

# THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISH OF MALEW

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THE ABBEY CHURCH, BALLASALLA  
MALEW PARISH CHURCH, CHURCH BENDS  
ST. MARK'S CHURCH, ST. MARK'S

MAY 2010AD

# AT YOUR SERVICE!

## Regular Sunday Services:

St. Mark's Church	8.00 am	Holy Communion (traditional)
	6.30 pm	Evensong (traditional)
		1st Sun. in month
Malew Parish Church	9.30 am	Holy Communion (traditional)
		2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday
		Morning Prayer (traditional)
		3rd Sunday
	10.30 am	Morning Prayer (traditional)
		1st Sunday
The Abbey Church	11.00 am	Holy Communion (modern)

## Wednesday Services:

The Abbey Church	7.00 pm	Holy Communion (modern)
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## Tuesday 11.30 am - 12.30 pm & Thursday 6 - 7 pm:

The Abbey Church  
Vicar available in Vestry  
(Please telephone – 822469 - to make your personal appointment!)

## Activities:

Abbey Acorns (age 4+)	Tuesday	3.30 - 5.00 pm
Little Sunbeam Club (under 4's + adult)	Wednesday	2.00 - 3.30 pm
Rainbows	Thursday	5.00 - 6.30 pm
Brownies	Thursday	6.30 - 8.00 pm
TASK (Abbey Sunday Kids)	Sunday	10.45 - 12.15 pm
Double Figures Club	Sunday	10.45 - 12.15 pm
Prayer Groups	Weekly	
Drop-In-For-Coffee	Friday	10.00 - 11.30 am
ALL - Abbey Ladies	Monthly	
Malew Mothers' Union	Monthly	
Men's Fellowship	Bi-Monthly	
Friendly Group	Monthly	

## WATCH OUT FOR!

T. T. CAFÉ: The Hall, Abbey Church, 05 - 12 June inc.  
CHRISTIAN SPIRIT WEEKEND: Ballasalla, 09 - 11 July inc.

**MALEW VICARAGE: May, 2010AD**

Welcome to our 42-page (!) May edition of THE BRIDGE with both a coloured A3 centre-page insert, plus our new A4 coloured insert right at the beginning. (It's pages 3 and 4 really!).

Firstly, take out the coloured A3 insert in the middle of THE BRIDGE - as ever, pin it on your notice board, and you will know who to contact for 'this and that' - otherwise Tim (Mann's) four page article will not make any sense.

My thanks to him this month; and also for the two reports from our Churchwardens at Malew and the Abbey, in answer to a request from Bishop Robert about how we make use of our churches. Let me know what YOU think. The Churchwardens at St. Mark's have also submitted their very own report for our Bishop, and I will print that in next month's edition of THE BRIDGE: there was simply no more space this month (see above).

Also, let me know - and our Churchwardens - what YOU think in regards to Bishop Robert's request to cancel all our Church Services on Sunday 20 June. I happen to think that our Bishop puts forward a persuasive argument but, to be fair, I also know that some of our Churchwardens do not wholly agree with him.

If you think that I'm 'sucking-up' to Bishop Robert, I'm not! Just read what I said at my last Annual General Meeting; and also my comments on the first page of your A3 coloured insert. In short, my vision for the Church of England in the future, and Bishop Robert's vision in the future are probably 'poles apart', but that's O.K. Democracy, and all that! Notwithstanding, as a Bishop with a 'mind of his own' (am I allowed to say that?) - actually, it is a compliment! - your Churchwardens will have to be equally strong-minded when it comes to discussing with 'the powers that be' the future of the Parish of Malew in general, and your new incumbent in particular. I wish them well! (M)

P.S. Marjorie (Kelly) reminds me that we have a Projector Screen and Table; plus 3 Blinds for sale. The first offer takes any of them! Also, give Marjorie your Spring Fayre 'Sale' items ASAP!

# SPRING FAYRE



The Abbey Church

Ballasalla

2 pm

Saturday 22 May 2010

*All sorts of Stalls!*

Entrance: £4 inc. traditional Manx tea  
(reductions for children)

## Annual General Meeting 2010

My last Annual General Meeting – number 17, no less! How very strange! However, first of all, not only on behalf of myself but on behalf of everyone who is involved with any of our three Churches, not the least of which are the Churchwardens, PCC Members, our Secretary and Treasurer – thank you so much to all who contribute to making ours an outreaching, loving and cohesive community, community being the operative word.

As you can see from the Agenda – and as you would expect - there are all sorts of reports to prepare in the future: a number for our new Bishop; and decisions will soon be made on our ongoing finances, and maintaining the fabric of our buildings, to name but two. I am not going to dwell on these here and now: there will be more than enough time to do that in the months and years ahead.

Whilst I would not take away from any of the work the Bishop is undertaking which will benefit the Diocese, I am not sure looking at the bigger picture that they will swell our congregations.

Recently I read an article where a young working Mum said she was a Christian and would go to Church but whenever she tried, she either met a lot of miserable people who harped on about sin, or others who were so joyful they didn't seem to have a real grip on to day to day life for the ordinary person in the street.

I am coming to believe that the way to introduce people to our Church community is through social events where they can see we are ordinary fun loving people who experience the same problems they do. Witness our recent Easter breakfast which was, in fact, enjoyed by nearly 50 people; but the aim was to invite new people to be with us by circulating a letter informing of the event to every household in the Parish. Not one 'new' person attended because I think the idea of the Church service that followed they found somewhat threatening, or like more and more people today they just don't know what does happens in our Churches and are wary of 'Religion' with the various conflicts based on faith.

