

## Church Council Members (as at May 09)

### Chairperson

Mike Shrubsole 142 Tilkey Road, Br. 564880  
Coggeshall  
CO6 1QN

### Secretary

Jacqui King 94 Chestnut Avenue Br. 560561  
CM77 7YJ

### Treasurer

Maggie Ouwehand 20 The Ley Br. 348682  
CM7 3NS

### Church Councillors

Paul Freeman 57 Pochard Way Br. 554974  
Rosemary Freeman CM77 7WA

Mike Higby 39 Wainwright Ave Br. 331180  
CM77 7LJ

Louise Shrubsole 142 Tilkey Road, Br. 564880  
Coggeshall  
CO6 1QN

John Warboys 6 Teal Close Br. 331461  
CM77 7YB

We are always looking for good articles to put into this newsletter, so if you have come across anything which you think might be of interest to others, personal reflections, poems, etc, please let me have them before the next deadline, which is:

**Monday 2 November 09, for distribution end November.**

Articles may be edited due to space restrictions.

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# The Church in Great Notley

All ages welcome  
Come and join us as we praise God together



## Sept - Nov 09

We are five denominations working together:  
Anglican, Baptist, Methodist, Roman Catholic  
and United Reformed Church

### Ministers

Rev. Mike Shrubsole Rev. Beth Bendrey  
ph. 01376 564880 ph. 01376 567971  
[m.shrubsole@virgin.net](mailto:m.shrubsole@virgin.net) [bethbendrey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bethbendrey@hotmail.co.uk)

[www.greatnotleychurch.org.uk](http://www.greatnotleychurch.org.uk)

### Mission statement

The aim of this church is:-  
*To show the love of Jesus in word and action  
so that others may come to know him as Lord and Saviour.*

## Sunday Services for Sept-Nov 09

(In the Community Centre)

All are welcome to our Sunday morning services at **10.30am. Holy Communion (HC)** is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, and we have **All Age Worship (AAW)** on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

<b>Sept 6</b>	<b>10.30am Anglican</b>
<b>Sept 6</b>	<b>6.00pm Val Spouge</b>
<b>Sept 13</b>	<b>HC Rev. Jenny Spouge</b>
<b>Sept 20</b>	<b>Methodist</b>
<b>Sept 27</b>	<b>Harvest Service</b>

<b>Oct 4</b>	<b>10.30am Anglican</b>
<b>Oct 4</b>	<b>6.00pm Val Spouge</b>
<b>Oct 11</b>	<b>HC Rev. David Dickens</b>
<b>Oct 18</b>	<b>to be advised</b>
<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Rev. Mike Shrubsole</b>

<b>Nov 1</b>	<b>10.30am Anglican</b>
<b>Nov 1</b>	<b>6.00pm to be advised</b>
<b>Nov 8</b>	<b>HC Rev Mike Shrubsole</b>
<b>Nov 15</b>	<b>Rev. Paul Whittle</b>
	<b>URC Moderator</b>
<b>Nov 22</b>	<b>to be advised</b>
<b>Nov 29</b>	<b>to be advised</b>

## Should or Could

I should do this, I should do that.  
My life is ruled by duty.  
My worry: do I get it right?  
Do I shine out sincerity?

But change my 'should's into 'I could'  
And suddenly all seems brighter.  
The choice is mine  
I choose to shine  
I choose to give  
I choose to go  
I choose to let the loving flow  
From God, through me, to all I know.  
I do all this for His Name sake,  
This world a better place to make

*M Ouwehand*

## Dates for your diary.....

5 Sept – Prayer & Repentance for our Nation with  
Women Worldwide at Chelmsford Cathedral  
10am-3.30pm. [www.womenworldwide.btik.com](http://www.womenworldwide.btik.com)

7 Sept - Church Council Meeting

20 Sept - Induction service for Rev Beth Bendrey at  
3pm at SS Peter & Paul, B Notley

27 Sept - Back to Church Sunday 2009

27 Sept - Harvest All Age Festival

19 Oct - Church Council Meeting

25 Oct - Family Lunch to welcome Mike back

9 Nov - General Church Meeting

30 Nov - Church Council Meeting

**2009 - 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of John Calvin in Geneva**

This anniversary year has seen a fresh impetus towards the creation of one of the largest groupings of Christian Churches in the world. It includes our United Kingdom's United Reformed Church. The new World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) will be a fellowship of over 80 million Reformed Christians in 214 churches in 107 countries. Its member churches are Congregational, Presbyterian, Reformed and United churches with roots in the 16th-century Reformation led by John Calvin, John Knox and others. WCRC has a small secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland.

***"Semper Reformada - Always Reforming***

**PARC Play & Resource Centre  
for Children with Disabilities  
and their Families in Essex**

You may not be aware that the PARC Centre just next to Great Notley country Park, is available to hire for children's parties, training purposes and meetings. They are also hiring out their sensory room at a cost of £5 per hour or £2.50 per half-hour. Money from hire is re-invested in their services.

Tel: 01376 528999 for details.

**Letter from Beth Bendrey, our new minister**

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, surrounded by boxes, we are busy trying to move *and* go on holiday, a combination which doesn't work too well together! I am very much looking forward to joining you in Great Notley and Black Notley. It seems a long time since the interview day in April. It was lovely to meet some of you then, so thank you to those who were able to come and talk about the church and take me on my first tour of the area. I can now navigate the main areas at least although with my sense of direction, it may take a bit longer to learn to find my way around all the back streets...

I thought in this letter that I'd sketch a brief picture of myself and my husband Iain, so you have more of an idea of who'll be coming to join you. As you probably know, I've been curate in Witham for the past three years. This was my first post after training in Cambridge, and in the Anglican Church as you begin your ministry you are paired up with a more experienced priest to (hopefully!) learn all the things you didn't learn at college. I had worked initially with adults with learning disabilities, then was employed as Pastoral Assistant for a number of years in my local Anglican church, in West London. It was there I was called to the ministry and there too that I met my husband Iain. We were married in the Easter of 2006, just before I was ordained, so we were able to move together to Witham the following June. Iain is headteacher of two village primary schools, Bulphan and Orsett, and in his spare time, he's a self-supporting curate in Wickham Bishops. He has his curacy to finish there so we won't see him very much on Sundays here, but he is very supportive of my ministry and is looking forward to meeting you on other occasions.

It is exciting to be coming to an ecumenical church and I hope to draw on some of my different experiences over the years.

continued.....

## Letter from Beth Bendrey ... *continued*

I was brought up in the Baptist church, in fact, my father was a Baptist minister. When I left home, I went to St Mary's college in London, which happened to be a Catholic college, and through friends I met there, I began to appreciate a different kind of worship and became involved in their folk and prayer groups. It was after these experiences in college that I came into the Anglican Church, hoping it would embrace some of the breadth of tradition I had benefitted from over the years. Certainly in the church I was part of in West London, there was quite a range of services from the traditional Anglican to the very informal, from loud and lively to quiet and prayerful. What held us all together was our common purpose: sharing the same faith in Jesus Christ and the same passion to live and work to his praise and glory, as St Paul would say.

Although one of our congregations in London had many members from different church traditions, I haven't until now been part of a fully ecumenical church, so I am very much looking forward to learning from you all and with you all and seeing how our unity can impact the community around us. I join at an exciting time for the Church in Great Notley: after all the years of working and waiting, it finally appears that the building work can begin very shortly. Now more than ever, then, is the time to be thinking and praying about where God is leading us and about who God is leading us to. There are many things we could do, many opportunities for mission and service in our community, but what in particular is God calling us to, in this place and at this time? I look forward to finding out with you all.

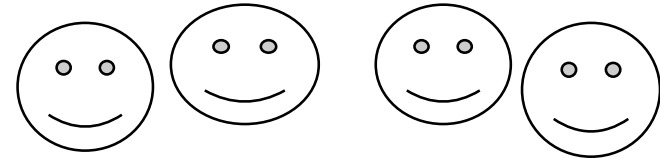
Until then, many blessings,

Beth

## The Church in Great Notley

### Junior Church

providing a caring and nurturing environment for you and your children at worship each Sunday.  
The provision follows a monthly pattern.



*Second Sunday* – (13 Sept, 11 Oct, 8 Nov)  
a **Junior Church session** led by our leaders in an adjacent room. This allows parents time and space to enjoy worship which concludes with Communion .

*The fourth Sunday* is **All Age Worship** (27 Sept, 25 Oct, 22 Nov) when the children will be encouraged to be more involved throughout the service and a craft activity with be provided linked to the theme.

*First, third and fifth Sunday* – toys for toddlers are provided at the back of the hall, with a pack of simple colouring and activity sheets accessible to children, and supervised by the parents.

A special invite to all families –  
we hope you will make a special effort to join in our

## HARVEST ALL AGE CELEBRATION

Come and join with our special guests

**!! the PUPPETS !!**

27 September 2009 – 10.30am

from the Junior Church team – or contact Louise Shrubsole on  
01376 562617



A new symbol for the  
**World Communion  
of Reformed Churches**



**VESSEL**

A communion cup for fellowship,  
unity, togetherness.  
A vessel to refresh, cleanse and renew.  
A vessel of service to give and to receive.



**CIRCLE**

Christ's church in the world.  
A global/international family.  
Circle of unity with justice for all.  
Caring for God's earth.  
The circle opens to give and to receive.



**INTERWOVEN THREADS**

Bound or woven together for  
greater strength.  
Partnership, cooperation.  
A continuous thread of God's faithfulness  
in the past, present and future.



**CROSS**

Confessional identity.  
Witness of the Church.  
United in faith and mission.

## Chicken Tonight.....

An elderly gentleman decided that his wife was getting a little hard of hearing, so he called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked. The doctor said he could see her in two weeks but, in the meantime, there was a simple, informal test which the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the gravity of the situation.

"Here's what you do. Start about 40 ft away from her and speak in a normal conversational tone, and see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 ft, then 20 ft and so on until you get a response."

So that same evening, when the man's wife was in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he was in the living room, he stationed himself about 40 ft away and decided to see what happened.

"Darling, what's for dinner?"  
No reply.

Moving into the dining room, about 20 ft away, he asked again, "Honey, what's for dinner?"  
Again, there came no response from his wife.

The man approached the kitchen door, so that he was only 10 ft away. "Sweetheart, what's for dinner?"  
Silence.

The man walked up right behind his wife and asked, "Dearest, what's for dinner?"

"For the fourth time," his wife yelled back, "chicken!"

## YOUNG PEOPLE MATTER

Would you believe that 14-18 year olds in England are contributing over £300 million to the economy through volunteering and charitable giving? That's the finding of a new report from the Evangelical Alliance released today, *Young People Matter* and reported on BBC London.

The findings of this report are really quite astonishing – nearly half of 14-18 year olds are volunteering on a regular basis. When projected across the country at minimum wage this has an economic value of £210 million a year. To put it another way, it's the equivalent of 33,000 full time workers. And if that's not enough, if we also project their charitable giving nationally then that equates to £110 million each year. The two main reasons young people are doing all this is because they want to contribute to society and they like helping people. Such results surely indicate that perceptions of them as selfish Vikki Pollards, who behave 'like animals', are far from true.

What's more, the report highlights the huge contribution religious organisations have to play in facilitating volunteering. 40% of those surveyed volunteer through a religious organisation, including, perhaps surprisingly, 10% of those who were atheists!

## YOUNG PEOPLE MATTER

And it's not just that religious organisations are encouraging young people to volunteer, but personal faith and belief are significant: of those Christians who attend church nearly every week, 21% said they were motivated because their church encouraged it, while 48% said they were motivated by their faith. The more active one is as a Christian also makes a difference: 69% of very active Christians volunteer compared with 29% of those who call themselves Christian but attend church less than once a month. The figure for atheists was 30% and for agnostics 52%.

Our report suggests that it is when young people have a strong Christian faith that they both attend church more frequently and want to volunteer more frequently. Given the importance, then, of faith as a motivating factor to volunteering and the numbers of young people volunteering through religious organisations, the significance of all this is surely that faith should not be excluded from the public square.

Young people matter. And they need to know that. Let's hope then, that the results of this report can begin to break down some of the negative stereotypes surrounding young people, and let's praise them for what they are doing.

*Susannah Clark, Public Theology Researcher*