



# In Partnership June 2009

## Prayer points

- Our joint Confirmation Service
- Our discussions with the Diocese
- Our summer activities
- St Mary's Flower festival
- All Saints Garden party

## Contact information

The Partnership office is open on Monday through Friday 1:30pm-3:30pm. The office number is 01793 874221. The office e-mail is:

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**For items for the next edition of Partnership news please send them to the office or to Dick Gray no later than 25<sup>th</sup> June.**

The editor's e-mail address is [dick643@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dick643@yahoo.co.uk)

The Partnership web site is <http://www.wswinlyd.org.uk>

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You know you are having a senior moment when you enter a revolving door, and then you can't remember whether you were going out or coming in.



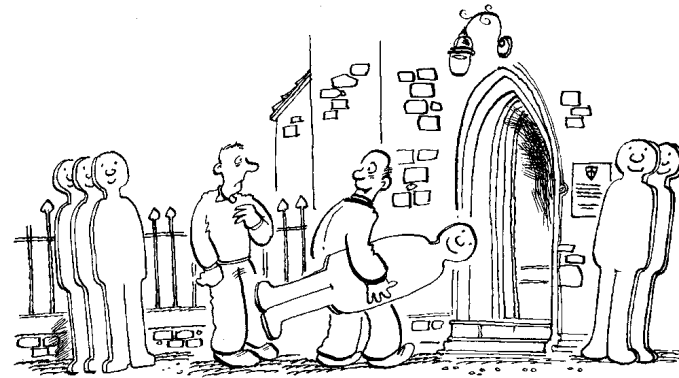
Dear Friends

I'm sat writing this down in Sussex where we have come to sort out my Dad's house after his sudden death a month ago. It's left me with complete mixture of feelings – from a sense almost of joy at the way he died – amongst friends at a church service- to intense sadness, grief and even anger that he went so suddenly when we had so many good things planned to do together on holiday. (Many thanks to so many of you who sent us cards and continue to pray for us)

As a result of my own emotions it has been interesting to look at what happened to the disciples in the latter part of their time with Jesus. I took Ascension Day services for 2 schools last week, I wondered what the disciples felt as Jesus left them. Just six weeks before they had had another enormous loss, as they had faced the crucifixion and seen their friend and Lord, cruelly crucified. They had been left shaken and terrified, until 3 days later the women told them that he had risen. Our Easter services reflect the extremes of emotion that they felt over that weekend. Then for almost 6 weeks he is with them again. Appearing in a variety of circumstances: encouraging them, eating with them, challenging them. Until the day he takes them up the mountainside and once more leaves them. Imagine the spectacle! And imagine once again their confused emotions.

These friends of Jesus had been on the kind of roller coaster of experiences that many of us face from time to time. As a result they lost their confidence, they kept themselves shut inside the upper room, staying in place where they felt safe and had strong connections with the one who they missed so much. They tried to fill the gaps by electing a twelfth disciple to replace Judas, and with Peter as their leader, they continue to pray and meet together with the women and other followers too.

Ten days later, the Holy Spirit comes in a dramatic way, and these fearful but faithful friends find their world turned upside down. The Holy Spirit comes as fire and as wind to revolutionise their effectiveness. Fire that cleanses, warms and inspires; wind that blows away the cobwebs and wakes them up. And as a result of the preaching and the connections they make that day 3000 people become Christians.



... I thought my church attendance figures would benefit from some 'quantitative easing'...

### **Best for breakfast**

Want your breakfast to make you feel full for longer? Eat porridge. Now scientists at King's College London have found that foods with a low glycaemic index (GI), such as oats, trigger the release of greater amounts of a hormone in the gut, which delays hunger pangs by creating the 'full' sensation.

As well as porridge, try also brown bread and most fruit and vegetables, which stimulate the release of 20 per cent more of the GLP-1 hormone than food with a high GI ratio.

### **Elbow room**

A grandmother was giving directions to her grown grandson who was coming to visit with his wife: "You come to the front door of the block of flats. I am in flat 342. There is a big panel at the door. With your elbow push button 342. I will buzz you in. Come inside, the elevator is on the right. Get in, and with your elbow hit 3. When you get out I am on the left. With your elbow, hit my doorbell."

"Sure Grandma, that sounds easy, but why am I hitting all these buttons with my elbow?"

"You mean you're coming empty handed?"

## June 7 Trinity Sunday

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space – unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

- Deuteronomy 6:4 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'
- Isaiah 45:22 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other'
- Genesis 1:1-2 'In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...'
- Judges 14:6 etc 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

Today, in West Swindon, I sense that many of us feel weary, and as a result of all the practical and emotional pressures we face we prefer to stay in safe places with people we know. We enjoy meeting together, but there is not much energy around. But today, this week, as we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit for the first time, let us invite him into our lives afresh – to change and renew us; to cleanse and heal our wounds; and to invigorate us to go out and share what we know of Jesus with those we meet, in our words sometimes too, as well as our actions.

Anne Carter

### From Imogen Kershaw

My name is Imogen Kershaw and I'm writing this newsletter as I am planning a gap year in Croatia with a Christian organisation called 'Bless'. Its aims are to advance the Christian faith throughout Europe, using a range of programmes to mobilise Christian individuals and groups to engage in missional strategies in contemporary European culture. I'm doing this to help the youth out there to gain more of an understanding about God and to introduce and teach them about him.

I attend Holy Trinity Church, Shaw and have been since I was born (which makes it almost 19 years!) and for the past 3 years I've been helping out at 'Greenbelt' the Christian music festival, and also this year will be my first year helping out at Spring Harvest in Skegness in the 'Prayer House'.

To be able to go to Croatia, I need to raise £4300 by mid September to cover all travel and accommodation costs. I am planning on raising this money by:-

- Making and selling cards
- Night-time sponsored walk (June 5<sup>th</sup> see below)
- Also other events
- One off donations would be very welcome or regular contributions if easier.

If you are unable to help and support financially then please include me in your prayers as this would also be much appreciated.

If you would like more information then you can email me on:-

theinvisiblegirl3@hotmail.co.uk

or if you would like to see the organisation that I'm doing it with, the website is:-

www.bless.org.uk



Having heard the Minister say  
that we come from dust and go to dust,  
Hannah wondered whether this  
was someone going or coming.

Water is on tap, not far from your tent. Mobile toilets are not bad, and tickets for showers are available if you book your time.

Adult tickets cost £88, a family of 4 can go for £231. Festival starts Friday tea time, though its helpful to arrive, or get someone to grab tent space for you, much earlier than that. Events finish late Monday night, and many people stay overnight and strike camp on Tuesday morning. You can book tickets on line as individuals but all then camp together if we wish – its much less complicated than booking for Spring Harvest (prices go up after 31<sup>st</sup> July)

Its quite a lot of fun to camp in a group, but then have the freedom to choose what parts of the programme to go to.. sometimes with others or sometimes alone if your interests are different.

A variety of folk from the Partnership will be going – including Dave and Anne, the Kershaws, Claire Camm, Janet Clarke and others. There is more info on the website, including the musicians and speakers and lots more. Or come and talk to some of us who have been before – last year was the first time I have been, but I'm looking forward to this year!

Anne Carter

Details: <http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/> or talk to Patricia Roberts.

## New Wine

**2-8 August 2009**

Royal Bath and West Showground, Somerset  
Details: <http://www.new-wine.org/> If you want to go with someone Anne & Dave Carter, Ed and Mary Poole are going and Claire Camm is taking some young people.

\* \* \* \* \*

Conscience (as defined by a small boy):  
something that makes me tell my mother before my sister does.

The main speaker will be our Senior Regional Minister Nigel Coles, and he will take our new 'strapline', Making a Difference, as his theme for the day.

Please make sure the date and venue are in your diary and on your church calendar. Last year, several churches closed their evening services so that congregations could attend together and enjoy sharing and worshipping with the regional Baptist family.

Programme outline is as follows

- Seminars 3 - 4.15
- AGM 4.30-5
- Tea 5 -6
- Celebration 6-7.45 Main Speaker Nigel Coles

Anne and Dave Carter are planning on going – please contact them if you want to combine transport or arrange to travel as a group.

**greenbelt**\_festival®

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> – Mon 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2009**  
**Cheltenham Racecourse**

Fancy a weekend of top musicians, speakers, worship and events?

Join us at Greenbelt at the end of August.

Come and camp, or travel in on a daily basis if you don't fancy camping.

Don't worry about the cooking... you can do it yourself over a gas ring, or you can buy from an enormous assortment of food outlets – Indian, Chinese, burgers, falafel and much much much more... Sometimes someone in the group offers to cook a meal for several folk...

## Dates for your diary

### Lunch Bunch

Enjoy a time of meeting friends over lunch at Toothill church from  
12 noon  
EVERY SECOND TUESDAY  
June 9th

### Imogen's night time sponsored walk

Imogen's night time sponsored walk will take place on:-  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

And we will be walking 10km around West Swindon and Rodbourne.

Meeting at 9.15pm to start walking at  
9.30pm from Shaw Church

There is a £5 registration fee, but any age is more than welcome to join!

If you would like a sponsor form contact Rebecca Kershaw.

Thank you and I hope you've got your walking legs on.

## LOST Property

Aubergine/ maroon ladies jacket from Autonomy was left at Toothill Church some weeks ago – perhaps at Stephen's farewell. Is it yours? Ring David Hoar to find out when the church is open so you can collect it.

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The reason some people don't recognise opportunity is that it usually comes disguised as hard work.

\* \* \* \* \*

A yawn may be considered bad manners, but it can also be considered an honest opinion.

***Clean drinking water, could you live without it?  
1 billion people do.***

**Lydiard Park Walk for Water on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
Meet at 2pm outside St Mary's stable block in Lydiard Park**

Many had great fun on last year's walk4water, which raised £318 for the provision of safe water in the developing world, would you like to do it again?

The walk is 3-4 miles, paths are generally suitable for all ages, prams, wheelchairs, and dogs. There will be an opportunity to take part in the "Water Olympics Challenge" and carry water for the second lap of the walk. Refreshments will be available afterwards in the stable block.

Walkers join in the walk and agree to either be sponsored for taking part or make a one-off donation. Children may enjoy collecting change in a water bottle. To register interest and for sponsorship forms and bottle labels, Please contact Heather Benn (walk organiser),

**Like to know more? See [www.turnonthetap.org.uk](http://www.turnonthetap.org.uk)**

**St Mary's Flower Festival  
June 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>**

Come and see the church with its flower arrangements beautifully displayed.  
Offers of help would be gratefully received.

**WEBA new churches fund**

This year WEBA launches its **New Churches Fund**. The focus will be a brand new project within the region.

**"We're looking to plant 1 new missional congregation a year for the next ten years,"** says Senior Regional Minister Nigel Coles.

In 2009 the focus will be on Wichelstowe, a new housing development just south of Swindon. After that? "Well, we're exploring a couple of possibilities in North Somerset for starters," Nigel adds. WEBA is working in partnership with final year ministerial student Alison Boulton and her family as together we explore how we might best build God's kingdom in this new developing community.

During 2009, all gifts to the New Churches Fund will go towards a share of the cost of purchasing a Manse in the new housing development. The Boultons will use this base to explore ways in which they can serve Christ amongst the people they find there. This is a step of faith, an adventure, because what will grow as a result will be determined not by tradition or a pre-determined plan but by the needs of the community itself as relationships develop.

**"We believe passionately in incarnational mission,"** says Ali, **"which is basically mirroring what God did in sending Jesus - the Word became flesh and dwelt among us - it 's about being where people are and meeting people where they are at."**

**West of England Baptist Association  
3 in 1 Event 2009 making a difference at Milton**

We now have a venue for this year's 3 in 1 event on Sunday 28th June 2009.

Our annual gathering for the whole WEBA family will be at the seaside, at Milton Baptist Church in Weston-Super-Mare.

Like last year's event, this one will cover a Sunday afternoon and evening and include seminars, our AGM, tea together, and an evening celebration.

When we met to consider the events for this year, we gave some thought to what had proved popular in previous years as well as cost, travelling distance and the English weather!

We apologise in advance for the simple format of this newsletter. We do have another volunteer joining us in June, Frances Bellamy, who will be working as part of the Friends of Willows committee, providing administration support. She is a 'whizz' at putting together newsletters, so look out for the Autumn edition. If you feel you would also like to join the Friends of Willows committee, please let us know.

**\*6 June \* BOWOOD \* HOUSE \* GARDEN\***

Come and see the wonderful Rhododendron walks. We will meet in the car park at 10.30am to start the tour. Please note the entrance for the garden is off the A342, Chippenham to Devizes Road, between Derry Hill and Sandy Lane villages. There are spare seats in cars, so please contact us if you would like a lift. Cost is £5.60p, senior citizens £5.10p. Pay at entrance.

**\*9 August \* PICNIC \* at \*Cotswold\*\* Wildlife Park\***

Come and meet old friends and make some new ones. Bring family & friends. Bring your own picnic, drinks, deckchair and good weather! Meet at 2.30 pm in the carpark. Children and young people welcome. No charge.

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A College English department could be considered the local chamber of commas.

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The trouble with resisting temptation is that it may never come again.

**All Saints Garden Party  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2 – 5pm  
Manor House Garden**

Featuring:  
Cream teas; Cake stall; Barbecue; Lucky Dip; Plant stall  
Tombola; Second hand toys; Craft stalls;  
Skittles and other games; Stocks and sponge throwing

**Art Competition: Our Wonderful World**  
Entries for all ages no larger than A3 on any medium  
50p per child and £2 per adult to enter

**Lydiard Has Talent**

An opportunity for anyone to take to the stage for up to 3 minutes (juggling, singing, dancing, poetry recitation, stand-up comedy, drama, mime all welcome)

10% of the money raised at the garden party on 11<sup>th</sup> July will be going to the Swindon Food Bank which is a ground-breaking concept designed to help individuals and families in crisis by providing [allsaints-online.org.uk](http://allsaints-online.org.uk)

The church will be open for people to look round and admire the flower displays and the art competition entries. The bell tower will be open so you can go up and see where the bells are rung and perhaps have a go. There will be various stalls including cakes, plants, tombola, cream teas, and barbecue and throw a sponge at someone in the stocks! Entertainment will provided by members of All Saints Church in a "Lydiard has Talent" style show

Please let your friends know and pray for good weather!

**[www.allsaints-online.org.uk](http://www.allsaints-online.org.uk)**

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A student won first prize for the best short story about Wimbledon tennis: 'Rain, no game.'

## GETTING TO KNOW THE BIBLE

For 2009/2010 the Partnership has set, as one of its goals "Getting to know the Bible better".

There are lots of ways of doing this and over the next year I hope to give you some ideas. However, as a bit of fun, each month there will be a Bible Quiz. You will be able to find all the answers somewhere in the Bible (clues provided!). Sorry, there will be no prizes except gaining a greater knowledge of your Bible. The answers will be printed the following month. Have fun and get reading!! To make it a little more difficult you might like to add the references to your answers.

Janet Gray

All the answers to this month's quiz are in the book of Acts

- 1: Who was appointed to replace Judas Iscariot as a disciple?  
Joseph      Matthias      Barnabas      Barsabas
- 2: Which Pharisee said that if the gospel truly comes from God, no-one will be able to stop it spreading?  
Paul      Nicodemus      Theudas      Gamaliel
- 3: Who looked after the coats of the men who were stoning Stephen?  
Peter      Saul      Gamliel      Joseph
- 4: In which city did Silas and Timothy meet up with Paul?  
Corinth      Antioch      Athens      Rome
- 5: What was the name of the young man who fell out of the window during one of Paul's speeches?  
Philemon      Tychicus      Eutychus      Onesimus
- 6: By what name was the disciple Tabitha also known?  
Lydia      Priscilla      Claudia      Dorcas

## 'Hope Unleashed' & 'The Big Clean'

Throughout the month of June a number of churches across the town are getting out into their communities with the desire to serve them in some practical way. Some of the things planned so far include gardening projects, painting community facilities, graffiti removal plus much more under the banner of 'Hope Unleashed'. One of the suggestions emerging from this is for as many groups/churches as possible, on one Saturday morning, to give their own communities a 'Spring clean-up' through picking up litter, removing dumped rubbish, cleaning graffiti etc.

The vision of 'The Big Clean' is a simple one, but one full of potential, to make a real and tangible difference to our communities through a practical expression of the servant heart of God. Giving churches an opportunity to meet and talk to members of their community and encourage them and others to take an interest in and get involved with that community.

While we appreciate it is short notice the suggested date, to link in with Pentecost, is:

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 10am-12noon**

If you are interested in getting involved we may be able to help resource you by putting you in touch with relevant departments/people in the council to help with litter pickers, rubbish bags and removal of larger items etc.

For more details of what else is happening across the town through-out June and how you could get involved please contact [chris@syfc.org.uk](mailto:chris@syfc.org.uk) or 01793 829795.

## News from the Willows

Hello everyone, our last event was in December, and here we are in May 2009!

Firstly, Ros, Rosemary and Anne would like to thank you for your wonderful support. More than ever people are looking for help to resolve their issues, now compounded by the current economic climate. Your giving supports the work of Willows, even more so as they move into their new premises. It will be lovely to see you all at the opening ceremony later in the year. What an achievement!

## Other Local Events

### FIRST AID TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Saturday 13th June 2009

9:30am - 4:30pm (bring your own lunch)

Emergency Aid Training including a section focused on emergency aid for children.

Training provided by Swindon Borough Council

Venue - Upper Stratton Baptist Church, Swindon.

12 places.

£40 per person

Chris Priddy, Upper Stratton Baptist Church, Youth and Children's Minister

### Thursday 25th June, at 7.45 Highworth Methodist Church

Healing and Wholeness service the preacher will be John Wiltshire.

### Circuit Celebration Service: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 7.00 Highworth Methodist Church

Last October I had the privilege of visiting the rapidly growing Church in South Korea. On the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> June Upper Thames Circuit will be hosting a Pastor from South Korea, who is part of a return visit to the District. At this celebration I intend to interview our visitor about the growth and vision of the South Korean Church, its revival heritage and passion for prayer. The worship will be led by myself and the Highworth musicians – a real celebration of what God has done and is doing. Refreshments and informal mingling will follow. A warm welcome is extended to all. Please book this date in your Diaries and do come if you are able.

John Wiltshire

- 7: Why were the masters of the soothsayer unhappy with Paul and Silas?  
Paul cursed her with an evil spirit  
Paul took the girl with him on his travels  
Paul commanded the spirit of divination to come out of her  
Paul had the girl thrown in prison
- 8: What was the name of the prophet who prophesied that Paul would be bound at Jerusalem?  
Claudius      Agabus      Aquila      Philip
- 9: What came out of the fire Paul made on Melita?  
Locust      Hedgehog      Viper      Salamander
- 10: What was the name of the centurion who looked after Paul on the journey to Rome  
Julius      Augustus      Tertius      Quartus
- 11: Which gods did the people of Lystra think Paul and Barnabas were?  
Jupiter and Mercury      Apollo and Mars  
Saturn and Janus      Pluto and Bacchus
- 12: Which book of prophecy was the Ethiopian Eunuch reading from?  
Isaiah      Jeremiah      Ezekiel      Daniel

With thanks to BibleQuizzes.org.uk

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Departing guest: "Well, good-night – I hope I haven't kept you up too late."

Polite host: "Not at all. I'd have been getting up soon, anyway."

## Church Services in the Partnership

### All Saints, Lydiard Millicent

Date	Time	Form
7 <sup>th</sup> June	8:00am	Communion
	10:30am	Morning Service
	6:30pm	Evening Worship
14 <sup>th</sup> June	8:00am	Communion
	10:30am	Communion
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Partnership Confirmation @ HT Shaw</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> June	8:00am	Communion
	10:30am	All age worship
	6:30pm	Evening communion
28 <sup>th</sup> June	8:00am	Communion
	10:30am	Communion
	6:30pm	Evening Worship

There is also daily worship at 9am each weekday.

### St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze

Date	Time	Form
7 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Morning service
	6:30pm	Communion
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Communion
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Partnership Confirmation @ HT Shaw</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10:00am	Family service
	6:30pm	Songs of Praise
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Communion

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Fear is the sand in the machinery of life. - E Stanley Jones

## Church Services in the Partnership

### Holy Trinity Shaw

Date	Time	Form
7 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Communion
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Morning service
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Partnership Confirmation @ HT Shaw</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10:30am	Communion
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Morning Service

### Toothill

Date	Time	Form
7 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Morning Service
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Communion
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Partnership Confirmation @ HT Shaw</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10:30am	Family Service
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30am	Morning service

### Westlea

Date	Time	Form
7 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Communion
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Family service
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Partnership Confirmation @ HT Shaw</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10:00am	Morning Service
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am	Swap Service

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Forgiveness from others is charity; from God, grace; from oneself, wisdom.