



In this issue:

- **Conversations in Mission**
- **Lordsbridge Prayer Pilgrimage**
- **To be a Pilgrim... Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.**

Photo: Dome of the Rock
by Revd Judy Polkinhorn

What's on

Various **Open Gardens** in Barton
Saturday April 10th
from 2pm
Homemade teas served in the church.

Generous Slice Cafe
Wednesday April 27th from 8.45am.
in Barton Village Hall.
warm croissants, toast, fresh coffee,
etc.
A friendly gathering for all ages.

**Depression and Loneliness
amongst Young People**
Thursday **14 April**, 7.30 to 9.30 pm
at Kings School Ely- The Old Palace,
Palace Green.
*A free Seminar aimed at Teachers,
Clergy, Parents, GPs, Youth Leaders,
Social Services.*
Book your free place at:
mission@elydiocese.org

**"When I pray what does God do?
Scientific and pastoral
considerations", Tuesday, 5 April,**
7.30 pm in the Old Palace, Ely (next to
the Cathedral)- **open lecture**

By the time this copy of Lordsbridge Life becomes available I shall be starting my 'study leave'. That's the preferred name now for a sabbatical in Ely diocese, intended to be a reminder that vicars on sabbatical will not be sending all their time sun bathing!

While I certainly will be doing just a little sun bathing, I'll also be working hard. This will include some time away in quiet on the Isle of Skye getting to grips with the theology of St Paul, a course on conflict resolution, and a week speaking at Lee Abbey in Devon. In between those specific commitments, I'll be touring the country, exploring some of the new and innovative things being done by ordinary parishes in a range of situations across the country.

Look out for news of my visits and some of my pondering what can be learned when I return.

I shall be away from April 12th until mid July. Alison Myers will be acting team rector, and I know she, Rebecca Gilbert, Charles Fraser and all our wonderful ministry team will be working hard to make sure the life of the parishes continues to flourish.

The team council's AGM on Thursday 19th May at 7.30pm will give an important annual opportunity to review all that has been going on and to pray and plan as we look to the future. I shall be especially thinking of you all and praying for the Lordsbridge communities as the Prayer Pilgrimage takes place this year between Ascension and Pentecost.

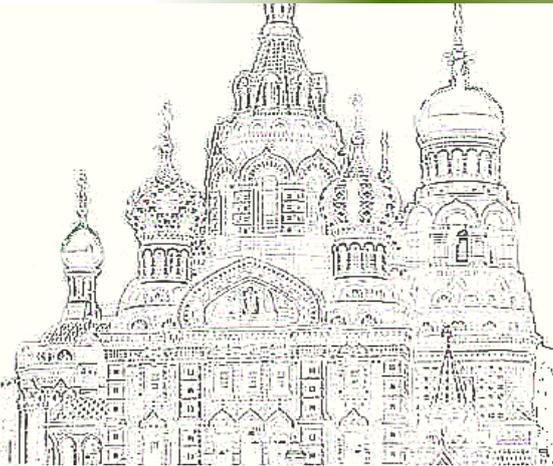
With my prayers and best wishes

Mike Booker

This summer we are delighted to be welcoming Beth Cope to the Lordsbridge Team as Team Pioneer

Curate. A pioneer minister is someone called to be an entrepreneur in mission and whose main focus throughout their ministry will be on connecting with people and places not currently reached by existing churches. We are excited by the possibilities presented by having a trainee pioneer minister in the Team. Revd Alison Myers will be Beth's training incumbent on behalf of the Team and will be responsible for how she spends her time. More details posted at <https://hcddvicar.wordpress.com>

Hermitage Ensemble



The Hermitage Ensemble in Concert, 24 April, Dry Drayton Church, 7pm

A magical concert of Russian Orthodox choral music and Russian folk songs by St Petersburg's finest vocal ensemble.

Join us for a very special evening with the Hermitage Ensemble - known for its purity of sound, delicately floated pianissimos and breathtakingly brilliant fortés. Tickets are £10 in aid of church expenses. Enquiries and tickets from 01954 780679 or rosemary.gardiner@le-lau.org.uk

This group of professional opera singers from St Petersburg – from the Kirov Opera and Ballet, Maly Opera Theatre, St. Petersburg Concert and others - will be performing Russian sacred hymns and folk songs a capella. The Ensemble, consisting of four to six singers, includes a counter tenor and a low profundo bass which makes their sound distinctively Russian. Their repertoire includes both Russian church music and some well known popular music and folk songs in the style of the Red Army. The Ensemble has sung in different parts of the U.K. for some 18 years but particularly enjoys singing in English churches. You can hear samples of their music to whet your appetite here <http://hermitage.seenworks.com/>

To follow up about the Refugee Crisis meeting contact details are:

Heidi Allen MP
at heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk

Dr Amal Marogy
at amal.marogy@aradin.org.uk

You can find out more about Dr Marogy's charity at www.aradin.org.uk

Lordsbridge Mission

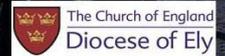
Conversations in Mission

is a series of Sunday evening seminars organized by the Diocese' Mission Department and which take place in Histon. They are open to anyone who is interested in understanding more about aspects of Christian witness and mission in our contemporary world. These are the next two. Do let Alison know if you are thinking of going alisonmyers@lordsbridge.org; 01954 212815.

Conversations in Mission

Sunday 22nd May 7-9pm

St Andrew's Centre
Histon
CB24 9JE



STORIES OF EMERGING NEW CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

To find out more or for more information about the Diocese of Ely visit mission@elydiocese.org

Mission & the Environment



Conversations in Mission
Sunday 19th June

7-9pm in the St Andrew's Centre
Histon,
CB24 9JE



Facing the Refugee Crisis Understanding - Praying - Acting

Organised by Churches West of Cambridge

Refugee Crisis meeting on 4th March at Cambourne Church.

"I came away from the evening better informed of human suffering and unaccompanied children in the middle of no man's land and also realising how complex the situation is. I believe much prayer is needed and yet, all I can voice are the words "Lord have mercy". This morning I came across the words "Don't let your eyes adjust to the dark...We must neither get used to the darkness of human suffering nor fall asleep in the comfort of the light." Please continue to pray with me "Lord have mercy".

Christine Woods, ALM in Dry Drayton:

Music in Harlton Parish Church

Saturday 2nd April at 3.00 pm

'The Heavenly Host!'

a Celebration Organ Recital

Luke Fitzgerald

(Organ Scholar, Portsmouth Cathedral,
Organ Scholar Emeritus, Harlton Church)



Luke will be pulling out all the stops for C. S. Lang's 'Tuba Tune', and other favourite pieces demonstrating the Organ's emulation flutes, oboes and trumpets, and indeed the whole Orchestra!

Also featuring a performance of Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata in F minor

The Recital will be followed by a Musical Tea at 4.00pm in the Village Hall.

Something for all ages....Admission free.... Retiring Collection

SPRING
7.30pm. Saturday 16 April
All Saints Church. Haslingfield

SWING
With CAMSax Quartet

SING
and Harmonia Singers

HarmoniaMusic

PIPPIN'S
Coffee and Company

"Pippin's" is open
on

2 Apr and 7 May.

10 to midday in the community room at
the Hardwick Primary school.
Coffee, cakes and company.
Perhaps we'll see you there.

If you would like a news item included in the next edition (April/May) please email information to K Dawson by 20 March.
Email: kd323565@gmail.com

Lordsbridge
Churches

Thursday 5th to Sunday 15th May

Lordsbridge Pilgrimage



Between 5th and 15th May, walk, cycle or drive around the churches in our team, and pray. Join us for the Ascension Day launch service on 5th May at 7.30pm in Hardwick with Canon Peter Wood and the closing Pentecost Praise service at Ely Cathedral on Sunday 15th May at 7.30pm



Thy Kingdom Come

Visit any or all of the churches in the team:

Barton - Caldecote - Comberton - Coton - Dry Drayton - Great Eversden
Hardwick - Harlton - Haslingfield - Little Eversden - Toft
(Also includes Gateways and Illumin8 - see individual churches)

For more information talk to your lead minister.

I thought I'd share a few thoughts about last year's Lordsbridge Pilgrimage. As you may know Sue, my better half, did much of the organisation of this last year. For this reason I thought I'd better visit some of the Churches involved, I must confess, mostly out of a sense of loyalty to her (!) However, once I started visiting the Churches, by car and in some cases on foot, I discovered, to my surprise, that I was actually getting a great deal out of the visits myself. The opportunity to pray for things that the Churches themselves had identified as priorities made my fumbling prayers seem more relevant than they might otherwise have been. I also found that on those occasions when I was the only visitor, the peace and quiet gave me a rare chance for personal Christian meditation, a chance to think seriously about myself and my Christian life. On other occasions there were others in the Church as well, and the conversations about the prayer stations and times of quiet prayer together engendered a fruitful sense of fellowship. So yes, I confess I set out on the pilgrimage out of a sense of obligation, but in the end what I gained from it was massively more than I had expected. I hope that you find it just as excellent and experience this year as I did last.

Rick (Dr Rick Nelms)

Church websites:

Harlton: <http://harltonvillage.org.uk/church>

Comberton: <http://www.combertonchurch.co.uk/>

Hardwick: <http://stmaryshardwick.org.uk/>

Coton: <http://stpeterscoton.org.uk/>

Barton: www.bartonstpeters.org.uk

Haslingfield: www.allsaintschurchhaslingfield.org



Sea of Galilea

TO BE A PILGRIM.....

Early February a group of 33 left for Israel on the Diocesan Pilgrimage, with 4 of us from the Lordsbridge Team. Led by Bishop Stephen, we gathered somewhat drowsily at 5 in the morning at Luton Airport, bound for Tel Aviv.

As the Orthodox passengers assembled at the back of the plane, half an hour into the flight, for Prayers, I did wonder if we had invited passengers to join **us** for a Prayer Meeting how many would have got up! Not many would have been my guess. There was something about seeing that open commitment that made me think...

Our journeying started by the Sea of Galilee, and moved on through Bethlehem, and Jerusalem, visiting Pilgrimage sites from those centres. Some say that its good to finish the Pilgrim's journey at Galilee, where there is peace and prayerfulness all around you, but for most of us, the order of journeying seemed correct as we followed our Lord to his goal of Jerusalem and the cross.

I share with you some of my special moments. Communion by the Sea of Galilee, and being in touch with the place Jesus walked with the disciples on the shore. Time has not changed it, no grottos, no basilicas, nothing to take away from that time of peace.

Then the 4.55am Mass in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, which a few of hardy people got up for in sheet like rain! Gathered in the grotto below the floor of the basilica, surrounded by the stone walls of the cave, and well before the start of the busy pilgrim day, but enough to keep a rather frightening sidesman busy as we knelt on the stone floor or sat on the rock seat!

The Creche dealing with Palestinian babes in arms upwards who had been abandoned, brought to the Sisters of St Vincent De Paul by the Police, families, and social care. Never to be adopted because of Sheria law, always a person without a "certificate". What future for them?

The Western Wall, where, separated from the mens' side by a barrier, women prayed. In the cold, looking at the tiny pieces of white paper filling the crevices of the wall...prayer after prayer after prayer. Collected each week, and then it starts again. Reaching to heaven, never ceasing.

And the Holocaust Museum with the eternal flame, twinkling in reflecting mirrors to reflect lights representing the 1.5 million children who were lost in the Holocaust. Lest we forget.

Early morning and the Via Dolorosa, only the bread sellers passed us, and gradually, as we wound our way upwards, the children going to school.

The Services we celebrated together, the Morning prayers on the bus....beware the coach sickness as you read! The meals enjoyed together, the laughter and companionship of fellow pilgrims. The knees that couldn't face another step, but did!; the mix of countries represented in the coach parks, and around the various holy sites. The wonderful Bishop Louis from Rwanda who journeyed with us – and his constant ipad to snap away! And arriving back at Luton only to find your luggage hadn't arrived.....all this and more, too much to mention, but there to ponder and reflect on over the months and years to come.

Judy Polkinhorn



The Western Wall



River Jordan– Baptismal Area



Outside Jerico



Ceasarea