

## Director's Jottings



**Apparently Posh Spice went to a church school. It was in St Albans Diocese but my colleague there tells me she was bullied and didn't enjoy it.**

Currently, one of the real stars of BBC's The Apprentice is Sir Alan's right hand woman, Margaret Mountford. A Cambridge graduate, she is also Chair of Governors at a Church of England school in

Marylebone, London.

All sorts of people are connected to church schools. Nearly a quarter of the nation's adults once attended one. Hopefully most of them had a more positive experience than did Mrs Beckham!



We celebrate our diocese's 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year and, a couple of years later, in 2011, we mark two hundred years of free mass education as the National Society celebrates its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was established to provide free schooling to the nation by setting up church schools over fifty years before there was state provision.

So amongst those thousands who have passed through your parish' church school over the decades and centuries, are there people who have gone on to make a splash in the community or in the nation? What have our Ely Diocese church school 'alumni' gone on to achieve?

Of course, achievement in God's eyes isn't measured in fame or by newspaper column inches. Most of his saints are unsung. They simply get on with things in their own community and without them our families and communities would be much diminished. But perhaps there are also people who have some connection with your school who have made a

more public contribution and have enjoyed - or have today - a wider and positive public image. And maybe their time in a church school made a positive contribution to their formation?

If you know of any such people who attended your school, or one you know of, we'd love to hear from you.

As part of our 900<sup>th</sup> celebrations it would be great to broadcast a 'roll of honour' of people who have attended our schools and gone on to make a wider and more public contribution to our regional and national life.

It would be good to celebrate them (and if they are still with us, involve them) in 2009 or, even nationally, in 2011. We'd love to hear from you with a few names....



Tim Elbourne

### Northstowe Proposals

**We have this week submitted proposals to promote the secondary school in the new town of Northstowe as a Church of England Academy—which would be Cambridgeshire's first—and also the first primary school as a VA school.**



We are bidding for the secondary school because we think our offer of an academy—with 'sustainability and the environment' and 'business and enterprise' as its specialisms would contribute to choice and diversity in the area and provide an innovative, ethical and well rooted offer to parents.

We are offering to promote the first primary school because of its location in the north of the development and to contribute to the community development of the new town from its outset.

Both competitions will be judged by Cambridgeshire County Council. You will be able to view both our proposals online at [http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/schools\\_bulletin.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/schools_bulletin.html).

### Do you live in East Cambridgeshire?

The imminent school re-organisation in Suffolk, as it moves from a three tier system with middle schools to a two tier system as in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Peterborough, will bring opportunities as well as challenges.

One option *might* be to create a new Church of England school accessible to families near the border in East Cambs. We will shortly be helping our Suffolk colleagues to consult with schools and parents to gauge to what extent such a new choice would be appreciated. In the meantime, if you have a view, please let us know.

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The Schools Bulletin is published fortnightly in term. We are pleased to publish news and notices. Please send details and pictures (.jpeg) and we will try to include them. Send to: [debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org](mailto:debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org)

## From the Schools Team

### Help finding RE Visitors from the East of England Faiths Agency



Schools often mention the problems they have finding speakers from different faith communities to support work in RE.

The East of England Faiths Agency has registers of tutors who would be able to visit your school to speak about their faith, or help you plan special days on a faith or culture.

They can also help you arrange a visit to a place of worship. You can find out all about this service, and the associations to which the agency is affiliated at <http://www.eefa.net/>

Or contact Cynthia Capey on 01379 678615 or [training@eefa.net](mailto:training@eefa.net)

### School Name Signs

We recently wrote to all VA schools about replacement of those School Signs that are badly aged and deteriorated.

If any VC schools signs are in the same situation they may be able to enjoy a discounted price for replacement from this project.

Please contact David Hicks, Schools Finance & Buildings Officer (Tel: 01353-652722 or Email: [david.hicks@ely.anglican.org](mailto:david.hicks@ely.anglican.org)) **as soon as possible** for further details.



## From the Diocese

### Bishop's appeal raises £17k for leprosy mission

The Bishop of Ely, the Right Rev Anthony Russell, has raised almost £17,000 for The Leprosy Mission through his Lent Appeal.

This year's appeal focussed on the work of Schieffelin Institute of Health in Karigiri, South India, located within the Diocese of Vellore which is linked to the Ely Diocese.



The money was raised by parishes across the Diocese as part of their charitable giving during the Lent season—together with help from individuals and other organisations.



*Accepting the cheque from the Bishop of Ely and his wife are the Director, Chairman and Area Representative of the Leprosy Mission*

The Bishop presented a cheque for £16,735.69 to the Director of The Leprosy Mission, Rupert Haydock, The Chairman of the charity's Trustees, Colin Osborne and the area representative, Mike Griffin.

The international charity has its headquarters in Orton

Goldhay, Peterborough, which falls within the Ely Diocese.

"This is a magnificent result and an increase on last year's giving," said Bishop Russell.

"It is especially fitting that our Diocese has been able to work

with The Leprosy Mission to raise funds for the Karigiri Hospital."

"This venture has enabled us to encourage vital work close to our link Diocese in South India and to be involved with a charity based in our own area. I am most grateful to all those who gave so generously."

Ever since its foundation in 1955, the Schieffelin Institute has been at the forefront of leprosy care.

It was a pioneer of the Multi Drug Therapy which now transforms the lives of leprosy sufferers and also of innovative surgery on tendon transfer to restore some use to damaged limbs.

To this modern community hospital cares for the medical needs of a large and expanding population. It has over twenty five medical staff and specialists.

No one with leprosy is ever turned away. There is also a vibrant hospital church and committed chaplaincy team who provide spiritual care.



*Women staff in the Chapel on the World Day of Prayer 2008*

Shirley has visited the hospital on one of her visits to Vellore and witnessed some of that amazing work.

## From our Schools

### All ship-shape for outdoor lessons



Pupils at Ely St Mary's Junior School have been fundraising to take lessons outside. The youngsters organised a cake stall and made a CD of a residential trip, which they sold to parents, as well as receiving donations for the project.

They used the money to design and build a Viking ship big enough to hold an entire class. Year 4 students had been studying the Vikings and it is hoped one or two lessons will be taught in the ship.

### Race Aces



**Some the pupils who took part in the Race for Life**

St Andrew's CE Primary School pupils in Soham ran their own version of the Race for Life.

The pupils took part in a 5km relay on the school field to raise money for Cancer Research in memory of a member of staff who died of cancer last year.

Fifty teachers and friends from the school also took part in the Race for Life, either by running, jogging or walking the 5km course. For more information on the Race for Life visit:

[www.raceforlife.org](http://www.raceforlife.org)



### Opening of new extension at St Peter's Junior School



*Bishop Anthony with the dedication plaque*

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June was a great day at St Peters Church of England Junior School in Wisbech, as Bishop Anthony opened the new extension to the building comprising a new staff room, an ICT suite and a cookery room.

The new area is to be known as "The Canon Zwalf Centre for Excellence" – a fitting tribute to Canon Wim Zwalf who has been Chair of Governors at the school for the last eighteen years, and who has guided and supported the school with enthusiasm and devotion through all this time.



*Canon Wim Zwalf*

The opening ceremony included much joyous singing, and also a display of bangra dancing from the Punjab by Year 6 pupils (which had been learnt in a very short time that morning).



*Bangra Dancers displaying their talents*

Following Bishop Anthony's dedication of the new part of the building, Canon Zwalf himself led the school in prayer.

As the invited guests then went to look at the new centre, the pupils continued with a bangra workshop!



### Teacher of the Year Award

Earlier in the year Headteacher Anne Senior at Anthony Curton CE Primary School nominated the school's SENCo, Mrs. Claire Asher, for one of the National Teacher of the Year Awards.



This was in recognition of the outstanding contribution Mrs Asher gives to not only the children at the school, a significant number of whom have Special Educational Needs, but also the invaluable support she gives to many parents and families.

She also fully supports the other members of staff in her role as SENCo, offering advice, guidance and resources. She has been nominated in the SENCo section of the awards.

The school's co-ordination of provision and curriculum organisation for children with special educational needs or difficulties, was recognised recently in the school's Ofsted Inspection as

'Outstanding'. This is largely due to the dedication and commitment of Mrs Asher, who also works 2 days a week as one of our Year 1 teachers.

Mrs Asher was interviewed and observed in school over the course of a full day as part of the judging process, as were members of staff, representatives of parents, and many of the children, and successfully reached the Regional Final, which will take place at De Vere Dunston Hall Hotel where **Mrs Asher won the award for 'Special Needs Teacher of the Year', for the Eastern Region.**

The awards were presented by Suzie Fowler Watts from Look East and Baroness Shirley Williams. The local Press, TV and Radio covered the event.

Claire will now be joined by other regional winners at the National Teaching Awards ceremony at the London Palladium on October 19th 2008

## Partnership!

Over the last year, Abbots Ripton C E Primary School and St John's C E Primary School have developed a partnership which has had an incredibly positive impact on pupils' social skills and understanding of the diversity of our local communities. As two church schools in very different locations we wanted to help the children have a sense of belonging that, no matter who you are or where you come from, people are the same-unique, talented, equally valued and able to make a positive contribution to society. We aim to raise the children's own spirituality so that we can build within them resources that they can fall back on throughout life.

The idea originated from work done in the HuntSNet Continuity group to pair up schools with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of transition. Helen Wilman, Head of Abbots Ripton, and Helen Curtis, Head of St John's, both agreed that theirs would be an ideal partnership as both schools are church schools and of a similar size. To date, we have had 4 days together. The support of local clergymen Brian Atling, Mark Savage and Nick Devenish has been a huge advantage to this work and has ensured that the spiritual focus of the days have not been lost.

We started BIG in July 2007 with a day to celebrate 'Belonging.' All staff and pupils from Abbots Ripton spent the day at St John's. We started the day with worship and then children worked in mixed groups to focus on aspects of belonging to the church. The day finished with a communion led by Tim Elbourne.



Our next venture was to share in a joint Christingle celebration.

We 'swapped' a coach of children and the children worked in mixed groups to make Christingles.

There was not a dry eye in the house when the candles were lit.

Next came- you've guessed it- Easter! Abbots Ripton managed to 'rein in' a local pony (after a great deal of fruitless donkey searching) and the Year 2/3 children from St John's spent the day at Abbots Ripton school.

The "Cheer and Jeer" day was based upon the emotions of Holy Week and children learnt how different groups of people made choices during that time and why they may have done so. Pupils' confidence at working with each other had clearly grown significantly by this point and we were delighted that children from both schools were confident to share their work with everyone- at the same time as reflecting about the Easter Message.

Our most recent event was held at St John's and was based around the 'Miracles of Jesus.' 6 children from Abbots Ripton joined each class at St John's and worked to produce art, drama and poetry related to a miracle.

All classes shared their work at St Barnabas- this went from the sharing of tuna wraps (bread and fishes!) to 'row the boat' (calming of the storm) and some very powerful drama/ storyboards. What felt really special about this day was the joy on pupils' faces at seeing their friends and the way that children from reception upwards completely supported each other for the whole day.



We are delighted with the partnership we have formed- but what impact has it had? Where do we start!

- \* **Raised spiritual awareness amongst staff and pupils of both schools**
- \* **Greater pupil confidence**
- \* **Stronger links with the church**
- \* **Staff networking and support- vital in small schools**
- \* **Raised pupil awareness of diversity in our society**
- \* **A lot of excitement and fun!!!**
- \* **Giving children a sense of belonging that hopefully will stay with them throughout life.**

## For Governors

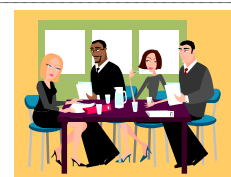
### Welcome to newly appointed Foundation Governors

New (or re-appointed) Foundation Governors:-

- ◆ **Mr David Wright—St Philip's CE Community Primary School**
- ◆ **Mr Philip Kingsmill—Swaffham Prior CE Primary School**

Thank you,

Debbie



May I ask all Clerks to keep a check on the **terms of office** of all Foundation Governors and advise me of any re-appointments.

## In our Prayers over the next month



## The Back Page

### Dates for the Diary

Day	School
25th June	Bury CE Primary School
30th June	Elton CE Primary School
3rd July	Stilton CE Primary School
4th July	Folksworth CE Primary School
5th July	Farcet CE Primary School
7th July	Ely St Mary's Junior School

RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	26th June 4pm-5.30pm	Linton Infants School
Headteachers' Conference	14th July 1.45pm-5.15pm	Bishop Woodford House
Church Schools Garden Party	14th July 6pm-8pm	Bishop Woodford House Gardens

## Vacancies

SCHOOL	VACANCY	CLOSING DATE
Gt Wilbraham CE Primary School	KS1 Teacher (Maternity Cover)	11.7.08
Park Street CE Primary School	KS1 Teacher (Maternity Cover)	10.7.08
Barton CE Primary School	Class Teacher (60%) & Class Teacher	4.7.08 4.7.08
St Paul's CE Primary School	Teaching Posts	3.7.08
St John's CE Primary School, Stanground	Class Teacher (Part-time)	30.6.08
Linton CE Infant School	PPA Teacher	27.6.08
Orchards CE Primary School, Wisbech	AST Teacher & Class Teacher	27.6.08 27.6.08

Contact details for all schools can be found on our website:

[www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/Info/Sch](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/Info/Sch)

## SIAS Reports

Inspection Reports (Ofsted and Statutory Church School Inspection) were published recently for the following schools:

- ◆ **St Paul's CE Primary School**
- ◆ **Cherry Hinton CE Infant School**

These Inspection Reports can be read directly via the link on our website. Click on:

**"Information about Individual Schools" on the Education or Schools homepages**

We're on the web!

[www.ely.anglican.org/education](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education)