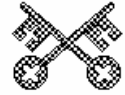




Parish News



The Diocese of St Albans, Welwyn Team Ministry

June 2009

Parish of St Peter, Tewin

Price 50p

Team Vicar	Revd. Coralie McCluskey, The Rectory, Brookbridge Lane, Datchworth, Knebworth, SG3 6SU tel: 01438 817183 e-mail: team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk
Team Rector	Revd. Dr Alan Winton tel 01438 714150 e-mail <rector@welwyn.org.uk>
Reader	Mick Simmons tel 01707 334805 e-mail Michael.simmons53@ntlworld.com
Clergy Surgery	Saturdays at St Mary's 10.00—11.30 am
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pete Johnson , 11 Jonathan House, Little Harding's, Panshanger, AL7 2EL (01707 332579) Mr M Kersey, 7 Pennyfathers Lane, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0EN (01438 716817)
Parochial Church Council:	
Hon Secretary:	Mrs D.Applegate,11 Orchard Road, Tewin, Welwyn, AL6 0HE (01438 798235)
Hon Treasurer:	Mr G.G.Spring, Warden's Lodge, 25 Digswell Park Road, WGC, AL8 7NW (01707 375499)
Organist:	Rosemary Knight, 1 Nunnery Stables, Cotton mill Lane, St Albans, AL1 2AS (01727 766871)
Ringers:	Mr David Hall (01707 884274)

In popular culture June has traditionally been the month for lovers. There are many song lyrics which speak of “moon” and “spoon” in connection with June. Perhaps, in reality it has nothing to do with the activity of lovers but is merely due to the fact that moon and spoon are handy rhymes:

*By the light, of the silvery moon,
I want to spoon, to my honey I'll croon love's tune.
Honey moon, keep a-shinin' in June,
Your silv'ry beams will bring loves dreams
We'll be cuddlin' soon, by the silvery moon.*

Of course this view of life is one that is seen through rose coloured glasses and doesn't reflect reality very much at all. Speaking of roses, however, reminds me that June is also the month of the rose; a time when gardens are filled with both their divine fragrance and the beauty of their colours and shapes. It isn't surprising therefore that the rose has been called the 'queen of flowers'.

It's for this reason perhaps, that in Christian symbolism the rose has often been associated with the Virgin Mary. For Christians in the middle ages, the white rose came to be associated with purity, specifically the virginity and innocence of the Virgin Mary. Popular literature claims that before the rose became a flower of the earth, it grew in Paradise without thorns. The thorns came after Adam and Eve were banished from Eden to remind humans of their sins and their fall from grace. The rose's fragrance and beauty remain, supposedly to remind humans of the splendour they lost. In reference to this legend the Virgin Mary is called a “rose without thorns” because she was free from original sin. The red rose, on the other hand was a symbol of the blood of the Christian martyrs. In the 12th century the Church introduced the rose into its ceremonies. For example, at Whitsun, formerly known in France as “Rose Easter,” processions were showered with rose petals; perhaps we should reinstate this rather lovely sounding ceremony.

Yet the rose has a much wider and more profound symbolism than that relating to groups or individuals. In gothic cathedrals are to be found 'rose windows'; circular stained glass windows above the entrances. These immense roses symbolize the World of Salvation offered and revealed by God to our lost human race through the Old and New Testament. Christ is at the centre of these roses, where he appears chiefly either as judge or in the mystery of his Incarnation. In the centre of these latter representations we see Mary showing forth the child Jesus; all around are figures and scenes of the Bible illustrating the history of our salvation. In this artistic creation, the universal symbolism of the rose probably found its highest illustration.

As you spend time in your gardens this month I hope that this will enable you to gain an enhanced appreciation of your roses if you have any, and if you haven't, I hope that you'll be inspired to plant some.

Yours in Christ

Mick Simmons

Churchwardens' Notes

Prayer List

Monday 1st - All in Firs Walk
Tuesday 2nd - All in East Riding
Wednesday 3rd - Our Church Bell ringers
Thursday 4th - All in Godfries Close
Friday 5th - St Peter's, Ayot St Peter
Saturday 6th - Our Intercessors and Readers
Sunday 7th Our clergy Alan, Coralie, Diane & Stephen
Monday 8th - Our Rainbows & Brownie Groups
Tuesday 9th - All in Margery Lane
Wednesday 10th - Tewin Parent and Toddler Grp
Thursday 11th - All in Mill House
Friday 12th - All in Badgers Walk
Saturday 13th - All in Bishop's Road
Sunday 14th -All those preparing for Confirmation
Monday 15th - Our neighbours in Cowper's Way
Tuesday 16th - Our cleaners and coffee makers
Wednesday 17th - The congregation of St Michael's,
Thursday 18th -All in Tewin Water
Friday 19th -The Tewin Under Fives Grp
Saturday 20th - Members of other local churches
Sunday 21st - Our Family Service
Monday 22nd - All those who sing in our Choir
Tuesday 23rd - Retired Clergy who assist our Team
Wednesday 24th - Village clubs and organizations
Thursday 25th - The Searching Issues Group
Friday 26th - All in Poplars Green
Saturday 27th - Doctors, nurses & care workers
Sunday 28th - Our Young St Peter's Group
Monday 29th - All in Marden Hill
Tuesday 30th -The staff, pupils and governors of Tewin Cowper JMI School

St. Peter's, TEWIN **Harvest Festival Weekend**

19th-20th September 2009

On the evening of Saturday 19th September, as part of the Harvest weekend at St Peter's we have been fortunate enough to secure the services of the Royal Academy Opera Vocal Quartet who will deliver a varied programme of light music - to appeal to all ages and tastes. It is hoped to extend our church audience on this occasion by offering 'picnic tickets' to families. This should prove an exciting evening of song - please put the date in your diary. Further details about both the programme and tickets will be available shortly. *Pauline Brown*

It seems a long time ago now but the first Bank Holiday in May was a busy time for both the school and the church. On May Day the school gave a wonderful display of maypole dancing on the village green and we are very fortunate that they have agreed to repeat the performance for us during our Harvest Festival Weekend, September 19th and 20th. So if you missed the May Day occasion please come along and enjoy it in September.

On the Friday evening and the Saturday of the Bank Holiday the annual church spring clean took place. Our thanks go to all the scrubbers, polishers, and furniture removers who worked so hard and to Ivor Williams for providing the hot water again.

On Saturday May 16th a Prayer Day was held at St.Peter's, led by Sister Mary from the Community of St.John the Baptist at Begbroke. Eighteen people came along and experienced insightful and stimulating day. Our thanks go to Sister Mary & Stephen Fielding for organising it and Ruth and Ted Sharp for their hospitality in the evening.

You may have noticed that the lantern on the northwest buttress of the tower has been removed. A new unit is being fabricated at the Mill Green Forge in Essendon and we hope to have it re-instated before the winter. The Memorial Book has also been temporarily removed for up-dating and we hope to have it back soon.

You may also have noticed that the sick Horse chestnut tree in the churchyard has been felled. Although there were a few live shoots analyse of samples sent away confirmed that it was suffering from leaf curl disease and a virus and would never have recovered. With the high winds we have been experiencing recently we had to act quickly, before anyone got hurt by falling branches.

Returning to the Harvest Festival Weekend, a cookery book of the favourite recipes of Tewin residents is being prepared, as I'm sure you've heard by now. There has been a good response for all things sweet, ie.desserts and cakes but the organisers would like to hear from you about your favourite savoury dishes i.e. starters, supper dishes and main meals. Entry forms are available from the Tewin Village Store and at the back of the church.

We have recently been pleased to host two weddings, on April 25th and May 30th, which would normally have taken place at St. Mary Magdene, Hatfield Hyde had their church not been out of use due to re-ordering.

We all miss Peter Walters immensely and this was demonstrated by the large number of people from the parish who attended the Funeral and Service of Thanksgiving on May 12th. Our thoughts and prayers are with Audrey and her family at this time.

By the time you receive this Parish News a Memorial Service will have been held for Freda Owen followed by the interment of ashes.

A warm welcome goes to Clare Curly and Callie Christina Jones who were baptised at our Family Service on May 17th.

Pete and Mike

MESSAGE FROM TEWIN COWPER SCHOOL



Our Spring Term ended on a high: we had over 50 performances at our annual talent show and were well entertained by singers, instrumentalists, dancers, joke-tellers, actors, gymnasts and sportsmen and even an egg-laying chicken! It was lovely to see the wealth of talent we have in the school and the enthusiasm with which the children showed their skills and interests.

The opening of our new playground equipment was a special event and one that you may have spotted in the Welwyn and Hatfield times. Jo Goode, an Olympic medallist and parent of the school, cut the ribbon. We also had special visitors 'Henk the Lion' from local company Henkel (best known for brands such as Sellotape and Loctite), who had made a generous donation towards our equipment and the 'Jaffa Orange man' who gave each child a celebratory clementine! This was the culmination of tireless work from the Parents Association who had organised many events to raise money and the committee of parents who organised all the tenders and liaised with the providers to ensure the equipment is a good investment and will be enjoyed by the children for many years to come.



Our Easter Service at St Peter's was a special ending to the term with all the children taking part and many parents and friends attending.



We have had a wonderful start to our Summer Term. Many of our activities have highlighted the impact of being part of the local community, where there are so many opportunities and events for all. 1st May was a special highlight of our year. The 'Friends of Tewin' committee invited us to May Day celebrations on Lower Green, in particular to bring the Maypole and re-establish the tradition of Maypole Dancing. Mrs Campbell, class teacher in Jupiter (years 3 and 4), gave much of her time at weekends to ensure that this could take place and all the children in her class had a wonderful time learning the Maypole Dances and Country Dances with which they entertained everyone who came to the celebrations. The school choir, trained by Miss Groves (class teacher in Pluto), also sang and at the end of the festivities, everyone was invited to join in with a country dance. It was an idyllic village scene, we were blessed with wonderful weather and I am sure it is a morning that will be long remembered. We are extremely grateful to the 'Friends of Tewin' committee, especially Linda Crawford and John Sheridan who made us feel so welcome and enabled us to participate.

Neptune Class (Years 1 and 2) have explored their learning in two different Tewin venues. Firstly they went to the allotments at the end of Cannons Meadow to support them in their learning about plants and growth. We are grateful to the residents who own the allotments for their generosity in allowing this to happen and giving their time to support the children's learning. The next week, the same class went on a walk through the Bluebell Woods. Again they had a wonderful time; it is such a bonus to have so many exciting resources on our doorstep, to support the teaching and learning in the school.



The Year 1 and 2 children had a great time at a multi-sports festival at Wodson Park. We have also celebrated the first anniversary of our 'Walking Bus'.

Alison Simpson and the Staff

Friends of Tewin

We have a few seats left for our trip to Southend on 7/7/09. We will leave the Rose & Crown public house at approx 9am. As it is not too far, we can go straight there and arrive in time for coffee. Hopefully the weather will be kind for us but there are the shops or the pier should it let us down. Other than that there are lovely gardens and walks and delicious fish and chip restaurants, or you might like a ride on one of the attractions! We will leave at 4pm. The cost is £9.75p to be paid on booking. We look forward to seeing you.

The Maypole Dance by the children from the school was wonderful. The weather was glorious and we thank them for bringing back a tradition for dancing and singing on our village green. We hope we can make it an annual event.

Linda Crawford Chairman of Friends of Tewin.

Due to lack of space this month a couple of articles have been held over to next month

Peter Donald Walters

Peter died peacefully in his sleep at his home in Tewin, where he was happiest, on Monday, 27th April 2009.

As a boy he attended Aldenham School which, like many such institutions near London, was evacuated to a safer part of the country during the War. Aldenham School moved to Cockermouth in Cumbria.

In 1964 he joined De Havilland's Technical School and stayed with that company, then Hawker Siddley and finally British Aerospace, all on the Hatfield site. Initially, he worked on the Comet and later became Chief Structural Engineer, when he was particularly responsible for the structural integrity of the Airbus wings. This required regular trips to Toulouse in France.

Peter met Audrey whilst playing tiddly-winks at Hendon Methodist Youth Club, and they were married on Midsummer's Day in 1950. Ann was born in 1952 and Alan in 1955. In 1959 the family moved to Tewin to have more space for the children, the cars and the dog. Peter was a great family man and thoroughly enjoyed seeing first his children, then his four grandchildren, grow up. He was very distressed when his daughter, Ann, was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and was extremely supportive to her, her husband and their children. Ann died in 2006.

As an engineer working in the aircraft industry, Peter also had an enthusiasm for steam trains, from being a 'train spotter' as a boy to later enjoying visits to see trains whenever the opportunity arose. He also had a love of vintage cars and at one time owned a Rolls Royce, two Humbers and an Austin 7 (which Audrey drove), arguing that several cars were needed in case one broke down!

Peter and Audrey enjoyed life in Tewin and became very involved with the Tewin Players, where Peter took the juvenile lead on a number of occasions. He spent many hours recording sound effects, which involved his bursting balloons in the bath and recording popcorn to slow down for gunfire! He then spliced the tape for the performance.

Peter was also very active in the community, including becoming Chairman of the Parish Council. He was on the Tewin Memorial Hall Committee and was a member of The Tewin Society and also THACS. In 2000 he helped considerably with the Millennium Exhibition, and more recently with the preparation of the History of Tewin book, using his considerable knowledge of the history of St Peter's Church.

The Church was very dear to him. He joined when Ann and Alan took up bell ringing, and talked so much about it when at home that he and Audrey decided to join in. Peter was confirmed in 1975, and was a member of the Parochial Church Council for many years. He was Churchwarden for 18 years, during which time he updated the Churchyard plan, fought to get a Memorial Garden and stitched two tapestry pictures for the Millennium kneelers, as well as dealing with interregnums and parish reorganisation. Peter continued bell ringing and became Captain of the Tower in 1975 until 2008. He enjoyed the camaraderie of the bell ringers and the annual weekend away together in June each year.

Once retired, he became a Governor of Tewin Cowper School and helped with science lessons. He had fun at Cuffley Camp in the rain and camping in Penal, a change from his family holidays which were almost always spent on Canal boats in the UK. A new hobby was teaching himself computing and he took delight in finding ways to get the computer to do what he wanted! He became Editor and Publisher of the Parish News and was involved in the Tewin website.

As well as being a devoted family man, Peter was a kind friend and help to many. He gave so much of his time to the parish and to the people of Tewin, a great many of whom attended the funeral and Service of Thanksgiving for his life, at St Peter's Church on Tuesday, 12th May 2009, when the bell ringers rang out a splendid tribute to one of their own dedicated members.

Trumps – and trumps again

We have recently enjoyed presentations in church by Christine Brown from Marie Curie Cancer Care and by Carol Akiwumi from the Bible Society. They each talked about the work of their respective charities and gave us a deeper insight into how their hard earned funds are used.

The congregation at St Peter's has come up trumps, and trumps again, giving generously to both their causes. Monies collected in direct response to the talks has enabled us to send £272 to Marie Curie and £161 to the Bible Society. These sums include tax relief we shall recover on the donations which were made in Gift Aid envelopes.

If you pay tax, do please use these special envelopes wherever possible so that we can recover tax on your gifts and increase their value by 25%. This applies to gifts to the church as well as for special charity collections; but please remember to fill in the name and address details on the envelope. They are essential for the recovery of the tax. Graham Spring, Hon. Treasurer



Tewin under Fives, a friendly village pre-school

A grant of £25,000 has been secured by Tewin Under Fives. Pre-school leader, Sarah Storey, was eligible to apply for the grant from the council's Young in Herts group, after finishing her degree in Early Years Education. The money is being spent on improving the outside space and refurbishing the pre-school's home – the Scout hut next to Tewin's Memorial Hall.

The Scout hut has housed Tewin under Fives since the 1970's. Since October 2007, Sarah Storey has been the pre-school leader (she was formerly at Birch Green). The other staff members are Angela Watson (deputy), Zoe Atkins, Loida Hulse and Tracey Fretwell who all have NVQ Level 3. Together they make a great team. There's been a lot of activity in and around the Scout Hut over the last few weeks. The heating, electrics and lighting have all been updated, all the windows have now been replaced, new oak effect vinyl flooring has been fitted and plumbing improvements have been made. The garden's been extended with new fencing all around along with raised beds for vegetables and a new easy access shed. (The gardens were overhauled last April with money from years of fund-raising and the inside re-painted) The team also secured an additional grant of £2500 to invest in new computer equipment. Most of the money has now been spent on making Tewin under Fives a fantastic village facility with a lovely nurturing atmosphere for the children, some of whom are from the village and some from further afield.



The pre-school also went through an Ofsted inspection in January 2009, just 4 months after the implementation of a new national curriculum for this age group. The staff pulled out all the stops preparing for the inspection and they were duly rewarded with a rating of "Good". We are all very proud of this achievement.

Many of the pre-school children go on to Tewin Cowper School and some go to other local schools. The summer term sees a lot of interaction with Tewin Cowper Head teacher, Alison Simpson and teacher, Katie Groves in preparation for the very exciting transition to 'big school' for the rising 5 year olds.

Although the school receives funding from the council for most children, it is also a registered charity and is managed by a committee of volunteers made up of current parents of children attending the pre-school. Fund-raising for improvements to the pre-school facilities are required on an ongoing basis with large and small events running all year. Last summer saw a most memorable 80's night fancy dress party which was a huge success (did anyone see Adam Ant or Tina Turner?). This June, the committee is holding a Bond night (organised by Dinah Macdonald) on Saturday June 13th in the Memorial Hall which will, we hope, be another thrilling fancy dress event. Watch out for Scaramanga and other Bond baddies around the Green that evening. There will be Dj-ing by Bill Donald, a Hog Roast and a free cocktail on arrival. Parents of the pre-school children will also be providing salads and pudding. There are some excellent auction and raffle prizes on the list this year (including free flights, tennis tickets, meals at local eateries and many more). If you would like to come, please call Caroline Davies on 07768 237398. (Tickets priced at £15 per person and selling fast!) Tewin under Fives is open from 9am-12pm everyday and also offers a lunch club until 1pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. We take children from 2 years and 9 months until they begin Reception at school. There is the capacity to take 20 children for a maximum of 5 sessions a week and although there is limited availability at the moment, places will become available in September 2009. If you would like any more information about the pre-school which takes children from 2 years 9 months until they start Reception, please contact us at the Scout Hut on 01438 716132 or by email at tewinunderfives@hotmail.com.



Caroline Davies is chair of the management committee for Tewin Under Fives and mother of 3 children who have all been very happy at the pre-school!

Tewin Family Swimming Pool

Come and join us in our lovely school pool for the summer! Tickets available to local residents from Mon 22nd June 2009 Price : £35 for 2 adults and 1 child, £40 for 2 adults and 2 children and £45 . for 2 adults and up to 4 children. Named people on tickets. Pool open from Wednesday 22nd July. Last day for swimming Sun 30th August. Swimming times Tues -Sat 2-7pm. Sunday 2-5pm. Closed Mondays. Application form can be picked up from Tewin Cowper School. Any queries to Christina Kirby 07900 070172 or Helen Gouldstone. 07909 968223

Thacs -Tewin horticultural arts & crafts society

Forthcoming events ~ Saturday 20th June 2009 - *THACS* plant stall at the village fete. *THACS* will again be managing the plant stall and will be grateful for any plants that you can donate to sell in aid of the Tewin Memorial Hall. Unwanted seedlings, rooted cuttings and divided perennials will all be welcome. Please label and deliver to the stall on Lower Green in the morning from 11am. Alternatively you may leave them with Sue Whitbourn (01438798221) at 107 Burnham Green Road.

Saturday 18th July 2009 - Visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Here is an outing that has something for everyone! The Victoria & Albert is the greatest museum for art and design, a world treasure house with collections which hold over 3000 years worth of artefacts, including ceramics, fashion and jewellery, furniture, glass, sculpture, metalwork, paintings and drawings, photographs, prints, books and textiles. All free.

At this time there will be a special exhibition on the BAROQUE Period 1620 – 1800. This is one of the most opulent styles of the 17th and 18th centuries, from the Rome of Borromini and Bernini to the magnificence of Louis XIV's Versailles. On display will be religious paintings by Rubens and Tiepolo and all the splendours of a Baroque palace. The cost of this exhibition is at the discounted group price of £8 per person. All else is free, including a one-hour introductory tour if desired. If the V&A museum cannot satisfy you, then just around the corner are the Science and Natural History museums. The cost for the coach is £10 for members and £12 for non-members. If you wish to come, then please complete the booking form and send it with your payment to Pat Fulford by 13th June 2009. You can get the booking form from the newsletter on the *THACS* page on the Tewin web site (www.tewinvillage.co.uk) or from Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, AL6 0NP (01438 798717).

Recent events ~ Thursday 30th April 2009 - Visit to RHS gardens, Wisley . A full 57-seater coach left Tewin at 9:00 on our way to the RHS gardens at Wisley. After a smooth and comfortable journey, we set about exploring the gardens. More than 30 people elected to go on the optional guided tour and they were split into two groups, each with its own guide. The guides were very knowledgeable and achieved the right mix of horticultural and historical information, making the tour enjoyable and informative. Even seasoned Wisley visitors experienced new aspects of the garden. The tour took about 1½ hours so there was still plenty of time for lunch and exploration. The new glasshouse and lake are magnificent and the surrounding planting is just starting to mature nicely. There are a series of glass panels either side of the path leading to the main entrance of the glasshouse, engraved with the names of the numerous sponsors of the greenhouse construction. These include *THACS* and it was lovely to see our name there as a tangible indication of our support of the RHS. The weather forecast had predicted some rain, but it did not materialise and so we were able to enjoy the gardens in dry weather. Some people visited the plant centre on the way out, resulting in an impressive collection of fine plants which were safely stowed in the coach's hold for the return journey. No doubt these plants will act as a living reminder of a great day out at Wisley.

Tewin Memorial Hall - VILLAGE FETE - 20th JUNE

Summer is fast approaching and plans are well in hand for the next Village Fete, so please note the date: SATURDAY, 20th JUNE: 2 – 5pm. As always, there will be numerous attractions for all the family to enjoy, including craft stalls, tombola, a children's funfair, soccer fun, a jazz band and a display by Dance Dynamix.

The success of the Village Fete depends on three main factors - 1) that the weather is kind to us, 2) that we get a lot of visitors, and 3) that we have as much assistance as possible from villagers. We need a great deal of help setting up on Lower Green in the morning and clearing away afterwards and with manning the stalls during the day, so if you can assist in any way, before the Fete or on the day, we would be most grateful – and it would be very helpful if you can let us know in advance so we can allocate jobs. Please phone Lynn Farr on 798307, or Todd Canton on 717395. In the meantime, we are again asking for contributions to the following stalls and do hope you can help: TOMBOLA Wine – Spirits – Gifts – Chocolates - any other items (not jumble). Please contact Mary Gregg on 01438 717544 or deliver to 20A Hertford Road any time prior to the Fete, BUT NO LATER THAN THE DAY BEFORE, i.e. FRIDAY 19TH JUNE.

BRAND NEW/NEARLY NEW STALL Unwanted presents – Impulse purchases – Forgotten items tucked away in drawers – Anything from toiletries to kitchen utensils, to gardening paraphernalia etc.

All items gratefully received by Alison Burleigh, who is happy to collect at a mutually convenient time. Please contact her on 01438 715260. Alternatively donations can be left at 23 Harwood Close - BY WEDNESDAY, 17TH JUNE PLEASE. CAKES etc Home Made Cakes - large or small - Preserves etc.

Please contact Jean Canton on 01438 717395, or deliver to her at 21 Lower Green on FRIDAY 19TH OR SATURDAY 20TH JUNE (before 12 noon please). You can also deliver direct to the Memorial Hall ON THE SATURDAY MORNING. Please note that proceeds from the sale of all these donations will go to the Memorial Hall Thank you. The Tewin Memorial Hall Committee.