

The Vicar's Letter...



Dear friends,

September brings the summer and the holiday season to a close. Hopefully you have had the chance to stop a while during the last few weeks and enjoy some well-earned rest from the busyness of life. Holidays, or we might say •holy days• , are times to pause and reflect on life, where we have been and where we are going.

Holidays are times when many of us make journeys. But, in fact, all of us make journeys all the time. In physical terms some may be very short, others are much longer. But each journey can also be a spiritual journey, a journey of faith in God, as we reflect on the world around us and our place within that world.

This process of reflection, of asking questions about ourselves and the world, is essential if we are to discover what it means to be fully human and be the person God is calling us to be. The journey must lead us to new understandings of ourselves and of God and his creation. It is both an exciting and challenging journey, but one that we must not shy away from.

It is also a journey that we must not expect to make alone. We are individuals but we are not made to live in isolation from each other. We become fully human only when we recognise the call to live in community, in communion, with our fellow human beings, with all humankind. We are called to listen to each other, to learn from each other and thus grow closer to each other.

As members of the local Christian community there are particular opportunities to engage in this process in the coming months. You will see a notice elsewhere in this magazine about the next **Emmaus: The Way of Faith** course beginning in October. This course, which looks at essentials of the Christian faith, is ideal for those who may just be enquiring about the faith or those who feel settled in the faith but are looking to •refresh• their understanding of the faith. In November we will be starting another **Bible History Course**, taking a more in depth look at the writings of the Old Testament.

During September and October we will also be having a parish **Stewardship Renewal Campaign**. Stewardship is about how we use the resources that God has given to us and it is right that as members of the local Christian community we regularly review how we give of our time, talents and treasure (money) in the service of God and his creation. More information about the Stewardship Renewal Campaign is given elsewhere.

God blesses us in many and various ways. How do we respond to God's goodness in our own lives? How do we acknowledge his presence in our lives and the lives of all his people? What do we do to show that God is at the centre of all that we do and are?

May God bless you and bless you richly.

Robin

EMMAUS: THE WAY OF FAITH

For most people the journey of faith is a gradual discovery, a lifetime's exploration. There is no one point at which we can say 'we have arrived'. The potential to gain deeper understanding and knowledge is always there.

The Emmaus Nurture Course is a 15-week course that explores: What Christians believe; How Christians grow; Living the Christian life.

The course is suitable for people at different stages on the Christian journey:

It is hoped to form 2 groups, one meeting on Tuesday afternoons (commencing 7 October) and one on Wednesday evenings (commencing 8 October).

For more information please contact Robin Figg at the Vicarage (tel. 633307).

BIBLE HISTORY COURSE – THE OLD TESTAMENT

Michael Baumber, Reader at St Andrew's and retired history teacher, will be leading another Bible History Course starting in November. This 11-week course will take a journey through the Old Testament, exploring the major themes and events of the scriptures by comparing the biblical accounts with what we know of the contemporary ancient civilisations.

YORKSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

**ANNUAL SPONSORED BIKE RIDE/WALK
SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER**



This event is the major fundraising event for the Trust that was established in 1988 and makes grants towards the repair of churches of Christian denominations in Yorkshire.

Help your local church by joining the sponsored ride. The aim is to visit as many churches and chapels as you can on the day. Half the money you raise goes to the Trust and the other half goes to a church of your choice.

You can take part by cycling or walking. A small group of cyclists will be leaving St Andrew's at 10am and visiting churches in Bradley, Cononley, Cross Hills, Sutton, Steeton and Silsden. Please contact Robin Figg (633307) if interested or for more details

Announcement in a church magazine-
•Don't let worry kill you off, let the church help•

CONCERT
Saturday 13th September 7.30pm

Chris Hazel

Christian singer/songwriter

Chris has released two CDs, 'Face to Face' and 'Ethereal World' and has appeared on Radio Leeds Sunday morning programmes.

**Admission Free.
Retiring Collection.
In aid of church funds.**

Harvest Festival Celebration

Join us for a Parish Harvest
Meal at Bradley Village Hall
on **Saturday 4th October** at 7.00pm.
Tickets £5 per head, £12 per family (2 adults + children)

Then joins us for our Harvest Festival services
on **Sunday 5th October** as follows:

8.15am Holy Communion (Order 2)
10.00am All Age/Family Service to be followed
by auction of produce
6.00pm Holy Communion (Order 1)

Proceeds from the weekend will be shared between two charities:
Church Missionary Society and WaterAid

THE THIRD ORDER OF THE SOCIETY OF ST FRANCIS

As part of the ongoing series of articles telling you about some of the groups that people at St Andrew's Church are involved with Janet Swain tells us this month about the Third Order of the Society of St Francis (TSSF).

This is group of Christians who have been called to live out their Christian vocation after the example of Saint Francis. They are mainly from the Anglican tradition but do include other denominations.

You may never have heard of TSSF so the following is a brief explanation of the Order and the background to its formation. You may have met a member without knowing it, as they are not visibly distinguishable from the church congregation to which they belong. At St Andrew's both Robin Figg and myself are members and have been attached to local areas in different parts of the country for several years.

Saint Francis was a real person. He had many sides to his personality, as do we, and he has been variously described as saint, troubadour, revolutionary, fanatic and clown. Whatever impression you have of Francis of Assisi, no one can deny the inspiration he has been to many people down the 800 years since his birth.

Whether he is inviting us to be with the poor, or beckoning us to discover God in our Muslim neighbour, Francis challenges us to look again at the gospel of Jesus and to take action.

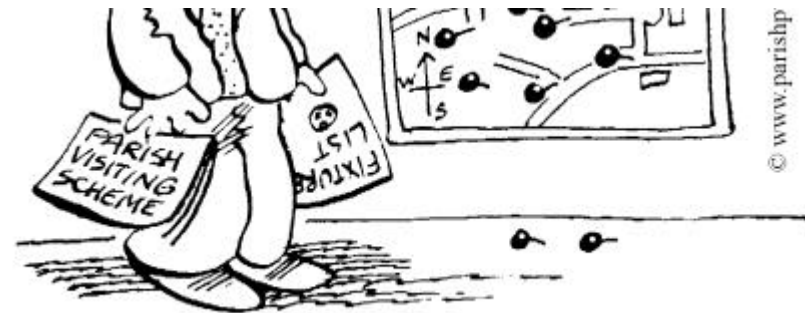
Communication systems today have made the world seem smaller and we experience events globally so it is surprising perhaps that there are many similarities between mediaeval times and the present day. Europe in the time of Francis (1182-1224) was a place of deep divisions. Towns and kingdoms nourished ancient feuds with their rivals, while the established princes struggled against the growing power of the merchants. Many people lived in poverty, while those at the top fared sumptuously. But even the ordinary poor were not so wretched as the lepers, the ultimate outcasts of those days. Meanwhile the witness of the Church was weak and Francis responded to his call from God to "rebuild my church". Together with St. Clare, they began the transforming work by founding three religious Orders.

Francis and Clare, with their brothers and sisters, met the evident needs of the people by living along side them in their poverty, and through preaching and living a prayerful and simple life they followed the example of Christ to the letter. They held no possessions, no home and yet they drew vast numbers of followers in their lifetime. After their deaths, their example continues to attract men and women to join one of the three Orders.

The First Order consists of men and women who live in community according to a Franciscan Rule based on the traditional vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience. They give expression to their mission by a variety of ministries. There are houses in the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

The Second Order, the Community of St Clare, is composed of women who feel called by God to an enclosed life of contemplative prayer, coupled with work

Back Page



Sunday school lesson

Lively little Dora had returned from Sunday school, where she had been for the first time.

- And what did my little girl learn this morning?• asked her father indulgently.
- That I am a child of Satan, was the beaming reply.

Hymn or maths?

A father had taken his small son to church. The boy listened attentively without saying a word until the clergyman announced:

- We will now sing hymn two hundred and twenty-two: • Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand• , two hundred and twenty-two.

Alarmed the little boy nudged his father. • Do we have to work this out?•

Visit our Church Website www.kildwick.org.uk

The Parish Mission Statement
Called to be the Body of Christ, we are here to share God's love with all people through outreach and service in our community and the world through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Womans Institute News -



Glusburn and Cross Hills WI - July and August

Our July meeting took the form of our Summer Outing, a Mystery Coach Trip. The heavy rain stopped just as the coach left Cross Hills for a lovely scenic drive on what turned out to be a pleasant summer evening, arriving at the Dog and Partridge Inn at Tosside for a delightful buffet supper. The outing was enjoyed by all of us.

Several members spent two afternoons each week in June and July teaching knitting and sewing to the senior year at Glusburn School.

Many members met at the New Inn, Cononley, for lunch on 16th July and some members attended a course on Stone Trough Making.

At our August meeting Liz Fryer talked about the History of Christenings. She had many beautiful examples of old christening gowns to show us. Her knowledge of her subject and her sense of humour made a very interesting evening.

Some members are took part in the WI Craft Sale at Skipton Town hall and we intend seeing the Calendar Girls film in which some of us took part.

At our meeting on 2nd September Mrs Ann Scargill will speak, her title being "Faulty Towers - Not quite but almost". New members and visitors will be welcome.

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Thank you from Paul and Kathryn Morris

Paul and I wish to thank you all for making our Silver Wedding celebrations so special and memorable. My family and friends were impressed by the warm welcome they received before, during and after the Sunday morning service (July 27th). We were touched to hear our anniversary mentioned during the service. Thank you so much for your prayers and good wishes, finally a very big thank you to Mike for playing Vidors Toccata at the end of the service (the music we walked out of church 25 years ago) - a wonderful surprise and a perfect end to a fantastic weekend of celebrations

over the age of 18, who feel that God is calling them to live their Franciscan vocation in the world. While committed to family responsibilities and engaged in the ordinary tasks of life, the Third Order offers a life of challenge and support for those who are called to a deeper commitment to Christ, under vows and a rule of life for life. Members of the Third Order are called tertiaries and are grouped in Provinces, just like the members of the Anglican Communion. Within the European Province, I belong to the West Yorkshire Area. That smaller group allows us to meet several times a year. Over the years, this involvement has built the supporting structure that any good community should offer. I have many tertiary friends over the country; all are very involved in their local churches just as was Francis. Faithfulness to the Church was important to Francis and Clare and in all they did they sought the approval of authorities in the Church.

The Church celebrates St Clares• Day on 11 August and St Francis• Day on 4 October.

If you would like to know more about the Franciscans please contact me
Janet Swain

OPEN HOUSE has been running on Thursday afternoons from 2 - 3 pm in various guises for 25 years.



It started off as a working party and gradually evolved into its present form when the name changed from bric-a-brac to 'Open House' some years ago.

It is a meeting point for villagers and parishioners from Cross Hills and further afield. All are welcome to come and have a 'cuppa' and a chat. There is usually a selection of good clothing, paperback books and bric-a-brac for sale at knock down prices. Money raised goes to support Martin House, a hospice for children and teenagers. Julie Kendrew has been at the helm from the start joined by Connie Charter and 18 years ago by Joyce Boden.

Ill-health forced Connie to give up and she is much missed. More recently we have been joined by Dorothy Ward and Betty Hawkins as teamakers and John, Leonard and Michael who come and put up the tables and carry heavy boxes.

Julie and Joyce, although still in spirit, are beginning to feel the years and it is debatable how long they will be able to carry on.

This is an appeal to members of St. Andrew's for one or two younger members to come along, find out what it's all about and maybe gradually take over otherwise Open House may have to change its format once again.

Anyone interested, please come along and see us any Thursday afternoon.

We are very grateful to all who have kept us supplied with items to sell. We have a rather limited clientele and we get more than we can possibly sell but surplus is passed on to a charity shop. The Salvation Army and Isobel takes some to the Church Army in Leeds.

Please think about joining us.

Julie and Joyce

Isobel • s Page

I have made a resolution to purchase a new front door bell, something very loud - one that plays the 1812 overture or something similar springs to mind.

Picture the scene - I am busy in the kitchen, which is at the back of the house, Radio 3 or Classic FM belting out full blast and on quite a few occasions I have not heard the front door bell and missed one or two callers.



I wrote at the beginning of the year about the beautiful stained glass window at Innellan depicting the magnificent painting by Holman Hunt 'The Light of the World'. Once a young boy was in a party of tourists being shown the picture in St Paul's Cathedral. It was explained how, although Christ had been knocking, nobody had opened the door. The boy commented "Perhaps they were out at the back".

It's very easy, just as it's easy for me not to hear my front door bell when I am busy with other things, to not hear Christ when he calls. We can be so busy filling our lives making money, having a good time or generally be so preoccupied we do not hear Christ knocking.

Hunt's picture is based on a verse from the New Testament Revelation 3 verse 20.

'Here I am, I stand at the door and knock. If any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me'

and he used it in an evangelistic sense, that is, Christ standing outside the door of the individual's heart or life.

I have missed quite a few people this summer whilst occupying myself 'in the back' just as there are so many things to occupy our attention that we do not hear the Saviour's knocking.

Solomon wrote the importance of hearing and responding

"My lover thrust his hand through the latch opening;

My heart began to pound for him

I arose to open for my lover

My fingers on the handle of the lock

I opened for my lover but my lover had left; he was gone

My heart sank at his departure

I looked for him but did not find him

I called him but he did not answer."

It's annoying to miss someone but how disappointing and frustrating for the caller - knocking but getting no answer!

Next month I will write about how Holman Hunt came to paint 'The Light of the World' and the messages in the picture itself.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – FORTHCOMING EVENTS

September

Tue 2nd	7.30pm	Stewardship Renewal Programme meeting for Parish Visitors with Uell Kennedy (Parish Rooms)
Fri 5th	2.30pm 3pm	Refreshments (Parish Rooms) before • . Kildwick School Assembly
Wed 10th	6.30pm	JETS starts (Parish Rooms)
Sat 13 th	All day	Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride
Sat 13 th	7.30pm	Concert by Chris Hazel
Tue 16th	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (parish Rooms)
Fri 26th	7.30pm	Stewardship Presentation Evening with Uell Kennedy (parish Rooms)

October

Wed 1st	7.30pm	Stewardship Presentation Evening with Uell Kennedy (parish Rooms)
Sat 4th	7.pm	Harvest Supper (Bradley Village Hall)
Sun 5 th		Harvest Festival
Tue 7th	7.30pm	Worship Advisory Group (Vicarage)
Tue 14th	7.30pm	Nurture Advisory Group Meeting
Tue 14th	7.30pm	Outreach Advisory Group (Croft Mount, Bradley)
Sun 19th	10.30am	United Service for One World Week (Baptist Church)
Tue 21st	8pm	Young Peoples Advisory Group (Parish Rooms)
Sun 26 th	10.00am 7.30pm	<i>Russicum</i> taking part in the service Concert by <i>Russicum</i>

November

Fri 21st	7.30pm	PCC meeting with the Archdeacon of Craven
Sat 29 th	7.30pm	Concert by Steeton Male Voice Choir
Sun 30 th		Advent Sunday

December

Mon 1 st	7.30pm	Patronal Festival Eucharist. Preacher: The Venerable Guy Wilkinson, Archdeacon of Bradford
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Sunday Services at Kildwick for SeptEmber

7th	8.15am Eucharist, 10am Family Service with Baptisms, 6pm Sung Eucharist.
14th	8.15am Eucharist, 10am Sung Eucharist, 6pm CDFC United Service Baptist Church.
21th	8.15am Eucharist, 10am Sung Eucharist, 6pm Choral Evensong
28th	8.15am Eucharist, 10am Sung Eucharist, 6pm Healing Service
October.	
5th	Harvest Festival 8.15am Eucharist, 10am All/age Family service 6pm Sung Eucharist,

Church Rotas for September

Sunday 7 September, 2003 The Twelfth Sunday After Trinity 8.15am and 6pm	First Reading: Isaiah 35.4-7a Second Reading: James 2.1-17 Gospel: Mark 7.24-37	Barry Houghton Sylvia Clark Gill Jowett
Sunday 14 September, 2003 The Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity	First Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a Second Reading: James 3.1-12 Gospel: Mark 8.27-38	Hannah Jowett John Hudson Christine Anderton
Sunday 21 September, 2003 Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	First Reading: Proverbs 3.13-18 Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4.1-6 Gospel: Matthew 9.9-13	Lesley Hudson Sue Hargreaves Isobel Stirk
Sunday 28 September, 2003 The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity	First Reading : Numbers 11.4-6,10-16,24 -29 Second Reading : James 5.13-20 Gospel : Mark 9.38-50	Michael Baumber Jennifer Roberts Marjorie Gee



Weddings

June 28th Lee Hewitt and Joanna Page
July 19th Anthony Chaplain and Rebecca Hayes
August
19th Timothy Benson and Melanie Banks
16th Steven Curtain and Miquette Rimmer

"may they live together in love"

Seaside Rock

Thank you everyone who helped in anyway with our Children's Holiday Club last month. It was a resounding success with 74 children attending each morning. As ever it was wonderful to see so many children and young people (and not so young) having so much fun in church.

OUT AND ABOUT in September

Good huswives in Sommer will save their owne seedes
 Against next yere, as occasion nedes
 One sede for another, to make exchange
 With fellowlie neighbourhood, seemeth not strange



Maybe September is an opportunity to 'mark time' and take stock of our successes and failures of the season. Bedding plants are on their last legs but dahlias, geraniums and fuschias together with some late flowering perennials, like Michaelmas daisies will go on flowering until first frosts.

Penstamons tend to get woody and leggy after a few years and it is a good idea to take cuttings now -they weather well in a cold frame - and gradually replace original plants.

Some osteospernum are not hardy but are easily propegated by cuttings. Once bedding plants have been removed and composted the ground can be prepared for bulb planting and polyanthus, wallflowers and pansies can be planted out.

Outdoor hyacinths make a colourful and fragrant display in spring and bulbs will last for several years if dried off and stored.

Look out for blackberries and elder berries and other fruits in the hedgerows.

Later in the month beech trees in the Strid Woods at Bolton Abbey will be very colourful and you may also find a variety of fungi but beware - some of them are poisonous!

Cross Hill Naturalists Society Events

Microscope Workshops are held in the second Thursday of the month at the Senior Citizen Centre, Sutton -in-Craven from 1845-2100 hours.

New members welcome (children must be accompanied by an adult) Fee 60p per session Microscopes are available for use at meetings.

Thursday 11th Microscope Workshop

Saturday 27th **COFFEE MORNING** with Cake and Bring and Buy stalls 0945-1130 hour at South Craven Baptist church, Holme Lane.

Winter Programme begins 11th October. More details later.

Tea and Scones are served in the Parish Rooms, Kildwick Church every Sunday afternoon from 2.30pm until 4.30pm. Our historic church will also be open for visitors



Jesus, Saviour of human activity to which you have given meaning, Saviour of human suffering to which you have given living value, be also the Saviour of human unity; compel us to discard our pettiness, and to venture forth, resting upon you, into the uncharted ocean of charity.

Le Milieu Divin, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin 1957

Overseas

- 1 Pray for peace in the Middle East
- 2 Remember the people of Liberia as they suffer in the Civil War
- 3 Pray for the children in Africa as they struggle with poverty
- 4 Pray for peace and stability for the people of the Philippines
- 5 Pray for the work of the Church Mission Society and also Tear fund

Staff

- 6 Also for the World Health Organisation and the United Nations
- 7 Remember the British Forces serving overseas, especially in Iraq
- 7 Let us pray for guidance for the Ministry all over the world

Church Family

- 9 Give thanks for those who have served tea and scones during summer
- 10 And also for those who have been church sitting.
- 11 Pray for Lesley and Barry our churchwardens
- 12 Remember the flower arrangers, cleaners and all helpers
- 13 Pray for the continued support of our organist, choir and music group
- 14 Thank God for sending us Robin, Elizabeth and the boys
- 15 Remember the Tirwomwe and Castle families in Uganda and in the UK
- 16 Pray for Gods guidance at tonight's PCC meeting
- 16 Pray for the young people as they restart their church groups

Local Community

- 18 Pray for the staff and pupils at Kildwick School
- 19 Pray for the staff and residents of our local care homes
- 20 Remember the community care workers and district nurses
- 21 Pray for Kildwick Parish Meeting and Farnhill Parish Council members
- 22 Thank God for the doctors and staff of Cross Hills Health Centre
- 23 Remember and pray for the housebound and lonely in our Parish
- 23 Pray for all patients and staff at Airedale Hospital

Human Life

- 25 Praise and Thank God for providing us with knowledge and wisdom
- 26 Let us give thanks for our musicians, who provide lots of pleasure to all
- 27 Pray for all the sewing machinists who work hard to provide us with clothes
- 28 Pray for the farmers, and factory workers who provide us with our food
- 28 Pray for our Inventors, past and present that have strived to make improvement to our world.
- 30 Let us pray that someday, human life will be at peace with all.

Regular Events at Kildwick

Sunday 10am	KICKs in Parish Rooms (Not in school holidays)	School aged children's group.
1st Sunday 7.30pm -9pm	Craven Rock At St Peter's Xhills	Ecumenical Youth group for 11+
2nd,3rd,4th 7pm - 8pm Sundays (not 5th)	Y@K in Parish Rooms (Not in school holidays)	Church youth group for 11+
Monday 1.30pm	Bible Study at Low Green, XHills	Informal Bible study and fellowship
Tuesday 10am	Chuffs (Not in school holi- days)	Short service for preschool children
1st and 3rd Tues- days 10am	Banner Group in Parish Rooms (upstairs)	Stitching and fellowship group.
Wednesday 6-30 -7.30pm	Bubble and Laser Jets in Parish Rooms (Not in school holidays) 8pm Bellringing	Primary school children's group
Thursday 2pm	Open House in Parish Rooms	Refreshments and items for sale
7.30-8.30pm	Choir practice in church	
7.30pm	Harvesters in parish Rooms (upstairs)	Informal Bible study and fellowship group

FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Farnhill Parish Council was held on the 31st July 2003 in Kildwick & Farnhill Institute-Members of Cononley Parish Council came along to discuss the Cononley Crossroads Improvement Scheme Proposals, the response was that the proposed scheme would be of no advantage to either Farnhill or Cononley and would in fact encourage increased speed. Observations have now been sent to the Highways Agency. Unfortunately the visit from Craven Community Transport had to be cancelled yet again, this time due to a shortage of staff, and is now on hold for the time being.

A meeting has been arranged with N.Y.C.C. to confirm that waiting restrictions are still required at the bottom of Starkey Lane and Mary Street to discuss any further measures required.

The need for Resident Parking Only signs for the bungalows on Langkirk Close is to be discussed, as some of the residents have mobility problems.

A new lamp head is to be fitted on the lamp at the bottom of Mary Street, which should give a better light further up the street. N.Y.C.C. have no funds available for repositioning the light at the corner of the Crofts and Starkey Lane, and stated that if an extra light were needed for Starkey Lane it would be the responsibility of either the Parish or District Council. C.D.C. are to be contacted to see if they can help.

Donations were received from Kildwick CE Primary School, Mrs Midgley and Mr Robertshaw as a contribution towards Stanley Hargreaves commemorative seat & plaque. The Parish Council are looking into having a stone plaque.

Kildwick Parish Meeting & Farnhill Parish Council have agreed that it would be a good idea to work together on a Parish Plan and identify issues separately or jointly, whichever was appropriate.

The Parish Council have joined the Doorstep Crime Initiative Warning and Advice Network, which is a system to give early warnings of any Crime which is going on locally. The date of the Parish Council meetings has been changed due to a clash of meetings with Lothersdale Parish Council, and will now be held on the last Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be on the **28th August** at 7.30pm in Kildwick & Farnhill Institute and members of the village are welcome to attend.

Stuck for a gift for that Special Occasion?
Are you celebrating the birth of a baby or perhaps a special Birthday or Anniversary?
Why not commission a unique hand-embroidered card that you can later frame as a memento of the event? They have been very popular as personal gifts and are especially suitable too for wedding, baptism or confirmation cards.
Cost, dependent on size and complexity, £7 to £10.
Minimum time needed, 7 days.
Larger commissions for anniversary samplers considered.
If you have an enquiry, or an order, please telephone Gill on 632405.
10% of all proceeds to St. Andrew's church funds.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAMME

Earlier this year the Parochial Church Council invited Uell Kennedy, the Diocesan Development Officer, to address the subject of Christian Stewardship.

For the Christian stewardship is a way of life in which we regard ourselves and our possessions as a trust from God to be used for his service, for what he has done for us in Jesus Christ. This means that we are stewards of everything God has given us: our time, our abilities, our possessions, our money, our whole lives.

In response to Uell Kennedy's visit the PCC agreed that during the autumn we should conduct a Stewardship Renewal Programme. The purpose of such a programme is to encourage everyone to consider prayerfully their:

- priorities in life,
- commitment to God in terms of their time and their money,
- giving, in terms of giving back to God what he has given to us, thus enabling each parish to respond more fully to Christ's call.

In the next couple of weeks those of you who are part of our Church community will receive a letter inviting you to attend a presentation evening in the Parish Rooms when Uell Kennedy will talk about stewardship. Two such evenings will be held: Friday 26 September and Wednesday 1 October. You will also be given a special brochure about stewardship and a • response card.

Alongside these evenings there will also be a series of sermons preached on Sundays 21 and 28 September and 12 October exploring different aspects of stewardship.

Stewardship is about our response to God's goodness to us and a key part of our stewardship programme will be the invitation for you to make your own individual response. Between 6 and 19 October the invitations will be followed up by a home visit from one of our visiting team. The purpose of these visits will be to listen to your views and opinions and to receive back the • response card.

The Stewardship Renewal Programme will conclude on Sunday 26 October when Uell Kennedy will come and preach at the 10am Parish Communion. This will be a time to give thanks to God for what we hope will have been a time of renewed commitment to the life of God's church in this parish, a renewed commitment to use our time, our abilities and our money, our whole selves, in the service of God and his people.

A Personal Stewardship Prayer:

All that I am, all I can be, all that I have, all that is me, accept and use Lord, as you would choose Lord, right now today!

Take every passion, every skill, take all my dreams and bend them to your will.

Take all I give Lord; for you I'll live Lord, come what may.