

The Rector writes... "When words create new things" was the title of a Church Times article in April which was about the Oxford Linguistic Philosopher, J L Austin, do read on, please (!) the centenary of whose birth falls this year, a name I had forgotten about for a long time but took me back to the sixties when I read Philosophy for a first degree at Exeter. Much of Philosophy then was "linguistic" – how we do things with words – and Austin wrote about how Words "create" things , for example, "No Smoking " signs an "No Trespassing" signs which create zones of permitted behaviour or not, as the case may be. I thought about these performative utterances in relation to a wedding I took and, of course, we have just recently had the Royal Wedding. When you reflect about it when a couple make their vows ,symbolized by the exchange of rings, they have , as J L Austin would have put it , "created a new thing", in this case, "a marriage", which did not exist before. There are indeed lots of occasions, particularly in church, when language creates new things, such as at a Baptism or Christening when new Christians come into being or at the Eucharist when the take bread and wine, speaks what we call the words of institution, and so sacramentally the bread and wine become for us the very presence of Christ himself. Words have a power beyond being more words on a page when uttered on a special contest like a wedding, creating "new things". Perhaps we should reflect more than we do on the words we use to express what we believe which might help us grow in faith and understanding as we make our journey through life.

SUNDAY SERVICES: All are welcome to services at all our churches!

SUNDAY 1 MAY EASTER 1

8.00 Holy Communion Lydham
9.15 Holy Communion Hyssington
10.00 Family Worship Churchstoke
10.30 All Age Service & Holy Communion Ratlinghope
11.15 Holy Communion Norbury
1.00 Christening (James Joseph Rogers) Wentnor
6.30 "Throne & Altar" Special Service Wentnor

SUNDAY 8 MAY 8.30 EASTER 2

8.30 Holy Communion Wentnor
9.45 Holy Communion Ratlinghope
10.00 Morning Praise Hyssington
11.15 Holy Communion Churchstoke
11.15 Holy Communion More
6.30 Evening Prayer Norbury

SUNDAY 15 MAY CHRISTIAN AID WEEK BEGINS

10.00 Holy Communion Snead (Preb Michael Pollit)
11.15 Morning Praise Lydham (Julia Francis)
11.15 Morning Praise Churchstoke (David Jelves)
6.30 Evening Prayer Wentnor (Barry Preston)

SUNDAY 22 MAY

8.30 Holy Communion Norbury
9.45 Holy Communion Myndtown
9.45 Morning Praise (Lay Led) Ratlinghope
11.15 Methodist Holy Communion Churchstoke
2.30 United Service Hyssington
6.30 Evening Prayer: "Christian Aid " Service More

SUNDAY 29 MAY EASTER 5 ROGATION SUNDAY

10.30 BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION RATLINGHOPE

Wednesday Morning Prayer 8.30am All are welcome to this short weekly act of worship from all the parishes.
4 May Lydham; 11 May Hyssington; 18 May More; 25 May Wentnor; 1 June Myndtown.

NEWS ROUND

On Monday 11 April the official launch of the **Clun Forest Deanery Church Tourism** brochure by Rt Rev Alistair Magowan, Bishop of Ludlow took place at The Crown, Wentnor. Representatives of the twenty seven parishes in the deanery attended and the Bishop paid tribute to all those who had produced such an excellent guide, especially Bob Calver who prepared the text and Roger Turner who had taken the photos of all the deanery churches. Thanks were extended to the Church Commissioners who had funded the project and to "The Crown" for hosting the launch. We hope the Guide will encourage visitors and locals to go and see our many attractive churches and maybe catch something of the Christian Faith which lies behind why they are there!

Bishop Alistair Magowan has written a welcome in the brochure, "The south west corner of Shropshire is beautiful and if you explore the churches you will go from valley bottoms to more than a thousand feet above sea level, and through stunning countryside and views. You'll go from pre-Christian sites to churches marked by the centuries since then, with every church telling its part in the story of this part of the country."

The brochure features a picture of every one of the churches and highlights some of the special points of interest in each building and churchyard. Visitors will know that they can see a yew tree that is two thousand five hundred years old (2500) in Norbury churchyard, spot a twelfth century (12th C) font originally used for corn in Snead, carved Jacobean pews in Lydbury North and twenty first century (21stC) stained glass in the Norman church in Clunbury! Half of the churches featured are Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings, which indicates how important they are to the landscape.

'Yesterday & Today: Lydham, More & Snead Celebrating Life in Three Border Villages' On Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th March there was a very special exhibition at Lydham Village Hall - 'Yesterday and Today' - celebrating Life in the three border parishes- of Lydham, More and Snead'. The exhibition was organized by local historians David and Janet Preshous and a team of people, drawn from the parish of Lydham and beyond, who kindly put on this Exhibition in support of the three parishes, but particularly to raise funds to restore the Lydham East Window. The exhibition covered all aspects of rural life in the parishes going back over 100 years, farming, country life, the churches, families, special occasions, tithe maps, local estates, Bishop's Castle Railway and much more! Over 250 people attended over the two days and more than £1200 was raised for the churches. Refreshments were kindly provided by Lydham, More & Snead WI and support for the Exhibition came from "God's Acre" Sacred Spaces funding. The Exhibition was absolutely fascinating, well-supported, and much appreciated by all those with local connections.

As the Rector, Rev Norman Morris, said..."Our grateful thanks to David and Janet Preshous, their team, the Churchwardens, Neil Hird and Joyce Yapp, and many more for a wonderful weekend at Lydham, delving into the past and reminding us of the challenges and joys of past rural life!"

David & Janet Preshous write "Our thanks to Neil Hird and the Rector who have done so much to make the church restoration possible and who encouraged us to put on the exhibition. We particularly appreciated the hard work of Shirley and Derek Rowson, and Joyce and Corwen Yapp, and the whole-hearted support of Lydham, More, & Snead WI members. We are also most grateful for the backing of the SWSHAS Committee and Enterprise House / Village Outreach, and for financial support from Caring for God's Acre (Sacred Spaces).

We have been reading a letter we wrote after the 1998 Harvest Home exhibition and our feelings today reflect very closely those expressed then: delight at the obvious success of the event, and gratitude to the many who contributed to that success. It was a true community celebration with everyone pulling together to make sure things ran smoothly. We had lots of help putting up and dismantling the exhibition, with stewarding, and general oversight, and, of course, with the excellent Draw and magnificent W.I. refreshments which not only brought in a lot of money but made it a festive occasion.

The provisional financial figures are: Draw £232; Refreshments £195-61; Donations £89-15; and Admissions £719-85, making a grand total of £1236-61.... most gratifying!

Thank you all very much: it has been a real pleasure to present an exhibition which, as we said last time, puts the three parishes 'on the map' and gives such enjoyment and excitement to so many.

Work has begun on the East and West windows of Lydham Church - costing around £70,000 - with funding from English Heritage, Historic Churches and from local fundraising - further contributions are very welcome - please contact the Rector, Rev Norman Morris at Wentnor Rectory SY9 5EE or ring 01588 650244.

On Sunday 20 March there was a special Celebration Exhibition service at Lydham Church at 10.30am, as part of the festivities when the preacher was Canon Richard France, formerly Rector of the parishes, who has strong family connections with these border parishes.

On Thursday 31 March, we are grateful to “Castle Voices” who gave an excellent and well-supported Concert at Lydham Church for the Church Restoration Fund and Air Ambulance.

The **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** have taken place and our grateful thanks to all those who serve as Officeholders and PCC members of our churches. Once again its been a busy year with lots of achievements though tempered by sadness at the loss in some parishes of very loyal and longstanding members and tributes were repaid to then at the Annual meetings = we always need new PCC members, supporters and helpers of all kinds! Please let the Rector know if you know if you can contribute in any way.

LOCAL MINISTRY NEWS: The **Local Ministry Team** runs a **Prayer Line** which is like the School Snow Line. You phone the first number and we phone several volunteers to pray for any worrying situation you feel you need help with. Prayer request number: contact 0782 7750 665.

News of The Local Ministry Team: Members are : Anita Bright (Wentnor & Myndtown), David Hardham (Ratlinghope), Trish Macmullan (Snead); Janet Wilcoxon (Lydham & More), David Jelves (Churchstoke), Capt Jon Price, Canon Julia Francis, Margaret Wallsgrove (Hyssington) & Rev Norman Morris.

We always welcome new members, especially at this stage when we are renewing with a new Team for another four years. . “Calling out” is being called this month of May and June , so please look around and if you think someone young or old would be a good potential team member, please put her or his name forward. The Local Ministry team has been a major success story in the parishes these past five years, both for the members in their spiritual development but also the parishes, in terms of ministry, worship and mission. Please let’s take Local Ministry forward for the next four years!

More Draw results for March for the parish mag were as follows: -

1 M&T Thomas; 2 Gilbert Pryce; 3 Ann Williams

Winners of the **Ratlinghope 200 Club** for January, February and March 2011:-

January 2011

£20 - Amelia Jardine-Paterson

£15.- Jean Jones

£5 - Jane Semple.

February 2011

£20 - Dr Ian Langford

£15 - Crystal Hamar

£5 - Mel Harley.

March 2011

£20 - Eddie and Josie McNamara

£15 - Charlotte Hughes

£5 - Martin Pinches.

Many thanks to Hyssington for organizing this year’s benefice contribution to the Deanery Lent Bread & Soup Lunches for Christian Aid every Lent Friday at the BC Methodist Hall from 12 Noon.

UP AND COMING EVENTS

BENEFICE BOOK GROUP: Next meeting Friday 6 May at 3.00pm at The Rectory “Never let me Go” by Kazuo Ishiguro”. The next book after that will be by AS Bhatt “The Children’s Book”. In the autumn, we shall consider George Eliot’s “Middlemarch” – “the greatest English Novel of the Nineteenth century – Discuss? Potential new members are welcome Contact Rev Norman Morris 01588 650244.

On Saturday 7 December there is a Diocesan Day at Hereford Cathedral – all are welcome – will be a good day details from the Rector 650244 – if you don’t know your cathedral this might be an opportunity to visit!

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15 – 21 MAY: CHRISTIAN AID envelopes are going out with this magazine, please support Christian Aid which is the partnership of UK churches which itself partners Third World community groups to do good basic projects which improves the lives of some of the world’s poorest people. Please leave envelopes at The Rectory. I hope that there may ne a Christian Aid Coffee Morning...TBA

**YOU ARE INVITED TO
A CONCERT given by THE CORNDON SINGERS
To raise funds for the 2012 Wentnor Flower Festival
THURSDAY 19th MAY**

7.30pm

WENTNOR CHURCH

Tickets at £7.50 each

To include Interval wine & nibbles

Available from

The Wentnor Store. Brenda Jones 650673

Rev. Norman Morris 650244 revnorm@btinternet.com

Angela Turner 650352 angelamturner07@googlemail.com

Victoria Cockburn 650454 yccockburn@aol.com

SATURDAY 21 MAY BIBLE WALK! We – the Local Ministry Team – are planning to do a WALK linking up our Shropshire churches to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the KING JAMES BIBLE with readings from the KIV at each church. The plan is the start at Norbury at 8.30am, drive to Ratlinghope then walk to Wentnor, on to Myndtown, then walk to more and finish that afternoon at Lydham. Those interested in being involved walking all or some of the way, reading, just joining in some of the day, providing cups of tea close to the churches... please contact the Rector 650244 as we shall sort out times etc nearer the day. Something similar is planned for the Welsh churches on Saturday 23 July

NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME OPEN DAY AT MAREHAY FARM, RATLINGHOPE

SUNDAY 22 MAY 11.00am – 6.00pm

Entrance £3 children free Coffee & teas

Proceeds to “The Porridge Project”, Tanzania

Contact: 01588 650289

4TH OPEN GARDENS EVENT

WENTNOR

“Shropshire’s Tuscany”

Sunday 29 May/Bank Monday 30 May

2.00-6.00pm

Tickets: £4

In aid of Wentnor Church

Teas & Stalls at Walkmill Farm

(In aid of Norbury Church)

All are welcome!

SPONSORED WALK SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2011

ADSTONE FARMHOUSE WENTNOR

To raise funds for the Wentnor Flower Festival 2012

Courses to suit all ages and levels of fitness with a choice of 1, 6 1/2 and 11 Miles.

Start times between 0930 and 1230.

For further details, and sponsorship forms, contact Tim Bevan

01588 650158 or: timandpenny@btinternet.com

MAPS WILL BE PROVIDED AND ALL COURSES WILL BE SIGNED.

RATLINGHOPE FESTIVAL OF CEREMONIES

At ST. MARGARET’S CHURCH

9th JULY – 11.00am to 5.00pm

10th JULY – 11.00am to 3.45pm followed by

A Special Service at 4.00pm with the Bishop of Ludlow
A rare opportunity to see a collection of
Wedding Dresses and Christening Gowns
Worn in the Church over the past 70 years
Displayed in the Church with appropriate flower arrangements
& accessories
Refreshments – Ploughman’s Lunch, homemade cakes, tea, coffee,
Soft drinks, etc.

IONA WEEK 21 -28 April 2012 FOUR SPACES AVAILABLE (TWO ROOMS WITH TWIN BEDS)

In the past years I have organized a couple of pilgrimages to Iona in 2007 and 2009 which were much enjoyed, and a former parishioner, Hilary Jackson, is planning to take a party to Iona, staying at Bishop's House, in April 2012, which I am attending myself. We may possibly still have a couple of rooms (twin beds) available so there are vacancies for a couple of couples or a couple of people to share. Anyone expressing interest is very welcome to get in touch with me 01588 650244 or Hilary Jackson 01432 761588 who now lives near Hereford

WENTNOR FLOWER FESTIVAL JUNE 2012:

If you have not yet had an opportunity to come to the previous meetings, please do come and join us, your support is needed and will be very warmly welcomed.

For any further information please call Victoria Cockburn (650454) or Angela Turner (650352)

The Bible Study Group Meets at the Rectory, usually occasional Fridays - new members always welcome!
Currently studying St John’s Gospel at the Wentnor Rectory. Contact: The Rector 01588 650

Rev John Cribb informs us of 2011 Marches Spirituality dates ... 7th October Esther de Waal Writer; also 5th November John Bell of Iona - a return visit to Bishops Castle.

Weddings in 2011 are currently booked for Saturday 18 June at More & Friday 19 August Ratlinghope

TWENTY YEARS AGO! A Deanery Magazine Editorial committee was appointed; Col Sykes stood down as Lydham Churchwarden after nearly 25 years; Wentnor was planning a Flower Festival; The church’s Healing Ministry was being developed at Bishop’s Castle; Sarn was organizing a Parish visit to Rhyl; the diocese was organizing a vast new Training Plan for clergy and Laity and there was concern over clergy stress: there were important developments over the future of the Mappa Mundi; low cost homes were being built in Bucknell; Lydbury North, Hopesay & Edgton were preparing to have a new Vicar.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings:

Ethan George Morris 27 March Hyssington

Wedding:

Nick Russell & Kate Taylor 9 April More

Funerals:

Mary Harris (87) Hyssington 19 March

Arnold Pooley (77) Hyssington 25 March

Elvira Stovold nee Hughes (87) Interment of Ashes Lydham 26 March

Joyce Wynn Churchstoke 8 April

Mary Harris is graphically remembered by her daughter “I have had some difficulty deciding what to say about Mum, how you can put 84 years of life into a few sentences? Mum was born in 1926 in a little cottage over at Marshbrook. Her Dad had lost a leg in the First World War and sometimes he was too incapacitated to work so their life could be pretty ‘hand to mouth’ on occasion but nevertheless she had a very happy childhood and looked back on it with affection. As the family increased they moved over to a cottage in Brockton, Lydbury North where Mum was joined by John, Bidy, Nancy and Roger Mum as the eldest, was fiercely protective of her brothers and sisters.

Usually a well aimed whack from that little tin lunch box that she carried settled any arguments. Nobody messed with Mary Randell!

She left school at 14 and went straight to work the next day. She worked in the office for Mr. Gwilt the coal merchant in Bishop's Castle until he died and then when Ransfords took over she worked for them for another year. Her wages were 5 shillings a week.

In 1942 Mum and a couple of her friends decided to go to Birmingham to work. She started to take shorthand and typing lessons and got herself a job in wholesale stationers near New Street Station. It has always seemed strange to me that she moved to Birmingham in the middle of the war

After a while she was forced to move away from her lodgings and got a new job as a Nanny to a fairly affluent family who had a holiday home in Fairbourne. She had to make her own way home to Brockton from Birmingham when she had time off and would often end up walking all the way from Craven Arms as fuel rationing meant no-one could pick her up from the station.

I expect it was on one of these visits back to Brockton that she met up with and fell in love with Dad who was just back from the war in Italy and they both enjoyed going to the local dances. Dad said that they used to try and find a dance to go to most nights!

In 1947 they were married at Lydbury North and moved into a couple of rooms in the old mill at Brockton.

When my brother John was expected they moved up to The Cwbalt just on the hillside opposite where the rest of the family, David and Peter eventually joined us.

Life was hard for Mum and Dad they struggled to make a living but they made life up there truly idyllic for us children. They had nothing but gave us everything.

Mum was never afraid of hard work. She had to help out on the farm as well as run a home and look after 4 young children. That's hard enough today but I'm talking about the 1950s To say that the Cwbalt had no amenities is a bit of an understatement. The house had one cold water tap that Dad had piped in from a natural spring above the house and two light bulbs that ran off a generator in the barn. There were no labour saving devices in those days.

She cooked on an open range or a paraffin fuelled stove. She did all the washing by hand and ironed it on a folded blanket on the kitchen table with a flat iron heated on the open fire,

She made all of our clothes, even our coats and knitted our jumpers and socks, hats, gloves and scarves and even our bathing costumes!

She made her own jams, chutneys and pickles, planted her vegetable garden and always had beautiful flower beds and a little lawn that she used to cut with a pair of scissors because she didn't have any clippers.

She kept her chickens and helped Dad with the milking, the harvesting and anything else that needed doing.

She went to Bishop's Castle on the bus once a week. Every Christmas she sent a present for all the children at Hyssington School. After all this she still had the energy to help Dad to organize social events in the village. There were whist drives, socials and dances and of course the village sports day.

Mum **always** entered the women's races as she was a very fast runner and she always ran bare foot.

At the Coronation Sports she won every race she entered and staggered home with a pile of glass commemorative plates which we still have today.

In 1959 we all moved down to Onny Lodge at Plowden with amenities! Even a bathroom with a bath and everything. We couldn't believe it!

Mum and Dad lived at Plowden for around 30 years and over the years the family grew as they became grandparents. When Dad retired they moved up to Churchstoke

Mum and Dad celebrated their Golden Anniversary in 1997 at Hyssington Village Hall. Three years later Dad died. From then on Mum's health started to decline she passed away this year in the Community Hospital in Bishop's Castle with her family all around her.

She never met her great granddaughter Abigail Mary who was born just 12 weeks ago.

Mum died two days before Abby arrived from America but I'm sure that one day Sally, her Mum, will tell her all about this beautiful, tough little lady, who we all loved so much.

Age UK Lunches for those 60 & over at the Crown Inn, Wentnor, 12 Noon for 12.30pm

Normally SECOND WEDNESDAY in the month –

NEXT LUNCH IN MAY Wednesday 11 May

to book your meal please ring Vera Brookfield 01588 650230 BY 4 May
and THIRD TUESDAY in the month,

NEXT LUNCH IN MAY Tuesday 17 May

Please ring Margaret Cooke 01588 650280 to make a booking

Table Tennis! Open to all! Anyone wanting a good game! Often taking place Mondays at Norbury Village Hall 2-3pm for details contact The Rector 01588 650244

Find out what is going on across the **Hereford diocese** at the website at www.hereford.anglican.org - have a look at the Notice board. For details of service times at the Cathedral, please telephone 01432 374212 or visit the cathedral website www.herefordcathedral.org.

Norbury & District WI: Thursday 12 May; "Patchwork, Quilting, Appliqué" Speaker: Catherine Galliers; Hostesses Ann Littlehales, Margaret Rowson, & Jane Semple; Flowers: Christine Mansell; Competition: Our favorite item of the above subjects.

Lydham, More & Snead WI: Thursday 19 May; Antiques (Members to bring something small for discussion) Mrs. Mary Smith; Competition: Best folded napkin; Refreshments Betty & Jacqui. Please bring written suggestions for our 2012 programme.

Onny Valley Social Club: Usually meeting at Norbury Village Hall; .Social gatherings & outings for the over-fifties: well worthwhile – do join! New members welcome. Monthly meetings First Tuesday in the month through the year in Norbury Village Hall 2.30pm 3 May "Air Ambulance" Talk and Slides; DAY TRIPS TO COME; 20 April Black Country Museum; 18 May Aberystwyth 15 June Brecon Railway; 20 July; Blaenarvon Big Pit; 17 August Blists Hill Ironbridge; 21 Sept Snowdon Railway; 19 Oct Coventry Museum & city.

Churchstoke "Over-Sixties": Meet alternative Wednesdays 3.00pm Churchstoke Community Hall contact: Margaret Chislett 01588 620310 and Joan Osborn 01588 620653

Age UK: please contact Mrs. Janet Brandon on 01588 650232 – your Age Concern Parish Link – who will also be pleased to help.

FLOWERS/CLEANING: Many thanks for wonderful Easter decorations!

Wentnor

24 & 1 May: Mrs. J Sheard & Mrs. A Turner

8 & 15 May: Mrs. B Jones & Mrs. M Rowson

22 & 29 May: Mrs. T Rogers-Coltman & Mrs. SA Jones

5 & 12 June: Mrs. V Cockburn & Mrs. A Parry

Ratlinghope

1 May: Mrs. Sue Cooke & Mrs. Allison Littlehales

8 May: Mrs. Anne Littlehales & Mrs. D Owen

15 May: Mrs. S Betton & Mrs. S Pinches

22 May: Mrs. J McNamara & Mrs. S Cusack

29 May: Mrs. J Brandon & Mrs. V Harley

5 June: Mrs. J Ryan & Mrs. A Remfry

Norbury: May: Mrs. Rachael Howells & Mrs. Heather Atherton

Lydham: May: Miss J Wilcoxon; June: Ms J Chisholm

More: May: Barbara Butler; June: Daphne Matthews

NOTICEBOARD

Want a Magazine?

Know someone who would like one? Please encourage sales & distribution! Please contact Margaret Cooke 01588 650280 (Shropshire & Snead parishes) or Jane Frank 01588 620711 (Churchstoke & Hyssington)

Myndtown Combined Parish Council Contact: Parish Clerk Mrs. L Thomas 01588 650509.

Wentnor Stores: The Post Office OUTREACH service is OPEN on TUESDAY 9.00AM – 11.00am - offering personal banking, Car Tax & Euros- please support our village shop WENTNOR STORES as much as possible!

Bus enquiries: **0870 241 2 216** National Rail Enquires: **08457 484950**

Hall Bookings: Norbury 650660 Anita (or if need be Rev Norman Morris **650244**) – **Lydham 638737** –

Hyssington Village Hall: 01588 620197 - do use our halls!

Norbury Village Hall: Tables, chairs, hostess trolley, crockery, & boiler available for hire 01588 650660

The Rector is always available to discuss Wedding and Christening dates at any time

Office Hour: Saturday morning at The Rectory 9-10am. Tel: 01588 650244.

House Communion is available to anyone who cannot easily get to Church.

Photocopying at The Rectory: 5p per sheet – reductions for longer runs.

Bishop's Castle Dial-a-Ride and Community Car scheme: Available for individuals or groups regardless of age or disability. All journeys must be pre-booked. Volunteer drivers and escorts urgently required for this worthwhile community service. Contact: Adrian Varcoe or ring 01588 638350.

SERVICES AT GREEN CHAPEL

MAY.

May 1 st . - 6.30pm	Rev. E. Reddington
May 8 th . - 6.30pm	Mrs. Rosemary Powell
May 15 th . - 6.30pm	Mr. W. Dawson
May 22 nd . - 6.30pm	Mrs. Rachel Powell
May 29 th - 6.30pm	Mr. D. Jandrell

JUNE

June 5 th - 6.30pm	Own Arrangement.
June 12 th - 6.30pm	Miss M. Savage.
June 19 th - 2.30pm	Mrs. Rachel Powell, Camp Meeting Tea.
June 26 th - 6.30pm	Rev. E. Reddington, Holy Communion.

HEALTH & EDUCATION - the key to life for the next generation in Tanzania

Angela Turner from Wentnor writes: **HEALTH** – I returned to Dar es Salaam for two weeks in early March to review the 'Porridge Project' at St Augustine's Anglican English Medium Primary School. There are currently 670 children in the school, with three streams in Standard 1, and two streams from Standard 2 to 7. I was able to weigh and measure all the children, apart from a few who were absent. As previously, BMI results from these measurements are used only as a guideline, other factors need to be considered. Time did not permit me to do a basic sight test, and I found far fewer problematic skin conditions than in my previous checks. Some anaemia was evident of course, but poor diet is not the only cause, the majority of children in sub Saharan Africa have worms, plus bouts of malaria and typhoid, all of which impair the immune system considerably.

Alice Nalugwa the Headmistress, and the two teachers she had appointed to supervise the 'Porridge Project' were most helpful to me, and on completion of the checks they were enthusiastic to discuss and to accept the suggestions I made which will enable the project to run more efficiently. As in my previous checks I found the majority of malnourished children in Stds 1,2 & 3, (5–9/10yrs of age) and just a handful in the older classes. The criteria they had been using to decide which children should receive the daily porridge needed adjustment, and consequently I decided about 50 children did not need to be included. Thanks to the wonderful generosity to the fund raising last autumn, I was able to add 150 children to the programme, so from mid March 250 mugs of porridge will be served each school morning.

I wish to thank **ALL** donors for the incredible support given to the 'Porridge Project' since 2006.

EDUCATION - In 2010 the Clun Forest Deanery Synod donated £500 to enable one boy and one girl to complete their Primary education at St. Augustine's Anglican Primary School. When a child loses one or both parents, financially it can mean the end of their formal education, and they are subsequently denied the opportunity of free education in a Government Secondary school. The C F Deanery Synod decided they would make this generous donation again for 2012. The exchange rate in early March was most favourable, and Alice Nalugwa the Headmistress, decided that not just two, but three students could benefit from the Synod donation.

Warda in Std 7 is 14 and her father is dead, in Tanzania a child who has had one parent die is termed an orphan. Isaac also Std 7 and 13 years of age, had both parents die from AIDS, he is therefore a total orphan. Isaac has six older siblings, all are HIV positive, Isaac has tested negative three times.

Alice Nalugwa selected a third child from Std 6 the penultimate Primary year, a boy called Aziz of 12 years of age, a very intelligent boy who given the opportunity to continue his education has great potential. He also is a total orphan and lives with his aunt with his two siblings. Warda, Isaac and Aziz each wrote a letter of appreciation to the Synod, and that of Aziz was particularly outstanding, we pray that he may have the opportunity to continue his final year at St Augustine's in 2012.

Thank you Clun Forest Deanery Synod – from Angela Turner.

The Bible According to Kids : *The following statements about the Bible were written by children*

In the first book of the Bible, Guinnesses, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark because Noah built the ark, which the animals came to in pears.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic Genitals.

Samson was a strong man who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.

Samson slew the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.

The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert.

Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to find the ten commendments.

The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

The seventh commandment is "Thou shalt not admit adultery".

Moses died before he ever reached Canada.

