

News from around the Diocese of Ely

WHAT'S ON

**February 13th - 20th "Between the image and the flame"**. An exhibition of painting and sculpture by Paul Hobbs at Christ Church, Cambridge.

**February 15th, 10am-4pm. Keeping Vocation Alive.**

A Quiet Day for Clergy at St Mary's Church and Hall, Ely.

**February 15th, 7-9pm. Toolkit Workshop: 'Growing young people in your church'.**

St Barnabas Church Centre, Huntingdon.

**February 28th for 6 weeks.**

**Core Skills course** in Willingham. See January 2011 eLife for details.

**March 1st, 9:30am – 4pm.**

**The Weddings Project Day** at St Mary's Church Hall, Ely.

**March 4th, 12-6pm. 'A Surge of the Heart' for Women's World Day of Prayer 2011.**

St Andrew's Church, Caxton. Drop in for as little or long as you like. Refreshments, a space for children to play and activities will be provided. Details from Emma Rothwell; 01954 713987, emma.rothwell@ely.anglican.org

**March 5th, 10am – 4pm.**

**The Prayer of Asking.** Simeon Centre, Ridley Hall.

**March 5th, 11am.**

**Children's Event preceding the Installation of the Bishop of Ely.** St Mary's Church, Ely.

**March 5th, 12noon.**

**Installation and Enthronement of the Bishop of Ely.** Ticketed event. Ely Cathedral.

See [www.ely.anglican.org/news\\_events/events.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/events.html) for more details on all events, including those in parishes.



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Image: Bishop Stephen, the Bishop of Ely, visiting a Church School in the Diocese.  
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## Bishop's Lent Appeal 2011 funding Bibles for China

For the Bishop's Lent Appeal 2011, parishes are invited to support the Bible Society's China Project.

The China Project provides several million Bibles a year to Chinese Christians, many of them new to the faith, at affordable prices. It is approved by the state of China and the China Christian Council. £350 will purchase a roll of paper sufficient to print 600 Bibles. £50 will buy 30 Bibles. 60p will cover the cost of the paper used for a single edition. Each Bible costs £5 to produce as a bound book. The quality of the finished article, printed on fine paper and in a simulated leather binding, is impressive and reinforces the significance of what is being given.

Bishop Stephen says '*The Bible Society and its affiliates are an enormous organisation, extending across the world, and best known*

*for offering the Bible to people who might never otherwise have the opportunity to read it in their own language. Their work is a particularly appropriate focus for giving in the year when we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible and its enormous influence on the English-speaking world.'*

If you, your church or group would like to give to the Bishop's Lent Appeal 2011 you may do so by sending a cheque, made payable to 'Ely DBF' to the Bishop's Lent Appeal, Accounts Department, Bishop Woodford House, Barton Road, Ely CB7 4DX.

For more details, or to download a Gift Aid form which allows the Appeal to reclaim the tax on donations from the Government, go to [http://www.ely.anglican.org/news\\_events/news\\_items/lent11.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/news_items/lent11.html)

## Bishop David tweeting to encourage prayer and action

The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Rev David Thomson is launching **Count Your Blessings** in Twitter on Ash Wednesday, March 9th.

Bishop David has teamed up with Christian Aid to encourage Christians to pray, act and give this Lent. During the 45 days of Lent, Bishop David will use Twitter to share daily reflections and actions alongside Christian Aid's tweets.

Bishop David says: '*Twitter is a great way of passing on the quick and practical ideas that Christian Aid has come up with for Lent. Follow*

*me @bpdtd and see if I manage to keep up with them!'*

Bishop David is also challenging us to **Read The Bible in 40 Days** this Lent, the year in which we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible.

Read more at his Round the World Blog <http://roundthebible.wordpress.com/>

There will be a launch event on Ash Wednesday when Bishop David will be giving out Bibles on the streets of Ely.

# The King's Speech

Lesley Ann Thompson, Marketing Manager of Ely Cathedral writes:

In December 2009, at a time when any Cathedral is gearing up for one of its busiest times of the year, we found ourselves preparing to be one of the key locations for The King's Speech.

A week of major stage building, props and set dressing transformed the Octagon area into the interior of Westminster Abbey, just as it looked in 1937 on the eve of the Coronation of King George VI.

Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush and Derek Jacobi were the main members of the cast on set at Ely, along with about 40 film crew. We were

## Shopping - another new religion?

The Ven Hugh McCurdy, Archdeacon of Huntingdon and Wisbech, was recently contacted by Hodder Education for permission to use a letter he had written in 1998 as a parish priest. It had been found online on the Histon and Impington Village website.

His article was an open letter to the local community on the subject of shopping and religion. In it, he remarked how shopping had become a leisure activity in recent years. He pointed out that some of our shopping centres bear a strong resemblance to cathedrals with their domes, and how even local supermarkets have spires and clock towers - usually the preserve of the Anglican church in years gone by.

## Ministry and Motherhood

The Revd Dr Emma Percy is leading a day conference on Ministry and Motherhood. The day, exploring the theological, missional, ministerial and practical implications of this relatively unvisited topic, is on Thursday 26th May, 10.30am - 4pm at Bishop Woodford House, Ely. Emma's writing and research explores the interface of mothering and ministry and how that dialogue can inform and enrich our self-understanding and ministerial practice.

This conference is not just for women clergy/ministers with children but for anyone - male and female, married and single - who wants to think about the impact of this theme in the Church and wider society.

very lucky - they were all so charming and amenable. The cast and crew were happy for members of the public and Cathedral staff to watch the filming in progress and sign autographs. Filming stopped for the daily procession of Evensong which had been relocated to the Lady Chapel.

We are delighted the film has been so well received and, with the Academy Awards and the Baftas still to come, it looks set to win even more awards and accolades.

We are hoping to be able to show The King's Speech in the Cathedral following its general release, but in the meantime there will be a special showing at The Maltings in Ely on 25th and 27th February.

Hodder Education are using the article in their publication '*Religious Studies for Common Entrance Teacher's Resource Book*' by Susan Grenfell. Hugh's letter is to appear on a worksheet for pupils in a unit on *Elijah and the prophets of Baal* with accompanying questions such as 'In what ways are supermarkets like and unlike churches?' and 'What is meant by the phrase "modern temples"?'.

Hugh says '*I was delighted that my letter to parishioners from so long ago is going to be used in this way. It is also a reminder of how enduring anything we write on the Internet can be.*'

To read the full article and the questions being used in the worksheet go to <http://tinyurl.com/hisimp>

The cost of the day is £15 (subsidised by Ely Diocese). For more details please contact the Revd Pauline Reid, tel. 01638 508990 or email [revpauline@btinternet.com](mailto:revpauline@btinternet.com)

Coffee, lunch and tea will be provided. The day will start promptly at 10.30am and coffee will be served after the opening session.

Parking is available at Bishop Woodford House with additional parking available very close by in Barton Road car park. A crèche is available if required.

Details and booking form at [www.ely.anglican.org/26may11](http://www.ely.anglican.org/26may11)

COMINGS AND GOINGS  
**The Revd Dr Eleanor Williams** will be instituted and inducted as Vicar of Burwell with Reach on Wednesday 13th April, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Burwell.

**The Revd Canon Malcolm Griffith** will retire, and therefore resign, as Rector of St Nicholas Glatton and All Saints Sawtry with effect from 31st May 2011. Malcolm will continue in his role as Rural Dean of Yaxley Deanery and as Chairman of the Diocesan Houses Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT VACANCY  
We are looking for a suitably qualified person to administer the Resources Centre and support the work of the Schools Administrator. The job is varied and interesting. For details go to [www.ely.anglican.org/news\\_events/vacancies.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/vacancies.html) or contact Cathy on 01353 652724, [cathy.priestley@ely.anglican.org](mailto:cathy.priestley@ely.anglican.org). The deadline for applications is Monday 28th February.

OPEN THE BOOK offers a free programme of themed and dramatised Bible stories, each around 10 minutes long, that fit comfortably into assembly times in schools.

Storytellers use drama, mime, props, costume - even the children and staff themselves - to present Bible stories in ways that are lively, engaging, informative and great fun for everyone involved!

There is an **Open the Book Training Day on March 28th, 10am-3pm at Ely Cathedral Centre**. Come along with your volunteer storytellers, a minimum of 4 is ideal. £10 per person or £15 per team. Bring a packed lunch - refreshments provided. To book (by 21st March) or for further information contact Julia Chamberlin, 07837 699016 or go to <http://tinyurl.com/ely-otb>