

St John's Church

serving Stanborough, Lemsford, Cromer Hyde



Parish Magazine

October/November 2017

£1



Happy times for past Vicars of St Johns.
Ron & Ann Ingamells after their wedding, on 11 August with the Bishop of Thetford;
Edward & Suzanne Cardale celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary at the Mill, 13th August.
Cover picture: St Cecilia, by Sir Edward Burne-Jones, now in Princeton



What makes you feel happy? Apparently, it is not what most people think it is.



Job security, health of close relatives, strong connections in the community, a good sex life, are linked to happiness, according to a recent study by Essex University, but they are all beaten by—a good night's sleep.

8,000 Britons were surveyed and somehow given a score for how happy they were. Most of those with the highest 20% of scores reported feeling well rested most of the time; over half of those in the lowest 20 per cent of the scores said that they rarely, or never, felt well rested.

So how do we get a good night's sleep?? As often the case, Jesus had a clear recipe for happiness. In Matthew Chapter 6, verse 34 we read : *"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."* [I normally prefer modern translations of the Bible but here the King James version seems to strike just the right note.] Or how about : *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.* (John 14; 27 English Standard Version).

But, I hear you say, surely it is easier to be happy when one has enough money? Surprisingly the survey found that income had a weak association with wellbeing. A 50 per cent rise in disposable income contributed to just a 0.5 point increase in the "living well" score. Most of us have in fact too many possessions—me especially. We worry about burglars, or fire, or where to put them. I still remember a sermon of Edward Cardale in which he advised us to travel light.

And what about Faith? The reports of the Survey that I have read do not mention this factor, but if all else is equal, are believers happier than those without Faith? Impossible to say, but I for one am happy to believe in a God who loves me—and you.

Sunday 1st Trinity 16

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Family Service HARVEST FESTIVAL Jo Brooks

Sunday 8th Trinity 17

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

Tuesday 10th 2.30 pm Friendship Tea**Sunday 15th Trinity 18**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Morning Prayer leader tbc

Sunday 22nd Trinity 19

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11 am Holy Communion led by Sue Stilwell

Sunday 29th Bible Sunday

8am BCP Holy Communion led Paul Seymour

11 am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

**** Morning Prayer 10 am every Wednesday ******

Readings *(preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)*

1st Deuteronomy 8; 7-18; Psalm 65

8th Philippians 3; 4b -14; Matthew 21; 33-end

15th Philippians 4; 1-9; Matthew 22; 1-14

22nd 1 Thessalonians 1; 1-10; Matthew 22; 15-22

29th Colossians 3; 12-17 : Matthew 24; 30-35

Coffee after 11am Services.

Sunday 5th 4th Before Advent

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Family Service Jo Brooks

Sunday 12th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

10.50 am Wreath Laying followed by Service of Remembrance

Tuesday 14th 2.30 pm Friendship Tea**Sunday 19th 2nd Before Advent**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Morning Prayer led by tbc

Sunday 26th Christ the King

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11 am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

**** Morning Prayer 10 am every Wednesday ******

Readings (preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)

5th 1 John:3 1-3

Matthew 5: 1-12

12th tbc

19th 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30

26th Ephesians 1: 15-end Matthew 25: 31-end

Paul Seymour

Happily is now fit enough to return to work at least part-time.

Funeral/Memorial Service

On 31st July **Jean Dance**. See page 10 for a tribute to this remarkable lady.

Charity Bike Ride

for the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust took place on Saturday 9th September. See **Kevin Earl's** report on page 12. Top marks to those who took part.

Harvest Supper

is on **Friday October 6th**. See details on page 22.

Rev Ron Ingamells

Remarried, to **Ann Polley**, on the 11th August. The ceremony was conducted by the Bishop of Thetford, in the Jesus Chapel of St Peter Mancroft, Norwich. We wish them every happiness together. *See picture inside front cover.*

Edward and Suzanne Cardale

In bright sunshine celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 18th August in the lovely grounds of the Mill in Lemsford. A splendid day was had by all. *See picture inside front cover.*

A generous gift

Hazel Macarthur has given a really useful present to the Church: the Yamaha organ played by her late

partner, **Bob Thomas**. It is light weight, sounds terrific and has already proved useful in choir practices. Our Musical Director, **Tim Armstrong-Taylor** can play it and direct in front of the choir instead of being trapped behind the permanent organ console. Thank you Hazel—I am sure Bob would be pleased.



This gift inspired the cover picture, of the patron saint of musicians, Cecilia, whose Feast day falls on 22nd November.

Youth events

Jo Brooks writes on page 18. NB **Harvest Festival** is on October 1st and **Shoobox Sunday** is on November 5th, both Family Services.

Parish Magazine copy date for the next issue: **19th November**

Jean's Memorial Service took place on 31st July, conducted by Rev Edward Cardale.

Jean lived within a mile or so of St Johns all her life, and made a great contribution to the Church and Village over much of that time. She was born in Cromer Hyde and from her teens sang in the church Choir - she was a Choir member for over 40 years. She married Bill in 1952 in the Church. Jean worked for Ferramic Industries in WGC, as P.A. to the manager for over 30 years.



Jean put much time and effort into service to our village and community, initially with young people in the old Village Hall, then as a governor and friend to St John's School. For many years she organised monthly gatherings for the elderly in the present Village Hall as well as providing day trips away for which they paid nothing. She was a keen and meticulous scorer for Letchworth cricket club, supporting Bill in one of his various sporting roles. She arranged flowers in the church, and was a very faithful, regular attender. On a recent Sunday the flowers in Church were dedicated to her memory.

Sadly Jean and Bill lost their son Chris, suddenly, in 2016. Their other son David is at present very seriously ill. So our thoughts and prayers go out to him at this difficult time.

Her ashes are due to be interred in the Garden of Remembrance in October. **May she rest in peace**

Philippa Elliston, daughter of **Lesley**, died on 26th June and her funeral was held on 13th July, conducted by **Rev Ron Ingamells**, eulogy given by anex-colleague, **John Cork**.. She was the daughter of Lesley, long a member of St Johns, now living in High Oaks Road. Born in 1948 in Welwyn Garden she spent seven years of her childhood in Wolverhampton. She attended Templewood School on return, then St Albans Grammar School. After St Hildas College in Durham she trained as a teacher, then worked in a succession of schools in Boreham Wood. "She was an outstanding and wonderful professional, respected and liked by colleagues, pupils and parents, taken from us too soon."

You'll recall the letter written to you recently by our Churchwardens about St John's need for additional funds. Here's an "Easy" way which won't cost you an extra penny if you shop on-line.



Many on-line retailers have set aside a small % of their on-line sales revenue to promote themselves. Through an organisation called "Easy Fundraising" they are willing to donate this to worthy causes. Lots of organisations already use Easy Fundraising for fundraising e.g. Friends of Stanborough School (FOSS). We've now signed up "St Johns Church Lemsford" as a worthy cause.

So how do you shop via Easy Fundraising? First you register on their website : <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. There's nothing to pay and no bank acc details to put in! Next you choose "St Johns Church Lemsford" as the destination for donations. Then, when you shop online with people like Amazon or John Lewis, go to their online stores via the Easy Fundraising site before you check out your shopping basket. It's that easy.

What's it worth to us? Potentially a lot. To give you some idea: John Lewis (online) -> 1% of purchase price; Amazon -> 1.5% Gearformusic -> 2% to 3% (we bought the keyboard for Karl's 16th Birthday - St Johns could have got £10 for that alone).

Many organisations participate including Waitrose, Ebay (2.5%), House of Fraser, M&S, and lots of travel sites. The full list is on - the Easyfundrasing website. **PLEASE SIGN UP AND USE IT**

If you already do Easy Fundraising, then, you might like to know that I've switched my Easy Fundraising donations from FOSS to St Johns Church Lemsford because, right now, I think our need is greater, maybe you do too.

Frank
frank@puranik.org



Well, it couldn't really be any wetter than last year! This year the weather was largely reasonable for the Sponsored Bike n' Hike. We even saw some sunshine, as you can see in the photo of "Team Lemsford". The only heavy shower came just as Lucy and I reached the furthest point from Welwyn Garden City, so we were left facing the prospect of cycling home for the next two hours in heavy rain. But thankfully within ten minutes it was sunny again.



Well, we travelled 30 miles, visited 20 churches, and were offered about a dozen cups of tea along the way. Our route again took in the churches of WGC, Hertford and Ware and, while some calories were burned along the way, rather too many new ones were taken in thanks to cakes and biscuits offered by many of the churches. Our team was small this year – Lucy and myself plus Sarah Cuthbert with ten year old Evangeline. Evangeline was fantastic – cycling from the start at Lemsford to Hertingfordbury, and then all around the churches of Hertford, including Bengoe. And while I was normally tucking into cakes she was powered by grapes and other fruit! Once In Hertford we were joined by Richard Cuthbert and six year old Eliana, who tore around Hertford on her Mum's childhood bike while Richard chased after her on Evangeline's pink scooter, which was quite a sight!

Thanks again to all those who sponsored us this year. We should have raised **£450**, of which half will come to St Johns.

Since the last school report for the magazine we have had the excitement of many summer end of term events at St John's School. We have said a very fond farewell to Year 6 and have now had a few visits from some very grown up looking Year 7s in smart secondary school uniform! It is always so heart-warming to see them back, smiling and confidently starting at their new schools.

We have had some lovely activities and events since my last report. At the end of May, all St John's children enjoyed a 'Roald Dahl' story performance of The BFG, given by a very 'look-a-like' BFG! Our choir performed at the Welwyn Garden City Schools Music Festival, a new event this year which we were very keen to support. Mrs Nolan our music teacher prepared the children well and they had a fabulous experience at the Hawthorn Theatre. I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and was extremely proud of our pupils.

Class 4 enjoyed their residential trip to The Isle of Wight in June and were an exemplary group of children, receiving praise for excellent behaviour wherever they went. Ms Ng and her team were stopped in the street by members of the public to say how impressed they were! Thank you to staff (Ms Ng and Mrs Clynes) and to our Chair of Governors (Sally Laflin) who accompanied the children.

Class 3 went to The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge to complete their topic on Ancient Civilisations. They had a really wonderful day there and came back buzzing with interest and information.

Class 2 travelled to Hudnall Park for their trip and spent an exciting day involved in outdoor Science activities, exploring many different types of materials. A fun time was had by all. *(pictured)*



One of our new initiatives last year was to offer more music lessons for individuals or groups and RockSteady became part of this. We had about twenty children involved in group rock band sessions, learning drums, electric guitar, keyboard or vocals. The project has been a wonderful success and the Rocksteady concert at the end of term had us all totally amazed by what the children had achieved. We are looking forward to the next one at the end of this term.

Our end of year production this year was Aladdin and, led by our very committed KS2 staff team and Mrs Nolan, we all enjoyed another superb performance. It is always so special to see the children flourish and perform so confidently at this event. We continue our partnership with Quantum Care who attended a special performance for their elderly residents, followed by a tea party afterward hosted by the children. Well done to everyone.

This term has started really well and our new children have all settled in beautifully. We are hosting our New Parents' Cheese and Wine event on Monday 18th September which is an opportunity for the newer parents to meet us all, chat and put more names to faces.

We are now looking forward to Harvest Festival both at school and church. Hope to see many of you at the Harvest Service on Sunday 1st October.

Best wishes.
Mandy Evans
Head Teacher



at

This is the story of the Browns of Cromer Hyde, which started in about 1897 when **Alfred Henry Brown** aged 30 moved into the area to be one of three gamekeepers employed by Lord Mount Stephen at Brocket Hall. He brought with him a wife, **Mary Ann**, (pictured) three sons and a daughter. By the time they had finished producing children in 1918 they had created 11, of whom 9 lived to adulthood (four boys and five girls). The children (bar the last who died age one) all attended Lemsford School. After that the boys initially went into service or farm work, while the girls all went into service. The majority were affected by war, some disastrously. All but one moved away from the area. One emigrated to America. Not many of them produced children and the sole male descendant has only daughters., so this branch of the Brown family will die out eventually.



Alfred and Mary Ann had to leave the area when the first Lord Brocket took over the Brocket Estate in the early 1920s, and cut the number of gamekeepers. He was illiterate but one of his sons wrote letters on his behalf which enabled him to get a job for the Hon David Bowes Lyon, a son of the Earl of Strathmore at Southill Bedfordshire. He lived in the Lodge at Gastlings, and died there in 1943 aged 76. Mary Ann, went to live with her daughter Ivy at Bedford and died at the good old age of 99.

Their first son, **Ernest** (1891—1956) went into service and rose to be a footman for Lord and Lady Harrington of Elvaston Castle in Derbyshire. He travelled with the family when they went abroad. In the great War he joined the Prince of Wales Rifles and was wounded and had shell shock at the Somme. After the war he did not go back into service and for a time joined the YMCA organisation where he met and married Elsie Padley the daughter of the publican at the Chequers, (known as The Crooked Chimney in much later years) which they took over from her father. They retired in the early 1950s and went to live in a Licensed Victuallers and Brewers Home at Peckham in South London. (See a cartoon of him, generously padded, inside back cover).

Herbert, (1892—1954) the second son, started work as a farmers boy at Handside Farm where Welwyn Garden City now stands. He then joined Stebbens, the butchers in Hatfield before moving to a high class butchers in Hampstead, London In 1913 he joined the Metropolitan Police and married Emma Adams, the daughter of a widow who lived in the left hand lodge gate at Brocket. They lived at Southwark.

After attaining the rank of Station Sergeant he retired in 1938 only to be called back when War broke out to serve a further six years. He had two children, Mary and Herbert John (Jack). Jack is still alive aged 91 (Picture inside back cover) in Hull and has provided this interesting information . (Andy Chapamn has constructed a website for Herbert where you can read much more about the Browns: **hjbrownhistorian**).

Mildred, born 1893, went into service, married a farmer from Macclesfield and died in 1993.

Frederick born 1896 went into service as a footman. In the Great War he and his cousin Sam Turner joined Ernest in the Prince of Wales Rifles. He was wounded at the Somme and Sam was killed. After the War he joined the police at Motherwell but left and went to Australia where he was badly injured in an accident and had to come home. In a short while his fiancée broke her leg and died of complications. He died a broken man in 1958.

May and **Percy** were twins, the first children born in Cromer Hyde in 1899. **May** went into service and in 1928, when she was cook for the Duchess of Devonshire at Richmond Park, she met a footman Arthur Hawkins and they left service and he went into the insurance business. Unfortunately he had repeated attacks of malaria that he had caught in the army in Mesopotamia and had to give it up. They set up as a joint cook/butler unit and at one time she was cook for a Mr Batty, the equerry of the Prince of Wales. At parties often attended by the Prince, Arthur acted as waiter. When the War broke out they had to go into industry and joined the Kodak factory in Pinner, he as a packer and she as a cook in the large canteen. In a short while she was put in charge and they stayed on after the war, She died in 1998, 99 years old.

Percy become an estate worker and eventually the woodsman at Luton Hoo. He married a local girl and had one daughter, Beryl who married with no children. When his wife died and Luton Hoo was sold up he went to live with his daughter at Bexhill and died there in 1989.

Christine born in 1905 married a footman and emigrated to America where English Servants were in demand. She died in 1986.

Ivy was born in 1912. It was always said that her mother Mary wanted to call her Hyacinth but when Arthur was sent to register the birth, and the registrar asked how to spell it, he ducked out and said call her Ivy ! She rose to the post of ladies maid for the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury and lived at Lambeth Palace before she left to marry the boy next door at Southill. Ivy lived until 2002.

What's on at St John's?

Summer (what there was of it) has already turned to autumn and the children are back at school. It's a very exciting and emotional time of year, with children changing schools, moving on to college or university, or just starting out. Life is always on the move for all of us, not just the kids, and we all face challenges, get scared, learn and grow every day. It's so good to know that our loving and faithful God is with us in all of this, as both mother *and* father.



Anyway, as we head towards Christmas (there I've said it!) there's loads of great stuff in store at St John's. As always we celebrate Harvest and hope you can join us for an **All-Age Harvest Festival Celebration on Sunday 1st October at 11.00**. Please do bring gifts of food for sharing with those in need in our area. Beyond October we will be celebrating with family friendly services for **Bible Sunday on 29th October**, and **Shoebox Sunday on 5th November**, with our evening **Christingle service** and party in early December.

.. and the rest of the year?

Family services are always on the first Sunday of the month and **Sunday Club** meets every other Sunday *in term time* during the morning service for Bible stories, games, crafts, music and prayer. Everyone welcome to join us and share in God's love, from toddlers to Year 6. *If anyone would like to join us in the Sunday Club leadership team, please get in touch. There will be a drop-in session in October and training for new leaders. No experience required, just enthusiasm!*

Children are also very welcome at **Friendship Teas, on the 2nd Tuesday** of the month, from 2.30 in the annexe, and also at **Stay & Play** on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.00, also in the annexe.

Contact me at joholifield@gmail.com for more information about these events or our children's activities at St John's.

Wonderful fascinating creatures, unchanged for millions of years and still pollinating our crops. Ancient cave paintings show people taking honey from wild bees. Sadly bees are in serious trouble. due to loss of habitat and the use of agricultural chemicals.



My first meeting with bees took place in the 1950's at my grammar school in Devon, which had extensive grounds.

As part of a science lesson the teacher 'Johnny' Walker would open up a hive, wearing no more protection than a wide-brimmed hat with a net veil and a pair of leather gloves. So intent was he on his beloved bees that he failed to notice that the group of pupils was not quite as large as it had been, and there was the suspicious curl of cigarette smoke rising above the bushes!

Nearly sixty years later I attended a series of lectures at Christchurch on Parkway on the hobby of beekeeping, each week focussing on a different aspect of the craft. I also attended apiary visits, at Knebworth golf club, private houses and at a local farm which had about forty hives along the side of the field.

A friend living in Cornwall had several hives, but on moving to Devon had nowhere to keep them, so all his equipment ended up in my garage. He subsequently bought me a 'nuc', a small colony of bees together with its queen, which he delivered in a disposable cardboard hive. They eventually all marched in to their new home, and we identified the queen, who has a fetching yellow dot painted onto her back.

The local county bee officer came to inspect the hive, and was really excited to discover that they are Cornish 'brown bees' (although bred in Swindon). Apparently these are known for their good temper. I do not need to use a smoker when I open up the hive, which is quite unusual. My neighbours have got used to seeing me marching down the garden in my bee suit, looking like something out of Doctor Who.

Continued on page 22.

The first time that I opened the hive on my own I was a little nervous, and sometimes lifting the frames out can be quite hard work due to the bees sticking things together with propolis - bee superglue!

Being in an urban garden there is plenty of forage for them, but as summer progresses pollen and nectar become scarce, so the bees have to be fed on syrup and Ambrosia (very similar to bakers fondant) to make sure that they have enough stores to last the winter.

The queen lives in the ground floor of the hive, where she lays her eggs. She and the larvae are tended by the workers who feed them and keep the hive clean and throw out any dead bees. Other workers forage for the pollen and nectar, but the drones exist only to mate with the queen and play no part in looking after the hive. At the end of the summer when the queen stops laying eggs the drones get thrown out of the hive and then promptly die. Gentlemen take notice, and be glad that you do not throw out of your hive!



A fun and informative book to read is *The BAD beekeepers club*, by BBC presenter Bill Turnbull. You just hope that none of his disasters happen to you!

FAQ on bees—see page 24

HARVEST SUPPER ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL

Friday, 6th October 2017

7.00pm table quiz 7.30pm supper **TICKETS:** Adults £7.00

Children under 12 £3.00

Includes: Fruit juices; Quiche, chicken, cheese salad; Dessert
(Please bring your own wine and glasses)

Enjoy an evening of suspense, fun and laughter!

Tables of 6 for table and speed quizzes

followed by "BEETLE"

*As you, O Autumn, take pleasure in your great bounty,
let me also take delight
in the abundance of the simple things in life
which are the true source of joy.
With the golden glow of peaceful contentment
may I truly appreciate this autumn day.*

Unitarian Church

And finally What do you know about Bees??

Q: What do you get if you cross a bee with a door bell?

A: A hum dinger.

Q: Who is the bees favourite singer?

A: Sting.

Q: And their favourite pop group?

A: The Bee Gees.

Q: What do you call a bee that lives in America?

A: A USB

Q: Why do bees hum?

A: Because they've forgotten the words.

Q: What did the confused bee say?

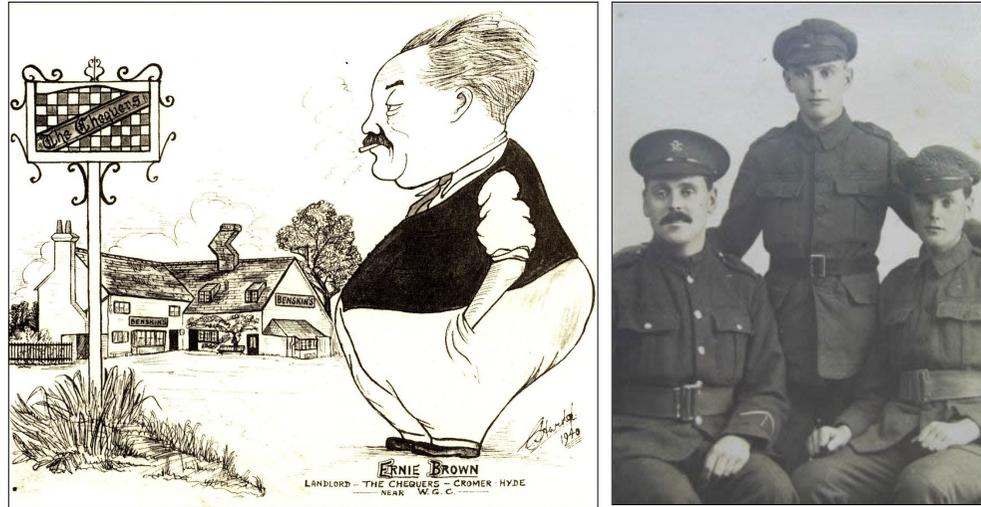
A: To bee or not to bee.

Q: What kind of animal kills a lot of people?

A: Hepatitis Bee.

Editor: sorry about these - must stop droning on about bees.

The Browns of Cromer Hyde (see pp 15/16)



Ernest Brown as landlord of the Chequers, and earlier as a soldier (on left). Fred his brother is on the right and Sam Turner cousin behind. Below is Jack Brown, the source of the article, with wife Eileen.

