

# 900 NEWS



From the Ely 900 Steering Group October 2008

Welcome to the 3rd edition of 900 News – a series of bulletins to help every parish, PCC, deanery and chaplaincy build towards the Diocese of Ely's 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009. Please photocopy this bulletin and distribute it widely in your community.



## 2009 DIARY DATES

Diocesan wide CELEBRATIONS

24 January - Launch Service, Ely Cathedral

28 March - Cambridge Antiquarian Society conference: 'Ely 1109-2009 celebrating 900 years' West Road, Cambridge

28 March - Mothers' Union Lady Day Service

11-19 May - Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

16 May - Diocesan Choirs Festival

20 June - St Etheldreda's Day Procession

21 June - Schools Education service

10 July - Rave in the Nave Youth Event

17-19 July - Diocesan Flower Festival

19 September - Children's Event

27 September - Ely/Cambridge walk

6, 7, 14 & 15 October - Schools Days

21 November - 'Moving on from 2009' service

28 November - Cambridge University Music Society Concert at Ely Cathedral

## ELY 900 LAUNCH WEEKEND

### 23RD - 25TH JANUARY 2009

As part of the Launch of the 900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of the Diocese of Ely there will be a service on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January** in Ely Cathedral at 2.30 p.m. Archbishop Rowan will be with us for that service.

At the end of the service there will be a bag to be collected for each parish – so it is hoped that there will be at least one representative from each parish and chaplaincy present. Obviously, space will be limited.

In the bag there will be:

- Leather bookmarks with the Ely 900 prayer – to be a reminder to all to pray for all that is happening in the year
- Children's bookmarks with a 900 prayer – to encourage the younger members of our churches also to pray
- Enamel Badges – reports from other Dioceses have been very positive about the delight of discovering fellow Christians in work places and amongst other networks, as badges are worn. (A £1 donation for the badge is suggested)
- Stickers – a roll of stickers with the logo. These can be used, for example, on baptism and confirmation cards in 2009.
- Flyers with dates of 900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events
- Flyers with ideas for creative prayer during the year
- A candle for each church/chaplaincy

It is hoped that the candles will be lit at some point in the morning service on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January** (or the next morning service where parishes do not have a Sunday morning service each week). Churches are invited to mark the beginning of this year of celebration and mission in some way at this service – whether this is woven into the whole or part of the service, or that the service simply incorporates the Ely 900 prayer. Liturgical material is available on the website to help.

Further details regarding the collection of the bags will be made available soon.

## ELY 900 ON THE WEB

There is now a new Ely 900 section on the Diocesan website at: [www.ely.anglican.org/900/](http://www.ely.anglican.org/900/)

This will be evolving as details of more events become available so do bookmark the page and

check back from time to time to keep up-to-date with the latest plans to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the Diocese. There are links to resources available for Ely 900 (e.g. a toolkit, newsletters, the logo, liturgical and musical resources) and to other initiatives happening such as Ely becoming a Fairtrade Diocese.

Coming soon is a parish section where Ely 900 events and initiatives can be featured. If you wish to include an event or initiative, please send details to Val Robson, the Diocesan Communications Officer, at [communications@ely.anglican.org](mailto:communications@ely.anglican.org).

## SHAPING OUR ANNIVERSARY, RESOURCING OUR WORSHIP

There are many ways in which the Ely 900 celebrations might find their way into the worshipping life of your community. Here are four themes for you to explore through services of Holy Communion, Services of the Word or informal acts of worship:

- **Sharing in God's Mission**
- **Giving Thanks for Our Past**
- **Celebrating Our Community of Faith**
- **Looking Forward to Our Future**

The Christian year provides some rich opportunities for celebrating the 900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the diocese. A list of examples can be found in the liturgical resources on the Ely 900 website. Visit: [www.ely.anglican.org/900/resources/](http://www.ely.anglican.org/900/resources/)

On the website you will also find a broad range of liturgical and musical material.

- **Resources for inclusion in normal Sunday worship**
- **Outlines for informal acts of worship**
- **A Service of the Word to celebrate the 900th anniversary year**
- **A wide selection of music resources**

For general enquiries about these liturgical resources email: [tiffanyjkconlin@yahoo.com](mailto:tiffanyjkconlin@yahoo.com)

The Revd Edward Green has written three of the informal liturgies for the themes of 'Giving Thanks for Our Past' and 'Celebrating Our Community of Faith'. For further guidance on these resources email: [eddie.green@khite.org](mailto:eddie.green@khite.org)

Jan Payne has suggested contemporary music resources. For further guidance on music for 2009 email: [janmpayne@googlemail.com](mailto:janmpayne@googlemail.com)

## 'FIT FOR 900' - MUSIC DAY

As the celebrations for "Ely 900" draw ever closer, how fit is your church musically for this exciting year? Come and find out by joining in a day's training event led by Jan Payne and musicians from the Diocese of Ely on Saturday 1st November 2008 at Bar Hill Church, 10am -4pm. NB Booking deadline is 24 October 2008.

- Explore the use of music in a wide range of styles
- A chance to view recent publications
- Open to all churches - their ministers, musicians and congregations

Anyone planning to attend should contact Jan Payne at [janmpayne@googlemail.com](mailto:janmpayne@googlemail.com) or write to her at 48 Impington Lane, Impington, Cambridge CB24 9NJ to say how many places they wish to reserve. There will be a charge of £3.00 per head (payable on the day) to cover the costs of the event. It is essential that people do book so we know how much music to provide.

## ELY 900 MISSION PROJECT

**Project:** To provide scholarships for children from villages in the diocese of Vellore to undertake further education.

**Why Vellore?** We have had a link with the Diocese of Vellore since 1992. The Diocese of Vellore is both made up of and works amongst some of the poorest people in the area. Like our own diocese, much of the area is rural and very poor. The Diocese of Vellore hopes to bring life in all its fullness to all people.

**How will the scholarships help?** At present, the Diocese supports about 4000 children through their church schools. For those of secondary age, this often means providing hostel places for the children at their school, allowing them a place to stay and study during term time.

However, when children get to school leaving age, they cannot afford to go on to further education. The scholarships will provide training, board and lodging for young women and men to study as nursing auxiliaries, engineers, computer operators etc. One year's training costs about £300. Most courses are two or three years.

Once they've finished the training, those who have received the scholarships will be encouraged to stay within their local community to share their skills with others.

**How can we support this?** There are a variety of things people can do to support this project and no amount of money collected is too small. Your church or group could make it a Lent project, or even a special project during the year.

Or you might like to be more adventurous and have a curry evening at church, or an Indian activity day, when you find out more about life as an Indian and as a Christian in the Diocese of Vellore.

Or what about being sponsored to do your homework, or offering to sponsor some of the young people in your parish to do that?! Sleepovers in church, sleeping on beach mats, would copy how the children in the hostels sleep - the possibilities are endless.

**To find out more** A DVD about the work of the Diocese of Vellore is available and you can have a speaker as well! Next year, there will be an information leaflet with up-to-date photos and news in it.

Contact *The Revd Fiona Brampton, The Vicarage, Church Lane, Haddenham, Ely, CB6 3TB* Tel 01353 740309. For more information, email: [fiona.brampton@ely.anglican.org](mailto:fiona.brampton@ely.anglican.org)

## AN ELY 900 GUIDE

To help celebrate Ely 900, I have been asked to write and produce a booklet that outlines the history and Christian worship in our diocese over the past nine centuries. The aim is to have this published for the Cambridge Antiquarian Society conference 'Ely 1109-2009: celebrating 900 years' on 28th March 2009.

The Diocese is a diverse mix of rural and urban areas extending to the coastal regions of West Norfolk through the Fens, to the border south of the City of Cambridge. Within this framework operates an amazing host of activities that bear witness to the continuing worship of our faith.

Bishop Anthony states on the Diocesan website: "As a Diocese we are committed to mission in every aspect; seeking to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to those who live in the cities, towns and villages of this area, and to make the Gospel relevant to their working lives."

The overall history is well documented, but in order to make this publication more relevant to those of us who live and worship in the Diocese of Ely, I am seeking contributions from you. To help celebrate this special 900th anniversary, I need pictures and stories from your parish which will help to depict this mission in reality. From traditional to modern, from present day to the past images of where you live and worship and any brief resumes of people and their history in your parish.

You can submit your contributions by email to [Turnerlynnne7@aol.com](mailto:Turnerlynnne7@aol.com) by 1st December 2008. Please send digital photographs in jpeg format. It may be possible to scan original photographs of a high quality. Thank you for your help.

*Lynne Turner (local historian and author)*  
Tel: (01353) 722146.

## SURROUNDED IN PRAYER

The Simeon Centre for Prayer and the Spiritual Life was established at Ridley Hall, Cambridge in October 2007. Our passion and aim is to help Christian leaders, churches and indeed anyone who longs to be closer to God, to grow in the desire and capacity to pray, and to be better equipped to guide and enable others to pray. In particular, we are working at building bridges between Ridley Hall and the wider church, with a special commitment to our own Diocese of Ely.

At the heart of the Simeon Centre, we have founded the Simeon Community, a dispersed group of friends who are called to a ministry of prayer for us and for our vision. As part of this vision, we are offering to support Ely 900 in prayer. To this end we invite parishes to send in prayer requests for specific projects and events which they are planning. These requests will be prayed for weekly by individual members of the Simeon Community, in a weekly prayer meeting at the Simeon Centre and also by the wider Ridley Hall community.

If you would like to join the Community, or simply take part in this ministry of prayer for Ely 900, contact: Adrian Chatfield ([ac588@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ac588@cam.ac.uk)) or Jane Keiller ([jk271@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jk271@cam.ac.uk)). All requests for prayer should be sent to Rosemary Kew ([rak44@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rak44@cam.ac.uk)).

**We hope that you find 900 News helpful. We would welcome your feedback and ideas. Please contact: The Revd Sue Wyatt, T: 01223 247451 E: [sue.wyatt@ely.anglican.org](mailto:sue.wyatt@ely.anglican.org)**