

St Michael's Church Shotwick August Newsletter 2010

Coming up this quarter:

**Launch of our Tower
Appeal**

**Longbow lecture; Harvest
Festival & Supper;
Remembrance Service; Prom
Praise in Manchester with
Burton; Christmas Crafts.**





News from the Vicar

Despite July being the wettest since records began we still managed to have a beautiful afternoon for our summer BBQ. It was a lovely relaxed afternoon, with good food and company. A huge thanks must go to Jenny and Dorothy and all those others who helped make it a success. We will be having more events this autumn for you to come along to, the Long Bow talk on 30th September, the Harvest service and supper, and a Christmas craft morning so you can make all those special handmade gifts and cards.

The big event this autumn will be the building work that needs to be undertaken to replace the tower roof. Following a 5 year report from the Diocesan architect we are faced with a considerable amount of work, the most urgent being the replacing of the tower roof.

It has been about 40 years since the last major restoration work was undertaken and it is now the turn of our generation to ensure that our beautiful and historic church building is maintained in a good condition for future generations.

We have already started fund raising, the table sale at The Yacht and the cookery book, which hopefully you have

contributed a recipe to, will be on sale in time for Christmas.

To help widen the scope for funding we are launching the appeal 'Stop the Rot!' this month. The accompanying leaflet will give more details.

Not only is St. Michael's a beautiful and unique building but it has been a place of worship for almost a thousand years. The church was and still can be a focal point for the community where the good news of God's love and forgiveness can be heard and celebrated.

Throughout the years the generosity and faithfulness of so many has ensured that we can continue to worship God in this special church.

Yes, we have a challenge ahead of us, but with enthusiasm, creativity and with faithful stewardship of the gifts and resources He has given to us, we can ensure that we will keep both the building and worshipping community healthy and strong.

There are lots of gems of wisdom in the book of Proverbs, one of my favourites is from Proverbs 3: 5 -6

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways acknowledge Him, and he will make your paths straight.'

Let's trust Him with this challenge that lies before us, not forgetting that he needs us to be active participants.



Dates to note in 2010



Saturday 18th September Prom Praise
Bridgewater Hall Manchester

Thursday 30th September Long Bow lecture. 7h30pm in Church.
Refreshments afterwards. The long bow played a vital part in the history of shotwick. This lecture should be of interest to all ages.

Sunday 10th October.
Harvest Festival 3 pm. No 11h30 am Service. Afterwards, there will be the **Harvest Supper** at Shotwick Hall Farm.

Tickets from members of the PCC.

Sunday 14th November Remembrance Day. Congregate in Church at **10.50 am** prior to a short ceremony by the Cenotaph. Normal service follows.

Christmas Crafts Saturday 20th November A repeat of last year's

successful event for some of the younger members of the community.

Sunday 19th December Carol Service 8 pm (mince pies afterwards).

No 11h30 am Service on that day

Saturday 25th December Christmas Day
11h30 am Communion
(no 8 am Service on Christmas day)

Sunday 9th January 2011
Plough Sunday

Service Rota

All services start at 11h30 am

First Sunday: All Age Worship
(Followed by coffee)

Second Sunday: Holy Communion
(Common Worship)

Third Sunday: Matins (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Fourth Sunday: Holy Communion
(1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Fifth Sunday: Holy Communion
(1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Bell Matters!



Tower Roof: (SkyLine employee scaling down the Tower while doing routine maintenance 10 years ago. We will need scaffolding this time!).



Bell ringing practice every Friday evening: contact Frank Parry on 01244 881731. The bell ringers ring for Sunday services and special Church occasions.

Events Committee

We are planning an Organ recital this autumn 2010 in memory our former organist Vic Lown who died earlier this summer.

We are investigating the possibility of holding a flower festival next Harvest 2011. Anyone with experience, please let us know.

Deanery Synod

The last meeting of the Wirral South Deanery was in May and the next one will be in October. In June this year a Deanery Eucharist was held at St Barnabas Church Bromborough, conducted by Bishop Peter.

In his sermon the Bishop spoke of the importance of welcoming people into Church, especially newcomers who are not used to attending a service. They often don't know quite where to sit, which book to use etc. Bishop Peter gave as an analogy a situation where he might wish to place a bet on a horse. He would feel a little awkward going through the door, would not know how to go about it and would be glad of a friendly assistant coming forward to help. The Church Door can also be intimidating!

The service was followed by an excellent buffet supper in the Church Hall.

Finance

Great support was given at the Burton Fete and The Yacht Inn stalls.

Thanks to all who gave things to sell as well as their time and energy! The total was over £1500.