

OnnyCamlad Parishes

**Rev Norman Morris, Rector of Wentnor with Ratlinghope, Norbury,
Myndtown, Lydham, More & Snead, & Priest in charge of Churchstoke &
Hyssington 01588 650244**

David Jelves, Reader 01588 620434

Jon Price “Fresh Expressions” Community Evangelist 01588 620693

Oliver Goode writes this month....”First Thoughts of Three Weeks in Tanzania”

I was recently asked to help to facilitate a Workshop in Tanzania organised by the diocese entitled Food Farming and the Environment. This 3 day event brought together people from Agricultural Colleges, Schools, Administrators, Churches, Mosques, and Women’s Groups who were interested in developing land under their control to grow food for people currently going hungry. What I hadn’t appreciated when I accepted the invitation, was that in addition I was going to spend a further 10 days travelling 1,250 miles across Tanzania with Bishop Anthony, visiting two dioceses twinned with our own!

I could tell you all about the visit and the highly successful workshop, but I would fill this magazine, instead I wanted to touch on my impressions of the country that remain with me now I have come home. So what have I come back from Tanzania with? Well, it was certainly not what I expected.

I expected to have to train my Tanzanian and Zimbabwean colleagues, lead and apply pressure to get results. I had to do none of these things; all the people I met were knowledgeable, enthusiastic, well organised and extremely good at getting the best out of people. Even better, they were able to see the funny side of just about everything, including my attempts at Swahili.

I was astonished at how central belief was in the lives of the people I met; whether Muslim or Christian [and many families had both Muslim and Christian members] their beliefs really mattered to them and came into conversations about food, land fertility and the changing climate as well as community life and family responsibilities.

And on the subject of belief I could tell you so many stories of the three services I attended. Choirs rhythmically dancing and singing, fantastic a capella harmonies, bursts of laughter and huge congregations jammed into tiny buildings. Being expected to bring greetings from All Saints Norbury to 2 or 3000 people gathered to celebrate 100th anniversary of Masasi cathedral was a bit of a one off!

What fun I had with the families I visited and how welcome I felt; although one day, three lunches, one at each family I called on, stretched my digestive system somewhat!

I was impressed how imaginative, dogged and persistent people were: to walk 16 kilometres every day for water; to carry food 10 kilometres to market on the back of a bicycle; to make what they needed from material to hand, such as securing loads with bicycle inner tubes.

I saw people everywhere. No road or mud track was empty; people walked or bicycled for miles along the road, to the fields, to the well; to school, to market; and they greeted each other and talked together as they went. The lucky few travel by overcrowded bus, most of these invoke Jesus or Allah to secure their safe arrival, some indeed invoke Manchester United, Liverpool or Arsenal, the safest however are protected by David Beckham!

So I have returned with a number of things in my rucksack; a collection of stories of odds overcome, of generosity, friendliness and warmth, of humour and laughter; of extraordinary colour and drama. I am gaining understanding of the challenges Tanzanians face. I have acquired a strong sense of co-dependence: we have much to learn from a link with Tanzanian families and communities. But above all I have a burning desire to go back!

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER TRINITY 18

9.15 Holy Communion Hyssington (Julia Francis)

11.15 Morning Praise Norbury (Julia Francis)

11.15 Methodist Holy Communion Churchstoke St Nicholas (Ian Waugh)

6.00 RATLINGHOPE HARVEST FESTIVAL Preacher: Captain Jon Price

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER TRINITY 19

10.00 Morning Praise Hyssington (Afri Jones)

9.45 Holy Communion Wentnor (Julia Francis)
11.15 Holy Communion More (Rev Jo Evans)
11.15 Family Service Churchstoke (Captain Jon Price)
6.30 Evening Prayer Norbury (Oliver Goode)

FFIDAY 15 OCTOBER

MYNDTOWN HARVEST FESTIVAL PREACHER: Rev Jo Evans 6.30pm

SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER TRINITY 20

8.30 Holy Communion Ratlinghope
10.00 Holy Communion Snead
11.15 "St Luke's Service" Churchstoke (Captain Jon Price)
11.15 Morning Praise Lydham

3.00 HYSSINGTON HARVEST FESTIVAL Preacher: Canon Julia Francis

6.30 WENTNOR HARVEST FESTIVAL Preacher: Rt Rev Michael Bourke, former Bishop of Wolverhampton

Thursday 21 October 2.00 Norbury School Harvest Festival

SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER TRINITY 21

8.30 Holy Communion Wentnor
9.45 Holy Communion (CW) More
9.45 Morning Prayer Ratlinghope (Lay led)
10.00 Hyssington United Service

11.15 CHURCHSTOKE HARVEST FESTIVAL & HARVEST LUNCH: Preacher: Captain Norris Boyland

6.30 NORBURY HARVEST FESTIVAL Preacher: Rev Nick Helm Diocesan CME Officer

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER TRINITY 22

8.30 Holy Communion Lydham
10.00 FAMILY SERVICE "Teddy Bear" Service Norbury
4.00 "Saints & Sausages" (Captain Jon Price) Churchstoke
6.30 "Those we have loved" Memorial Service for the bereaved Wentnor

Wednesday Morning Prayer 8.30am All are welcome to this short weekly act of worship from all the parishes. 6 Oct Ratlinghope; 13 Oct Norbury; 20 Oct Lydham; 27 Oct Churchstoke; 3 Nov More.

On SUNDAY morning 31 OCTOBER, there will be at **Norbury Church at 10.00am a FAMILY SERVICE "Teddy Bear"** Service for young and old to bring their Teddy Bears to church! Believe it or not but the Rector attended one in Norbury two months before coming in February 2000 – I leave it to you to judge the what kind of liturgical introduction this was to worship in the Only Valley! It was a good service and the people and teddies were very welcoming!

On SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER at 6.30pm there will be a "Those we have loved" **Memorial Service** for the bereaved at Wentnor Church – we have had these services before – they have been much appreciated occasions at All Souls time when we can remember loved ones by name and light a candle in the service. Any names please pass on in a note to the Rector

AT THE CHURCHES: 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. The Local Ministry Team members are Ann Remfry (Ratlinghope); Anita Bright (Wentnor & Myndtown), **David Hardham** (Ratlinghope), Oliver Goode (Norbury), Trish Macmullan (Snead); Janet Wilcoxon (Lydham & More), David Jelves (Churchstoke), Jon Price & Rev Norman Morris. Margaret Wallsgrove (Hyssington) attends. Rev Dr John Daniels is the new Diocesan Local Ministry officer. We always welcome new members especially at this **four year** stage. "Calling out" is being called for 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. If you wish, talk to an LMT member beforehand about what's involved.

CALL FOR CONFIRMATION: A Deanery Confirmation Service will be taking place in March 2011- its early days yet but time moves on quickly. In past years we have had very successful responses to Confirmation Confirmation is open to all, young and old alike, starting around the age of 10 or 11 years –adults are included – and is a special service when the Bishop comes. It enhances and completes our membership of the Church, which began at our Christening. Baptism and Confirmation enables us to be full, communicant members of the Church. Of course, we grow on learning and growing in our faith and Confirmation is a stage along the journey of faith. Preparation takes the form of meetings in homes, centred on the questions people young and old raise.

This time round we are planning to invite young people to raise their questions through a **Youth Alpha course** run by Captain Jon Price. He will be assisted by the Rector and the Local Ministry team. Many young people have been involved with “Sunday Stars” over the years so we hope that they will feel like joining in this Youth Alpha course which may lead onto Confirmation.

We hope to have a preliminary meeting at “The Glebe”, Ratlinghope on **Monday evening 25 October at 7.00pm**

Do talk to the Rector 01588 650244 about this if you wish or know of someone who would like to be confirmed. Adults who are interested are very welcome to discuss getting confirmed too.

NORBURY NATIVITY? Over the past six years, we have had a roving Nativity before Christmas every other year at Norbury, starting from Norbury Village Hall (Nazareth) going on the Sun Inn (no room in the Inn) to Herod’s Palace (church west front) culminating at Lea Farm (Bethlehem) Its been hugely popular with young and old taking part and in excess of 100 people sharing a memorable outdoor experience of the Christmas story! We need to prepare! Here’s a call for adults and children to come forward from all our parishes to help/take part this year – we have a Mary so we need a Joseph and Wisemen, shepherds and angels! Please initially be in touch with the Rector ASAP 01588 650244 to express interest – its planned to have a meeting on **Wednesday 27 October at 7.00pm** at Norbury Village Hall to get the ball rolling. **The projected date for the Norbury Nativity is Saturday 4 December 5.00pm (time to be confirmed).**

Captain Jon Price held a Roving Nativity at Churchstoke last year and plans to hold another on Saturday 18 December at Churchstoke.

Suggested dates for the remaining autumn PCC meetings are as follows. Please could PCC Secretaries see if these dates are suitable, please, so we can confirm them?

Monday 18 October Churchstoke PCC “Oakfields”

Monday 25 October Wentnor PCC The Rectory

Friday 5 November Snead PCC 7.30pm Lower Snead

Date? Myndtown PCC TBA

Thanks to everyone who helped and supported the **Wentnor Fete** this year! It was a highly successful Fete which raised £5,200 - a record - plus the Cricket £160 - £5,360 as a Grand Total - all helping the parishes of Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Myndtown & Norbury (plus Norbury Village Hall 1/2 share) We think in excess of 700 people came and many dogs! We had a number of innovations and I am particularly grateful for Jon & David bringing the Trailer over from Churchstoke, Stuart with his "Fruit machine" and Gilly with the wonderful and amusing Fun Dog Show...but altogether it was a great Team effort! I will try and thank as many as possible individually but a big thanks to everyone who helped and who came. A full break down of Stall returns is available from the Rector.

UP AND COMING EVENTS

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 650244.

Saturday 9 October Coffee Morning

at Upper Bent for More Church

10.00 – 12.30pm

All Welcome!

Wednesday 20 October Ratlinghope Flower Festival meeting at The Coppice 7.30pm

Friday 22nd October and Saturday 23rd October 2010 at Kingsland Hall, Shrewsbury School, Shrewsbury

Please remember us when you sort out your wardrobe as we would love any unwanted good quality clothing to sell at this event. Please contact Jane Sayer at sayer@stedment.co.uk to arrange collection. Your help is much appreciated. Last year Dress for Less raised £16,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support in Shropshire.

Friday 22 October 7.30pm Wentnor Harvest Supper "Fish and Chips"/ Sweet /Jane Ryan in Concert " – raffle – "The Crown," Wentnor Tickets £10 from The Crown

Friday 29 October 7.30pm Norbury Quiz "Inn on the Green" Tickets from John Glover £8.50 includes "Fish and chip Supper" – raffle - proceeds for Norbury Church.

Benefice Book Group: Barbara Kingslover "Lacuna": at Asterton Stables on Saturday 6 November 7.30pm

Saturday afternoon 13 November Churchstoke "Afternoon Tea" & Christmas Stalls Community Hall
More Quiz "Inn on the Green" Proceeds for More Church

Saturday morning 20 November Norbury Coffee morning

Saturday 11 December Lydham Christmas Fayre – supporting the Lydham Church East Window Appeal

Round and About: Janet's Retirement from Wentnor Stores – Doreen writes "Trish, Di and Doreen would like to thank everybody who contributed to Janet's Retirement Fund which amounted to £160. The money was split between garden vouchers and flowers and what was leftover we gave to Janet to buy whatever she likes. Thank you once again. Trish, Di and Janet took Janet and her husband Jack out for Sunday lunch at the Inn on the Green. The presentation of the vouchers and flowers was done by Mr. Barry Preston who also gave a speech, as did Mrs. Mo Medlicottw. A number of customers came to the presentation and had a chat with Janet and Jack. Thank you Trish and Michael for collecting Jack and Janet in their vintage car and taking them back. Also thank you to Jane and Andrew, Richard and the staff at the Inn on the Green for all their help and for looking after us so well."

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO The Bishop of Hereford, RT Rev John Oliver, was impressed with Brian Keenan's book "Evil Cradling"; Christian Aid celebrated its 50th birthday; the new Incumbent at Wentnor, Dick France, wrote of the marvelous views from the Rectory which reminded him of Jesus' challenging words "A city on a hill cannot be hidden"; Mainstone was having a Hallowe'en Bat Party; Bucknell Station on the Heart of Wales line came second in "Wales in Bloom" competition; Churchstoke had a mad Hatters Tea Party; Clun Church was being challenged to find £5000 for essential repairs; the Wentnor churches were planning Family services; the Wentnor Fete made £1840 surplus.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings: Milo Andrew Tonks-Lawson Churchstoke Sunday 3 September

Weddings: James Gilchrist and Lucy Overton Bishop's Castle Saturday 11 September

Funerals:

Monica Vince (68) Wentnor Monday 16 August

Edna May Hampson (65) Ratlinghope Tuesday 17 August

Edith May Caverley (95) Churchstoke Friday 3 September

In June of this year, Norbury sadly lost its oldest parishioner, **Hilda Eustace** (90) who was much loved in the village in which she spent her entire life. Her daughter, Marion, contributes the following tribute, "Hilda was born in 1920 in the Blacksmith's Shop, Norbury, opposite the church, the only daughter of Patti and Fred Owen, the Blacksmith. Together with her brothers, Fred and George, she attended Linley School, being taught by Miss Walker. Her childhood was a happy one, and on leaving school at Linley, she went into the service of Mrs. Bostock, the Headmistress of Norbury School. Hilda married Howard in 1945 and they lived at Hardwick for a brief period before returning to live at Norbury where she reared pigs and poultry. In 1966, she became Norbury School's "Dinner Lady", a job she loved, leaving after ten years to care for her father who had broken his leg. Hilda had been given the gift of a beautiful singing voice and became a soloist at many choral events throughout the area. She loved porcelain and ceramics, having a wide knowledge of her hobby. She was a founder member of Norbury Village Hall and made the Armistice Poppy Wreath for Norbury Church for many years. She received many visitors, being delighted to see them all. Her life was a long and happy one. On being asked "if you could live anywhere in the world, where would you choose?" she simply replied "Norbury". It speaks volumes for a serene, gentle, contented lady. God Bless you Mum. You will be remembered every day." The Rector adds, "Hilda was always a wonderful

and gracious person to visit in Norbury - she personified everything that is best about village life, helpful, considerate, friendly, and outgoing – she could remember so much about Norbury going back to the early years of the last century – she will be much missed but always remembered with great affection.”

Our condolences are also extended to the family of the Monica Vince (an appreciation of Monica will appear in the next magazine) and Edna Hampson who died last month.

Louise, the daughter of the late **Edna Hampson**, writes, “Mother was born on 24th February 1945, at Coppice Farm, Ratlinghope. She enjoyed an idyllic childhood growing up surrounded by a large loving family. She had a life-long love of learning which began at Ratlinghope Primary School, where on her first day when she was asked what she would like to play with, she replied “I'm not here to play, I'm here to work”. This set the tone for the rest of her education, passing her 11 plus exam at the age of 10 and then attending Bishops Castle Grammar School where she also enjoyed playing hockey, netball and other sports. At 16 she went to work for Shropshire County Council's Education Department at the Shirehall, then in the centre of Shrewsbury, where she worked hard but also enjoyed many happy lunch hours shopping, a hobby she very much enjoyed throughout her life and shared with her sisters, friends and daughter. Her stock phrase when life became challenging was 'I need some retail therapy'. At 17 she met her future beloved husband Brian at a dance and at 21 married. They went to live at the Hollies, Gretton, which would be her home for the next 44 years. Following a period working closer to home in Church Stretton she had her first child Louise in 1974 and then Robert 6 years later in 1980. Edna was a truly natural mother, there to support and encourage Louise and Robert every step of the way, along with Brian. As Louise and Robert became older and more independent she began to turn her attention towards her working life, becoming a carer at Blackhurst Adult Rural Centre where she worked with her close friends Belinda and Jane, who were a constant support and comfort to her for the rest of her life. Following the devastating loss of Brian in 1997, Edna showed great strength and courage by not only successfully completing her Combined Studies honours degree attaining a 2:1 from the University of Birmingham; but also taking up a post at Rushbury Primary School as a Special Support Assistant, a post which emerged as her vocation. This was followed by many happy years working at Church Preen Primary School in a similar post. Edna loved children, people and indeed life and lived it to the full. Many of her friends and families abiding memory of her was her sense of fun and warmth. Many will know she was involved with numerous groups and organisations throughout her life. She was particularly proud of completing the Race for Life on two occasions. Edna very much enjoyed travelling, in recent years she enjoyed holidays in many different parts of the world. Her 65th Birthday in February was a particularly joyful celebration spent with close family and friends at the Shooting Lodge at Acton Scott. Her health posed her challenges over many years, but she faced them all uncomplaining, with a great deal of courage and an unfailingly positive attitude.

Myndtown Combined Parish Council The Parish Council now has a new web address www.myndtown.org.uk In due course it is hoped that the website will provide information relevant to the Parishes. It is also hoped to set up a business directory on the site for local businesses, be they plumbers, electricians, B&Bs, gardeners or anyone running their own business locally. If you would like your contact details and maybe a link to your own site in the directory, please send your details to philip@myndtownwines.co.uk. The bigger the directory the better for everyone and it is an ideal opportunity to have a web presence, so please do contact us. Myndtown Combined Parish Council 2010 Meetings: Norbury Village Hall 7.30pm 8 Nov. Contact: Parish Clerk Mrs. L Thomas 01588 650509.

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

SECOND WEDNESDAY in the month –

NEXT LUNCH Wednesday 13 October

to book your meal please ring Vera Brookfield 01588 650230 BY 3 June

AND third Tuesday in the month,

NEXT LUNCH Tuesday 19 October

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

Local public transport?

DIAL-A-RIDE Wentnor to Bishops Castle & back every Friday pick-up 10.00am Wentnor Church & Wentnor Shop (can stop at Norbury) return 12.45pm from Tuffins BC.

SHROPSHIRE LINK ring 01743 210368 – need to make a booking a day or two before.

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

Norbury & District WI: Thursday 14 October "Industrial, Social History of Clee Hill"; Speaker AE Jenkins Hostesses: Shelagh Cusack, Nid Garratt, & Kate Robinson : Flowers: Maureen Walker; Competition: A Shropshire Poem.

Lydham, More & Snead WI: Thursday 21 October; Visiting Nepal; Speaker: Caroline Babb; Competition: Spray of Autumn leaves Teas: Daphne and Rachel.

Onny Valley Social Club: Usually meeting at Norbury Village Hall; .Social gatherings & outings for the over-fifties: well worthwhile – do join! Contact: Pat Varcoe 01588 650204 New members welcome. Monthly meetings First Tuesday Norbury Village Hall 2.30pm DAY TRIPS; 26 November Abbey Cwm Hir Xmas Decorated House
Churchstoke Mothers Union: Contact: Olive Fitzhugh 01588 620698 The Mothers Union has a scheme to provide holidays for families in need – any recommendations, please contact the AFIA Holiday Organizer at the Mother's Union 01432 373306 or email: mothersunion.hereford@surefish.co.uk

Churchstoke "Over-Sixties": Meet alternative Wednesdays 3.00pm Churchstoke Community Hall contact: Jay Frank 01588 620081

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

FLOWERS/CLEANING

Wentnor

5 & 12 & 19 September: Mrs. A Turner & Mrs. J Sheard

26 September: WEDDING Mrs. P Bevan & helpers

3 & 10 October: Mrs. M Rowson & Mrs. B Jones

17 & 24 October: Mrs. R Jones & Mrs. L Middleton

31 Oct & 7 Nov: Mrs. R Preston & Mrs. P Bevan

Ratlinghope

3 Oct; Mrs. J Brandon & Mrs. V Harley All help welcome for Harvest decoration

10 & 17 Oct: Mrs M Cooke & Mrs J Pinches

24 & 31 Oct: Mrs J Ryan & Mrs A Remfry

7 & 14 Nov: Mrs Mrs C Mansell & Mrs P Sansom

Norbury: October: Mrs. B Corfield & Miss O Pinches; November: Mrs A Cooke & Mrs B Wall

Lydham: Sept: Mrs. J Preshous October: Mrs. P Brayford; November: Miss J Wilcoxon & Mrs J Yapp

More: October: Mrs. Diana Pritchard; November: Mrs R Farr

NOTICEBOARD

Want a Magazine?

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

Run up the Flag! Here's an offer to everyone in the Wentnor Group of parishes and beyond - every man, woman and child - those living in Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Norbury, Myndtown, More, Lydham, and Snead - mark your birthday, pet's birthday, wedding, anniversary, exam success, passing your driving licence, whatever, by having the Union Flag or St George's Flag flying from the Wentnor Flagpole - pay only £1 to the Benefice account which supports all the churches. The flag could fly for you! Any day of the year! Contact Rev Norman Morris 01588 650244.

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.

RATLINGHOPE'S FESTIVAL OF CEREMONIES

A Celebration of Weddings and Christenings

9th - 10th JULY 2011

Were you christened or married at St Margaret's Church, Ratlinghope?

We are looking to display associated items: wedding dresses, family photos, christening gowns, memorabilia, interesting tales etc. relating to wedding and christening celebrations at Ratlinghope Church over the decades.

We would like to hear from you should you be able to contribute to our festival.

Please contact Margaret Cooke (tel: 01588 650280) or Janet Brandon (tel: 01588 650232).

**Proceeds to: St Margaret's Church, Ratlinghope &
The Rainbow Unit, Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.**