creative Writing & Prayer Retreat**

Tutor Thelma Laycock & Chaplain Canon Charmion Mann

*6th - 8th October £90/£100*

### **Myers Briggs Basic Workshop**

led by Dr Helen Sills

*10th - 12th November £130/£140*

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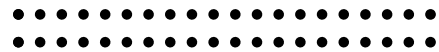
**COMINGS  
 AND  
 GOINGS**



**The Revd Napoleon John** Vicar Becontree in the Diocese of Chelmsford has been appointed Rector of the Orwell Team Ministry. Napoleon will be licensed by Bishop Richard on 11th January 2007 at Walton Parish Church.

**The Revd Elizabeth Morris** Assistant Curate Hadleigh, Layham & Shelley has been appointed Associate Priest Yoxmere Confederation. Elizabeth was licensed by Bishop Clive on 19th September in Theberton Parish Church.

**The Revd Fiona Newton** Rector Laxfield Cratfield, Wilby & Brundish is also to be Priest in Charge Wingfield and Syleham. Fiona will be licensed by Bishop Clive on 16th October at Wingfield Parish Church.



**Electoral Roll**

General Synod and both Houses of Parliament have passed the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2004.

One impact of this on every parish in England is that the collation of a new Electoral Roll has been brought forward a year, to 2007. The rules require that not less than two months before your next Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting, in March or April, you will have to post notice of the collation of a new Electoral Roll. This must be up for fourteen days and displayed either on the principle church door or noticeboard.

Then the new roll has to be assembled.

Revelations Bookshop and the new Parish Resource Centre at the Diocesan Office (*see opposite*) will have Electoral Roll packs on sale.

**Material for October East Anglican**

**To be in by the 6th October and sent to:**

The Communications Director, Diocesan Office, St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ  
 Tel 01473 298521 or Fax 01473 298501 Email: [nick@stedmundsbury.anglican.org](mailto:nick@stedmundsbury.anglican.org)  
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 Articles/photographs from this magazine will also appear on the Diocesan website.

# THE LION AND THE LAMB RETURN HOME

Two, sixteenth century, carved wooden pew ends, stolen in the early 1970's from St Nicholas' Denston, have arrived home.

A 'Google' search by a churchwarden brought the items to the attention of the Vicar, the Revd Ian Finn in June. The two were put up for sale on eBay, the internet auction site, by a broker in Ohio, who valued them at between two and three thousand dollars (£1,100 - £1,600).

"We approached the seller, who didn't realise the items, were stolen," says Ian. "His clients were keen to return them to the church, when we said that we wouldn't involve the authorities any further."

The finial carvings, depicting a lamb and lion, arrived back at their rightful home in mid August. "They fit perfectly even down to the medieval nails and the corresponding holes," say Ian. "We are looking for a local craftsman with the traditional skills to re-attach them securely to the pews."



The two will be re-dedicated at St Nicholas' Harvest Festival celebration on October 8th. "We are happy and delighted to get them back," says Ian. "We hope it will give hope to others never to give up on stolen treasures." His advice; keep looking and try the odd search on the internet and if you do find something act quickly to inform the seller and authorities.

