

THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISH OF MALEW



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

OCTOBER 2010AD

AT YOUR SERVICE!

Regular Sunday Services:

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

TRAA DY LIOOAR TIME ENOUGH!!

Over the years, and especially during the summer holiday period, I have often put in the notice board at the front of the Abbey Church, the well known poem that ends with the words:-

*"A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare".
(W. H. Davies: 1871 - 1940)*

Partly, this has been because I am well aware - as you no doubt are! - of how often we hear people say: 'I've too much to do'; or 'I've been so busy'; or 'There's not enough time'; or something similar. However, read the following words, taken from a prayer: one could say that they are a lesson for us all, especially me!

*"Lord, despite rushing round in circles,
I could achieve far more
if only I were to get my priorities right
and focus on the things that matter.
So little of what I do
is as pressing as I think
and so much gets me nowhere.
Teach me to make time
- for me, for others and for you.
Amen."*

When I am off the Island, resting - if you like - in God's presence, it is always a time for me to take stock, and prepare for the months ahead; and such was the situation during my recent trip to Oberammergau.

P.T.O.

I found myself reviewing my frustration in that, over the years, there has been less and less time for visiting people. The christening, the funeral, the wedding, the sick visiting, the meetings - even though, as most of you know, I don't like them, even I have to attend when the Bishop requests!! - and the children's groups, and so on and so forth, all take a lot of time. Needless to say, I am not complaining, but it is worth noting here that, sadly, as the number of clergymen to cover parishes decreases, the more so will their focus be on the events listed above.

However, happily, here in the Parish of Malew, there are now people in place to take charge of, for example, the Men's Fellowship and the Children's groups and - with particular reference to the latter, whilst I will pop in and see how they are getting on, I won't need to spend the whole session with them. Similarly, whilst I will participate fully in meetings, it is my intention to let other people undertake the 'follow-through' actions.

Accordingly I will then be able - hopefully! - to put all that 'spare-time' under the heading of "Visiting".....and so my objective for the next six months is to visit every single person on our Electoral Roll, all 125 of you! Dare I say, have the coffee and tea pots at the ready!!!

In short, I will be doing what I enjoy most, spending time with you, the members of our three Churches.

God Bless.

Michael

THE ABBEY CHURCH

WELCOMERS

READERS

PRAYERS

COLLECTION

FLOWERS

OCTOBER 2010 AD	10TH	17TH	24TH	31ST
Welcomers	DONALD	BARBARA L.	JEAN C.	JO
Readers	SALLY	DAVID	BARBARA H.	PETER
Reading	2 TIMOTHY Chapter 2 Verses 8 - 15	2 TIMOTHY Chapter 3 Verses 14 - end	2 TIMOTHY Chapter 4 Verses 6 - 8	2 THESSALONIAN Chapter 1 Verses 1 - end
Prayers	MARGARET	CAROLINE	ELLEN	ANDREA
Collection	ANN and MIKE	TED and JOHN L.	ANDREA and LILLIAN	CHURCH WARDENS
Flowers	JĒAN	LILLIAN	JO	JO

A 'helping-hand' each week: Ted. If you are away, please arrange a 'swop'. If you would like to be included in the Rota please see the Vicar.

BIBLE STUDY

It has been our custom, in the recent past, to take a week's break between our Wednesday BIBLE STUDY evenings, but a number of you have said to me over the summer that this can be confusing, in that one can never remember which Wednesday is which! Accordingly, our 7 Autumn Wednesday evenings this year will be consecutive, beginning with BIBLE STUDY on...

Wednesday, 3rd November: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

Wednesday, 10th November: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

Wednesday, 17th November: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

ADVENT COURSE

Immediately following the above, our 4 week 2010 ADVENT COURSE will commence utilizing, as last year, the Church Bookshop's recommended Advent Course. Accordingly, we will meet as follows...

Wednesday, 24th November: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

Wednesday, 1st December: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

Wednesday, 8th December: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

Wednesday, 15th December: 8.00 p.m. at the Vicarage

N.B.

I will lead the two 'first' meetings (3rd November and 24th November) but - just like last year! - if any member wishes to take one of the subsequent meetings, they would be most welcome.

MALEW MOTHERS' UNION 1910 - 2010

Yes! The Malew Mothers' Union celebrates its century this year - Barbara (Hyde) told me, and I'm delighted to say that she knows about these things! - and so it is right and proper that we celebrate such an auspicious occasion. Accordingly, a small 'working party' is organising a very "Special Centenary Service", and all I can say at this stage is that we will inform you of all the details as soon as possible. (M)

P. S. One or two Members have taken me to task for criticising the Mothers' Union. However, on the contrary, I can state quite clearly that I am a firm believer in the values of the Mothers' Union. Indeed, just see what Margaret (Dyson) is organising: you will find it later in this edition of THE BRIDGE. However, continue reading, and you will see why I am disappointed with the M. U. especially in England. I am not at all convinced that the Leadership is 'living in the modern world'.

FRIENDLY GROUP

For all manner of reasons - the passing of time; and the death of members - the FRIENDLY GROUP does not meet on a regular basis but, as some say, 'I've a soft spot' for them. Therefore, why don't you arrange to meet say, in December, for a Christmas Lunch. Simply let Marjorie (Kelly) know your thoughts. And you know what...I'm now of an age where I could join you all!!! (M)

NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW N

Since I printed 'Dates for Your Diaries' I have been given 3 more: a 'Ploughman's Lunch' on 30 October; a 'Modern Music, Musings & Memories Evening' on 31 October; and a 'Bonfire and Fireworks Party' on, of course, 5 November: dates for your diaries indeed...and all advertised in this edition of THE BRIDGE!

An invitation to the Abbey Church, Malew
Church & St. Mark's Church People to a



BONFIRE & FIREWORKS PARTY

commencing 6 p.m.

Friday 5 November 2010

at Malew Vicarage,

St. Mark's Road, Ballasalla

**Fireworks, Beefburgers, Hot Dogs and Soft
Drinks etc. will be provided but BYOD applies
to stronger beverages! No official charge is
being made but voluntary contributions would
be appreciated! Proceeds to Church Funds.**

**Please note: Full safety precautions have been
arranged but parents are requested to monitor their
own children.**

Bookings are being taken on Tel.822469

ONE-LINERS

I actually used three of these in a recent sermon - but which three? - and here are the others.....

"I've just been on a once-in-a-lifetime holiday. I'll tell you what....Never again".

With that quickfire gag, comedian Tim Vine (he who used to present the quiz show "Whittle") had won the prize for the funniest one-liner at the recent Edinburgh Fringe.

Here's a selection of some of his best one-liners - it just goes to show that you can just as easily laugh yourself silly without having to listen to continuous swearing or other offensive material. Hope these make you smile as much as they did us.

So I rang up British Telecom and said: 'I want to report a nuisance caller'. He said 'not you again'.

I saw this bloke chatting up a cheetah and I thought: "he's trying to pull a fast one".

You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on my windscreen which said "parking fine". So that was nice.

So I said to the gym instructor: "can you teach me to do the splits?" He said: "how flexible are you?" I said: "I Can't make Tuesdays"

I was taking the motorway out of London. A policeman pulled me over and said: "Put it back".

I went to the butchers the other day and the butcher said: "I bet you £5 you can't guess the weight of that meat on the top shelf". "I'm not gambling" I said, "The steaks are too high".

When I left home, my Mum said: "Don't forget to write". I thought: "That's unlikely - it's a basic skill isn't it?"

Velcro.....what a rip-off.

I wanted to be a milkman - but I didn't have the bottle.

I used to go out with an anaesthetist - she was a local girl.

I was walking down the road the other day and I saw this advert in the window that said: "Television for sale, £1, volume stuck on full". I thought: "I can't turn that down".

I've played football on a plane, you know.....there I was, running up the wing!

A friend of mine always wanted to be run over by a steam train. When it happened, he was chuffed to bits!

WINTER WARMERS

Winter is now approaching and with the memory of the coldest December for the last 13 years not far behind us, it is appropriate to think of the comfort of a hot plate of lunch-time soup, such as the following:

Greeba Special

1 pack of Greeba Portabello mushrooms	1 onion
2 cloves garlic	50 gm butter
500 ml water	1 slice of brown bread
3 tablespoons half-fat crème fraiche	salt and pepper

Chop the onion and garlic finely. Peel the mushrooms and slice them. Cut the crusts from the bread and crumble it.

Fry the onion and garlic in the butter, (using a good-sized saucepan) until they are soft; add the mushrooms and water, bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes.

Stir in the bread crumbs, add the crème fraiche, salt and pepper and liquidise in a blender.

Heat gently and serve.

Prince`s Potage

4 leeks	4 potatoes
1 onion	2 cloves of garlic
a small pot of single cream	2 cups of vegetable or chicken stock
salt and pepper	

Chop leeks, onion and garlic finely, cube the potatoes. Combine in a large saucepan with the stock. Season and bring to the boil, then simmer for 20 minutes. Liquidise in the blender, stir in the cream, reheat gently and serve.

Beans and Bacon

1 tin of mixed beans	2 rashers of bacon
1 onion	50 ml olive oil
500 ml water	salt and pepper

Chop the onion finely, cut the bacon into small dice. Gently fry these together in the oil.

Add the beans and water, season with salt and pepper, and liquidise. Heat gently and serve.

If a more robust soup is desired, omit the liquidisation, and cut the vegetables uniformly small.

S. L. Thrower

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Thursday 11am - 7pm (*LATE NIGHT*)

Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 9am - 5pm

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The Reverend Michael Roberts, Malew Vicarage,
St. Mark's Road, Ballasalla. Telephone: 822469
E-Mail: revroberts@manx.net

Michael welcomes visitors to the Vicarage at any time;
and he is also available in The Abbey Church Vestry
from 11.30 am - 12.30 pm Tuesdays and 6 - 7 pm Thursdays.
Simply ring the number above to make an appointment.

WANTED CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR

BIG *Book* SHARE

We need good-as-new copies of children's books (all ages from infants to teens) to be used in an important new project in the Mothers' Union Prison Outreach.

THE BIG BOOK SHARE is a simple-to-operate scheme that enables children to share, read and discuss favourite books with a parent in prison.

**BUT WE NEED YOUR BOOKS -
LOTS OF THEM!**

FOR COLLECTION OF BOOKS
FROM BALLASALLA AND
THE SOUTH PLEASE CONTACT
MARGARET DYSON (824255)

Want to know more?

Look for the information leaflet

Want to donate some books?

Please contact:

Caroline Salmon

Tel: 361680

Email mu.iom.dev@gmail.com

Heather or Keith Reynolds

Tel: 624542

Mothers' UNION 
Christian care for families
DIOCESE OF SODOM AND GEEB

THE MOTHERS' UNION

**...a 'pat on the back' for Sodor & Man
...and a 'slap on the wrist' for London.**

As you will see from the previous page, our Mothers' Union are fully involved in 'The Big Book Share' - my sincere thanks to Margaret (Dyson) - and I urge everybody to support this initiative and give all your unwanted children's books.

On the other hand - see the next page - I believe that the Mothers' Union Across are talking complete and utter balderdash with regard to their comments relating to 'children not consumers'. It was ever thus. Indeed, I'm sure my own parents were encouraged to buy me the "1956 Marvelman Annual" for Christmas that year (You've guessed! I've still got it on my bookshelf...and no, Margaret, you can't have that one!)

"Families can feel overwhelmed by the commercialisation of childhood..." Whatever does that mean? It's just modern day 'jargon-speak' and means, in-fact, absolutely nothing. When asked by the child, for a product the parent doesn't actually want to buy the child, the parent simply says "No." And, crucially, "No" means "No". It is not a debating point between child and parent; as so often seems to be the case today.

And so, I would respectfully suggest that what the Mothers' Union are really talking about here is 'bad parenting'. Mothers' Union members, please concentrate on that and then, almost as if by default, you won't have to worry in the least about the 'commercialisation of childhood' or whatever you may call it.

Michael.

P.S. I was told the other day that a female's body is ideally 'primed' to give birth in their late teens or early twenties - I have to admit that I haven't checked out this fact! - and it was followed by this pertinent question: "Why hasn't the Mothers' Union, then, any members in their late teens or early twenties?" Over to you M. U. Members... ..

Together



... making Christ visible

The Diocese of Sodor and Man

www.sodorandman.im

October 2010



Our children are growing up believing they are what they own.

The Mothers' Union believes children should be valued as children not consumers. However, childhood has

become a marketing opportunity worth £99 billion in the UK! Marketers target children's natural inexperience through methods such as celebrity endorsement in order to reach not only children's pocket money but also the household purse. These commercial pressures encourage materialism which negatively affects children's wellbeing, family life and peer relationships, and can encourage values that Jesus taught us were deeply harmful. The use of sexual content to market and sell goods is particularly concerning. Families can feel overwhelmed by this commercialisation of childhood and unsure how to challenge powerful marketing initiatives.

In response to this, the Mothers' Union has launched a major campaign to

- raise awareness of the commercialisation of childhood,
- empower families to address the influences of the commercial world within the home,
- hold governments accountable to their pledges to address the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood and,
- through Mothers' Union members, lobby political representatives.

The Mothers' Union has released a report highlighting new research findings along with campaign materials for anyone to get involved. They are also producing a booklet for families to help them think through the issues and manage the impact of the commercial world within the home.

For further details, please go to the campaign website at www.byebuychildhood.org

Bye Buy Test

Use this test when shopping to help you think about what or who is influencing your choices:

- ? Why do I want to buy it?
- O How often will I use it?
- E Can I afford it?
- X What will happen if I don't buy it?

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Now that the evenings are drawing in, temperatures dropping and heating needed for midweek prayer and committee meetings, have you considered the savings that could be made by gathering in a home? You are likely to be more comfortable and contribute to CO2 reduction within the diocese. In the event that no one has a room large enough for your group, how about asking if your local pub would let you use an already heated room for your meeting? You then join the locals in the bar and maybe even engage in evangelism.

Brian Evans-Smith

CATHEDRAL REGENERATION SCHEME

A presentation was given to the British and Irish Council Social Regeneration Group at the Cathedral on 23rd September entitled ***How can we enable wider civic activity?*** Delegates were informed of how the Cathedral Project will bring social and economic regeneration to the west and the Island. The Business Advisory Group has been a member of the Sub-regeneration group in Peel and has worked to develop partnerships with the commissioners.

If you would like to become part of the Business Advisory Group (BAG) please contact Val Garrett on 401435 or valg@manx.net. You can see the proposed plans in the cathedral or on the Connect2Charity website.

Val Garrett

HELEN'S HARVEST TEA



2pm

**Saturday 16 October
in**

The Hall

Abbey Church, Ballasalla

including the
'Famous Abbey Harvest Tea'
with stalls and raffles

£4

Proceeds to Church Funds

Ms Jean Buckley
17 The Crescent
Derbyhaven

Mrs Jean Clifton
Ballacroft
1 Glashen Close
Ballasalla,
IM9 2AB

1 October 2010

Dear Friend,

TT Café 4-11 June 2011

We are prepared to do the TT café again in 2011, but we need help to do so.

Would you be able to help in any way for a few hours on one or more of the above dates? We would be grateful for your help. Perhaps you would indicate what you are able to do on the list below and return it to me. We need this information as soon as possible as the publicity has to be started now so that it is mentioned in all the media from the Tourist Board.

Yours sincerely,


Jean Clifton

Name:

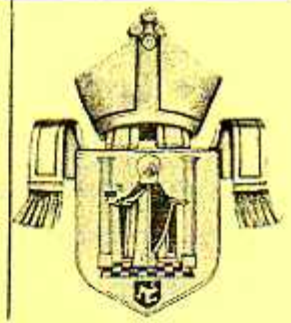
	Please indicate
Cooking breakfast	
Cooking lunch	
Cooking afternoon	
Serving tables - morning	
Serving tables - lunchtime	
Serving tables - afternoon	
Clearing tables	

	Please indicate
Washing up	
Baking cakes	
Making soup	
Dish of the day	
Making sandwiches	
Washing tea towels	
Cleaning the hall	

A word from the Bishop

Dear Friends,

An old and dear friend gave me a present recently. It is a carved wooden statue of a weary pilgrim returning from Santiago di Compostela, the destination for a millennium of pilgrimages to the supposed burial-place of Saint James the Great (son of Zebedee, brother of John). Carved into his robe is a scallop shell, the sign of Saint James.



For many years I have loved to look at that statue in my friend's house, and, now over 90, she wanted to hand it on to a custodian who would treasure it, as I certainly do. So, the pilgrim has been spruced up and soon you'll be able to see him if you come to Thie yn Aspick.

There are two kinds of pilgrim: one who goes on some kind of excursion (nowadays usually lasting no more than a couple of weeks) to a significant place, and then returns home. That's really not a pilgrimage; it may be a very moving experience but it's not really what our ancestors called 'pilgrimage'. Those who spent months (or more) trekking across Europe to the far north-west of Spain sometimes never reached their goal; many never made it back home again.

The New Testament speaks of pilgrimage as something from which we never return because, on this side of eternity, we never reach our goal and are always 'on the way'. Describing the great saints and martyrs of old, the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews characteristically says: ***"Although they had not received the things promised, yet they had seen them far ahead and welcomed them, and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens without fixed abode on earth. Those who speak in that way show plainly that they are looking for a country of their own. If their thoughts had been with the country they had left, they could have found opportunity to return. Instead, we find them longing for a better country, a heavenly one. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he has a city ready for them."*** (Hebrews 11. 13-16)

I don't think it's a coincidence that a 'synod' is (literally) a group of people who are 'together on the way'. Thus for over two years in this Diocese we have been 'together on a special way': first researching with immense care and consultation the right way forward, then engaging in clear explanation, full discussion and consensual decision-making, and now we have begun resolute but not inflexible implementation (which, in itself, involves more consultation). It is very re-assuring to know that Her Majesty has recently signified her agreement to all the important matters we put to her concerning the Crown-patronage parishes, and so we can now proceed with more speed and with apologies to those which have been held in vacancy for so long. The next leg of our journey together is now becoming clear.

Thanks be to God.

Your own in Christ,
+ Robert.



*Bishop Robert with
newly-confirmed
Maureen Reynolds*

P.S. Please may we consider sometimes reading all three appointed Bible readings and Psalm at our principal services, and with less haste, some silence and more care? Thank you. +R.

The Reverend Canon Norma Cole



We record with sadness that Norma will be retiring on 30th November as Vicar of Rushen, owing to a prolonged period of ill-health. Norma and David joined us in 2004 and she became the first woman priest to be made an Honorary Canon of St German's Cathedral. (Norma will retain the style of 'Canon Emeritus'.)

We wish Norma good health in the future and a long and happy retirement. *(All retired clergy take a break from functioning in a public capacity for 6 months after retirement in order to adjust their lifestyles!)*

Churches Together In Mann Questionnaire

As you are aware the 20th Manx Heritage Flower Festival has finished and it is now an appropriate time to consider the future of this C.T.M. event

It is felt that after 20 successful years the format, including the date, duration and feasibility of the Churches and Chapels to organise and provide manpower, is no longer sustainable. Indeed for several years the difficulties that 21st century lifestyles, ageing congregations and increased costs cause, have been increasingly expressed to the Task Force when they have been trying arrange the event for the following year. These problems have also been compounded by the alteration of the date of the Car Rally to the same week as the Festival and the reduction of funding from the Government which will cease by 2012.

The Task Force have indicated to the C.T.M. Executive that they feel that to continue until 2012 will only result in a slow death for the Festival and that this year's event makes the ideal time to finish the existing event.

In order to make an informed decision we would ask you to discuss the content of the questionnaire with your congregation and complete the form and return it as soon as possible to the current Chairperson :- Mr. Colin Gurney, 34 Ballaughton Manor Hill, Saddlestone, Braddan IM2 1NU

Yours sincerely
The Flower Festival Task Force

In the first instance, please have a word with Jean (Clifton) and Lillian (Burnett) - when the latter returns from holiday in the middle of October - and then I'm sure that the combined wisdom of all our 'Flower Ladies' will see the questionnaire answered accordingly. (Please turn over for the questionnaire).

