

The Broadsider

The bi-monthly magazine of the Broadside Parishes of

Ranworth with Panxworth, South Walsham, Upton and Woodbastwick



November 2011

Dear Friends,

On our summer holidays I picked up a book of poems by the Welsh priest R.S. Thomas. I wasn't a fan of his previously and was surprised to find myself connecting deeply with many of his poems. Then, a month later, I lost the book.

I took it with me when I went for a dental operation, put it in a hospital locker and then forgot about it. All subsequent enquiries have drawn a blank. But Thomas's half-remembered poems continued to haunt me, and Helen looked in vain on Amazon for the book's replacement. I tried the Millennium Library in Norwich, but his few books there had all been lent out. One day, when I was walking through Norwich, part of one of his poems was playing through my mind. I went into a large bookshop and looked through its miniscule poetry section and found nothing. I went over to the 'Religion' section, found nothing there either and idly picked up the book directly in front of me. I opened it and found the very poem I'd been plagued by that morning. Oddly, the book wasn't about R.S. Thomas or poetry. It's called 'Christian Atheism', and I'd tell you who wrote it if I hadn't lost that book as well.

'Christian Atheism' sounds like a contradiction in terms. No one seems to describe themselves this way, but the author coined this term for those who do not believe in the existence of God beyond human imaginations, yet attend church regularly because they find a community to belong to, love its music or the language of worship, or because the teaching of Jesus seem to them the finest humanity has yet to devise. I met such a person in my first year at University. Al, my flatmate, was an atheist, yet he attended their village church in Northumbria with his father (also a non-believer). In my black-and-white youthful simplicity I couldn't fathom why he would wish to waste a Sunday morning on something he didn't believe in. Al explained that they went to support his believing mother, to chat to the Vicar afterwards, to meet up with friends from their remote community and to 'have a damn good sing.' I have met many other 'Als' since, and have enjoyed their company and the challenges they have presented to my own faith. Many a village church still stands with the help of those who can't accept its message, yet contribute generously and support its social events.

In an age when many who claim to be Christians seldom darken the church's doors I am grateful for those who enter, whatever their preconceptions. One of the strange glories of the Church of England's parish ministry is that it exists for the benefit of all who live within its geographical area, rather than to its congregation or the members of a particular denomination. This year's royal wedding demonstrated how even in this largely non-churchgoing age, the C of E still occupies a central role in national life. But it's also active on the margins, in remote or underprivileged communities, far from the public eye. It also works almost everywhere at the boundaries of faith and unbelief.

As time goes by, I wonder increasingly how fixed or indeed accurate those boundaries are. Many a time someone has said to me 'I'm not religious, but...' and gone on to say something remarkably insightful and spiritual about themselves. People continually surprise me and I find my own journey of faith sometimes takes unexpected turns. Learning to trust that God isn't just guiding our journey of faith (and doubt), that he is actually the journey itself (John 14.8), has been an important lesson.

The end of the page is approaching, and I still haven't given you the title of R.S. Thomas's poem. It's called 'The Absence.' How you interpret his view on God, whether absent or silently present and awaiting our own silent stillness, may reveal something of where you are spiritually at this moment. Thomas can be tough, but if you come across his poems on the internet or elsewhere, you may also find 'Emerging' or 'The Other' illuminate your understanding of him. Or you may decide not to do any of this. But finding that poem in that bookshop on that particular day suggests some kind of purpose to me, even though others may discount it as simply an odd coincidence. I believe that God is present and active among us, shaping our lives and others around us in unseen ways that will one day become clear. What do you think?

With all good wishes,
Nick Garrard

December Broadsider

To all correspondents, event organisers and those who are wondering why this issue only covers November. It has been decided that there will be a separate issues for months of November and December as there is always a lot of news during these two months, as well as wishing to keep you informed of the Christmas services nearer to the time.

Thank you . . .

. . . to everyone who came to Helen's ordination at the Cathedral on October 1st or the Benefice welcome on the 2nd and to all who supported her through your prayers, good wishes and kind gifts.

. . . to Andrew McCullough, the Clarinet Connection and all who gave their time and talents at the Musical Evening and Auction for the Upton Organ Appeal, which gave us a thoroughly enjoyable event and raised an invaluable £3,211.

Ranworth Fireworks Night

Saturday 5th November 2011 6pm, The Hill, Ranworth, with kind permission of Charles Cator. Bonfire lighting at 6pm, fireworks commence at 6.30pm. Entry £4 adults, £2 OAPs and Children. Hot refreshments on sale.

Donations for the bonfire in the form of clean wood (no metal) and hedge and tree trimmings can be brought to the field between 10.30am and 2.30pm on the day.

Ranworth Visitors' Centre

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has assisted at the Visitors' Centre this year, we could not continue without all the time and help you give to keep the Centre open every day from April to October.

As you know, we like to remain open weekend afternoons throughout the winter and we would very much appreciate any offers of help to continue this.

Please let Lee know on 01603 270340 if you are able to help. New volunteers are especially welcome and the quieter winter months are ideal to learn the ropes! Thank You.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

We hope to raffle a Christmas Hamper (or Two) at this year's Christmas Craft Fayre in St. Lawrence's, South Walsham. To do this we need lots of non-perishable in-date items to fill the hampers. People have been very generous in previous years and we are hoping for the same response again this year so we can make up another 2 hampers. If you are able to donate any items we would be very grateful. Please contact Lee on 01603 270340 or Sue on 01603 270642 or leave items in the box at the back of St. Mary's Church S.Walsham by Sun 7th Nov. Thank you very much.

Also, do come along to the Craft Fayre at St. Lawrence's on Sat. 12th November 10am-4pm and try your luck at winning a hamper for Christmas. All proceeds to support the four churches in our benefice.

Pastoral care of Parishioners

If anyone requires visiting or wishes to make arrangements for a baptism, marriage or funeral, please inform Revd. Nick Garrard, Revd. Helen Garrard or one of your churchwardens listed below.

Rector: Revd. Nicholas Garrard
Curate: Revd. Helen Garrard (from October)
The Rectory, The Street,
South Walsham, Norfolk NR13 6DQ
Telephone 01603 270769
Email: NickGarr39@aol.com

CHURCHWARDENS

RANWORTH with PANXWORTH

Mark Cator
John Ley
01603 270158

WOODBASTWICK

Alby Cator
01603 721050
Tony Potter
01603 720579

SOUTH WALSHAM

Margaret Mallett
margaret.mallett@btinternet.com

UPTON

James Chaplin
Bill Monument
01493 751597

ANOTHER PLACE

(A Quiet Day for Advent)

Tuesday 29 November 9.30am - 3pm

St Lawrence's Centre South Walsham, NR13 6DQ

led by the Revd Susanna Gunner,
Diocesan Lay Development Co-ordinator.

In the rush before Christmas, here is an opportunity to set the atmosphere for keeping a holy Advent. Whether or not you have ever been to a Quiet Day before, please think about joining us - ALL warmly welcome. The day will offer stillness and gentle reflection in which to begin the weeks of waiting.

Susanna's two addresses will use music and poetry and art and will lead into periods of silence during which people can walk, sit, read, think, draw, write or pray.

Cost: FREE. Drinks provided but please bring your own lunch.

Please book in advance by contacting: Caspar James: 01603 729815 or

caspar.james@norwich.anglican.org

Woodbastwick Harvest Supper

This took place at Copperhole on Saturday 8th October and was a great success raising £169 for church funds. Our thanks to Kit & Caroline Cator and all who contributed and came.

Calling all knitters!

Can you make bonnets or hats for babies? Brilliant! They're needed in Kenya. Lisa Gerrity, Examination Officer at Acle High School, told me about their link with Starehe Boys' and Girls' Centres in Nairobi, providing education mainly for children from very poor backgrounds. An annual visit by Acle pupils has reinforced this link and raised awareness of what life is like for many in East Africa. Last year, the group also took knitted items like cardigans and bonnets for infants that were distributed among new mothers by a local church. Lisa writes: 'These were gratefully received and were an indication that somebody far away was thinking of them....So much time, effort and love was apparent in each gift.' Lisa's letter and photos from last year's trip are available in our churches. The knitting designs are your choice, but please do not make items that are pure white, as this is their colour for funerals. If you'd like to help, please contact me or Helen. **Nick & Helen Garrard**

Sunday Plus

Sunday Plus started up again with a 'Back to Church' theme, and it was great to welcome some new faces and to hear what everyone had been up to over the summer.

This month we meet at St. Lawrence's on Remembrance Sunday, November 13th for 'Hands around the World' with activities and worship to mark the day, and to make calendars for people in our thoughts in this area. We offer a very warm welcome to children of all ages and accompanying adults are welcome to take part in activities (or the Service of Remembrance in St. Mary's at 10.45am) or join us for coffee and pastries and Sunday papers from 10am to 12 noon.

Next month's Sunday plus will be on 11th December
NATIVITY PRODUCTION FROM SCRATCH!

Woodbastwick Church Lighting

We are delighted to announce that the electrical contractors, Kings & Barnhams, have started work on our Lighting Scheme which has been so badly needed for several years. Work should be finished in mid December in time for Christmas.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

❖ at St Mary's, South Walsham ❖
September 11th

Joseph Peter John Chapman

WEDDING

❖ at St Mary's, South Walsham ❖
September 3rd

**Jamie Moore
& Helen Czerwinski**

INTERMENT OF ASHES

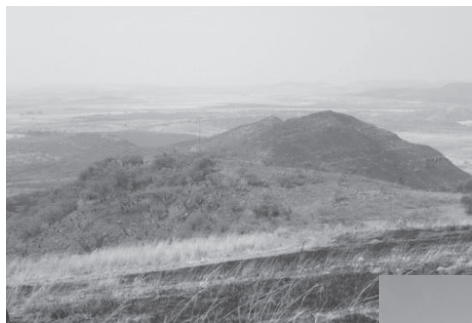
❖ SS. Fabian & Sebastian, Woodbastwick ❖
October 8th

Olive Florence Jermy

SOME CORNER OF A FOREIGN FIELD

A few short weeks ago I stood on a desolate hill top in South Africa, 430 metres below, and in all directions stretched the African veldt. It is by far the highest point around, and yet as I began to look around I could also begin to appreciate its vulnerability. The Africans have a word for such hills, they call them kop, this one is Spion Kop. Here yet another of the disastrous battles which dogged the British Army in their fight with the South African Boers took place between 23 – 24 January 1900.

This is certainly not the forum to write about the battle; sufficient to say that as dawn broke after a night climb that would be hazardous in daylight, the British troops found they had not actually reached the top, but were slightly below it. By the time they



realised their mistake the mist had cleared, a scorching mid-summer sun was beating down, they had 20 trenching tools between them and the summit was a mass of stones and rock-hard soil.

Today this plateau contains individual as well as mass graves, with white painted rocks marking out areas where men lie, many where they fell in inadequately dug trenches. The individually identified graves are few in number, but within and to the edge of the area defined as British, lies one to which my attention was drawn.

It is dedicated to Burgher G Mill. A Boer lying amongst the British war dead? I was curious to learn more.

It would seem that George Mills was an East Ender who, like many others, sought his fortune in the South African gold mines in the latter years of the

19th Century. Whether he did so or not is a matter of conjecture; he certainly found himself a young Boer wife and together they set up in trade, in the town of Barberton. By the time the war broke out they had a small family, but George was faced with a stark choice. Should he accept internment, or fight for his adopted country, knowing that if he chose the latter and was captured by the British he could face being shot as a traitor. In some ways the decision was eased for him, President Kruger offered citizenship of the Transvaal Republic to those who volunteered. George, a Londoner, joined the Barberton Kommando.

Burgher George Mills died on Spion Kop around midday on the 24 January. He lies alongside the many British soldiers who gave their lives that day. The words of Rupert Brooke's poem, "The Soldier", seems so very appropriate, for these and so many more, as we draw towards our own time of Remembrance:

If I should die, think only this of me

That there's some corner of a foreign field

That is for ever England



Note: Peter and I were in the very capable hands of Anthony Coleman during our four-day battlefield experience in Kwa Zulu Natal. It is to Anthony I owe thanks for the story of Burgher Mills.

KAY JEFFORD

Remembrance Sunday Services

On November 13th there will be Services of Remembrance at Upton and South Walsham (also for the villages of North Burlingham, Panxworth, Ranworth, and Woodbastwick) at 10.45am. The names of all who gave their lives from these communities will be remembered by name and the collection will go to the Royal British Legion Poppy Fund, supporting ex-service personnel and their families in our age of continuing conflicts.

Foundation Governor

The Governing Body of Fairhaven Primary School is seeking to appoint a new Foundation Governor. Foundation Governors have an important role in supporting the school and upholding its Christian ethos therefore if you are interested in finding out more and feel you have the motivation, commitment and time to devote to the role or wish to be considered for nomination please contact me at the Rectory or Mrs. Janice Dix (acting Head Teacher) via the School Office or the Chair of Governors, Mr. Brian Bemment (mail@brianbemment.com).

Woodbastwick Village Hall Quiz

The Autumn Quiz will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 26 November at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of eight are encouraged, tickets £7.50 each.



Samaritan's Purse[®]
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

Samaritan's Purse Service

On November 27th we welcome pupils from the Broadside villages who've joined Reception classes this autumn at Fairhaven and Salhouse Schools and their families to receive gift books provided by our churches. The spirit of generosity continues as we present the Samaritan's Purse charity with the shoeboxes we've filled with Christmas gifts for children in Eastern Europe who'd receive nothing if we didn't provide it. If you'd like to know how to help, please pick up a leaflet from the back of our churches.

Tuesday Evenings

The Tuesday Group got off to a good start in October, looking at the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5) This passage contains some of the most beautiful, poetic yet challenging of Jesus' teachings. How can we relate to them today? Come along and join one of our lively discussions. Tuesday evenings will never feel the same again! All events begin at 7.45pm, apart from the 29th when we're joining the Quiet Day at St. Lawrence's. The programme moves around our villages as follows:

November 1st
The Rectory, The Street, South Walsham.
(Nick & Helen Garrard)

November 8th
13, Riverview Drive, Upton.
(Betty Wilson)

November 15th
Old Hall Farm, Newport Road, South Walsham.
(Dick & Veronica Dewing)

November 22nd
13, Riverview Drive, Upton.
(Betty Wilson)

November 29th 9.30am-3pm
Advent Quiet Day, St. Lawrence's, South Walsham.

Christmas is coming . . .

The joyous days of Christmas come closer and closer. Here are 2 dates to put in your diaries.

Christmas Carol Concert - on Thursday 15th December with the Broadside Choir at 7.30pm in St Lawrence's, South Walsham. Tickets at £5 each include mulled wine/fruit juice. Please contact Jeanette Monument (01493 751597) or Sybil Davey (01603 270421). All proceeds will be given to the Upton Organ Appeal.

On Thursday 22nd December at 6.30pm everyone is welcome to come and sing Christmas Carols on Ranworth Staithe. This has been hugely popular since its inception 2 years ago. Snow has fallen on both previous evenings that we have held this event but Steve & Penny at The Granary have given us wonderful hospitality on each occasion. Donations to EACH And don't forget to bring a torch.

FAIRHAVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

AUTUMN TERM AT FAIRHAVEN C of E VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The summer term ended with a number of exciting events. We took the whole school to Whittingham Country Park where we enjoyed shelter building, a quiz around the Broad and a picnic lunch in the meadow followed by games. We had a great day out and the weather stayed dry and warm until minutes before we boarded the coaches for home.

Our Year 6 leavers were very pleased to receive their excellent SATs results and were keen participants in a leavers' service at Ranworth Church.

The last week of term was rounded off with some very special events:-

- our annual sports day enjoyed by parents and children alike
- Key Stage 1 pupils performed 'Around the World' in South Walsham village hall
- Years 5 & 6 performed their version of A Midsummer Night's Dream to the rest of the school, their parents and invited guests
- the whole school was entertained by a live brass group

The summer break seems long gone and the autumn term is well underway. Our new pupils have settled into school and everyone is working hard.

At the beginning of term we were delighted to be presented with The Royal Horticultural Society's, Campaign for School Gardening Level 5 Award. It is the highest award achievable and we are the first primary school in Norfolk to receive it. Sam Seddigh from Waitrose (sponsor of the campaign) presented the school with a pear tree and a plaque to celebrate the occasion. The children also spent a day in the school garden working with Alison Findlay from the RHS.

Our new school council ran a very successful tombola at the local MacMillan Coffee morning. It raised a lot of money and the children had fun running the stall.

Class 4 have been participating in The Windmill Project which will ensure they are more aware of environmental concerns and better equipped to make a difference.

As this report is written we are about to celebrate harvest with parents and friends and it is a good time for us, as a school, to say thank you to everyone who supports us.

We have a busy summer ahead of us with a whole school trip being planned as well as further sporting activities, an end of term concert and a leavers' party and assembly.

We would like to thank all those in the local community who support our school in any way. Without voluntary involvement we would not be able to provide our children with so many opportunities.

Foundation Governor

The Governing Body of Fairhaven Primary School is seeking to appoint a new Foundation Governor. Foundation Governors have an important role in supporting the school and upholding its Christian ethos therefore if you are interested in finding out more and feel you have the motivation, commitment and time to devote to the role or wish to be considered for nomination please contact me at the Rectory or Mrs. Janice Dix (acting Head Teacher) via the School Office or the Chair of Governors, Mr. Brian Bemment (mail@brianbemment.com).

Event Organisers — Please Note

The next issue of Broadsider covers December.

Copy deadlines are on the 10th of each month before each issue.

Copy, please, to Kit Cator — kit.cator@afiweb.net
or David Benham — david@benham.eclipse.co.uk



BENEFICE PRAYERS

FOR NOVEMBER:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that
I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
Not so much to be understood as
To understand; not so much to be
Loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned;
It is in dying, that we awaken to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi

SUNDAY BY SUNDAY PRAYERS

November 6th

Pray for Woodbastwick, South Walsham and Upton and Ranworth PCCs; their Secretaries, Treasurers, Vice-Chairs and Electoral Roll Officers. The Benefice Advisory Council.

November 13th

Pray for the work of the Royal British Legion and all who support service personnel and their families. For all who work for peace. For Fairhaven VA and Salhouse VC Schools, Acle High and Broadland High Schools and First Steps Pre-School. Their teachers, staff, governors and pupils. For Fairhaven's link with Mtendre primary school in Dedza, Malawi.

November 20th

Pray for the recently-baptised and their families. For all who have recently moved into the Benefice or have begun worshipping here.

November 27th

For the work of Samaritans Purse, and the children who will receive shoebox gifts for Christmas. For children who have joined Salhouse and Fairhaven Schools this term. For St. Lawrence's Centre, its Committee, supporters and Friends. For the promotion of the arts, spirituality and community events.

December 4th

Pray for our Churchwardens, Mark Cator and John Ley (Ranworth), Margaret Mallett (South Walsham), James Chaplin and Bill Monument (Upton), Alby Cator and Tony Potter (Woodbastwick) and their Deputy Wardens.



The November Calendar

= Children's Activities

BC = Benefice Choir

1	Tue	2.30pm	Womens' Fellowship	Upton Village Hall	
		7.30pm	Woodbastwick Ladies Club. "Gem Stones"	Woodbastwick Village Hall	
		7.45pm	Tuesday Group	The Rectory, South Walsham	
2	Wed	7.30pm	South Walsham WI	South Walsham Village Hall	
5	Sat	6pm	Ranworth Fireworks Night	The Hill, Ranworth	
6	Sun	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Ranworth	<i>1st Sunday</i> <i>3rd Sunday before</i> <i>Advent</i>
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Upton	
		11am	Morning Prayer	South Walsham	
		11am	Holy Communion	Woodbastwick	
7	Mon	7.45pm	South Walsham & Upton PCC	St Lawrence's	
8	Tue	7.45pm	Tuesday Group	13 Riverview Drive, Upton	
9	Wed	12.30pm	South Walsham Ladies Luncheon Club.	Filby Bridge Hotel	
11	Fri	7.30pm	Friends of St Margaret's Bingo Evening	Upton Village Hall	
12	Sat	10am-4pm	St Lawrence's Christmas Craft Market	St Lawrence's	
13	Sun	10am	Sunday Plus	St Lawrence's	<i>2nd Sunday</i> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>
		10.45am	Remembrance Service	South Walsham	
		10.45am	Remembrance Service	Upton	
		3.30pm	Informal Communion	St Lawrence's	
14	Mon	7.30pm	Deanery Synod	Brundall	
15	Tue	7.30pm	Ranworth Ladies Club. Return to Congo.	Claude Scott. Please contact Sue Hitchcock on 01603 270212	
		7.45pm	Tuesday Group	Old Hall Farm, South Walsham	
16	Wed	7.45pm	Worship Leaders Meeting	The Rectory, South Walsham	
20	Sun	9.30am	Holy Communion	Ranworth	<i>3rd Sunday</i> <i>Christ the King</i>
		9.30am	Morning Prayer	Upton	
		11am	Holy Communion	South Walsham	
		11am	Holy Communion	Woodbastwick	
		6.30pm	Deanery Service	Acle	
21	Mon	10am	Churches Together on the Broads Walk	St Helen's, Ranworth (Start)	
		7.45pm	Ranworth PCC	Ranworth Visitors' Centre	
22	Tue	7.45pm	Tuesday Group	13 Riverview Drive, Upton	
26	Sat	7pm	Woodbastwick Village Hall Quiz	Woodbastwick Village Hall	
27	Sun	11am	Samaritan's Purse Joint Service BC	Upton	<i>4th Sunday</i> <i>Advent 1</i>
		6.30pm	Advent Hymns & Readings BC	Ranworth	
29	Tue	9.30am-3pm	Advent Quiet Day	St Lawrence's	

December

1	Thur	6.30pm	Acle and District Guides Carol Service	St Margaret's, Upton	
4	Sun	9.30am	Christingle	Ranworth	<i>1st Sunday</i> <i>Advent 2</i>
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Upton	
		11am	Morning Prayer	South Walsham	
		11am	Holy Communion	Woodbastwick	