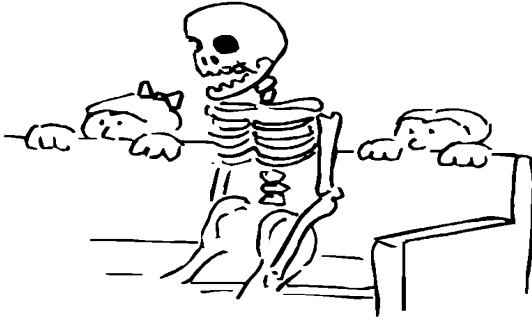


# UPDATE

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR THE  
LIVING STONES OF ST PETER'S, ST JAMES'  
AND ST BARNABAS' CHURCHES

## JULY 2010



*The sermons became much shorter after  
the Sunday School brought in 'Hector'*

## Focus on Healing

9–11 July with John Woolmer  
Everyone welcome!



**Friday 9th July**

7:30pm St James' Church  
**'The Grand Surprise'**



Butterflies and the Kingdom of God  
John explores two of his life's passions, butterflies  
with his stunning photos from across the world  
and a personal commentary on the Christian faith.

**Saturday 10th July**

St James' Church: 10:00 – midday  
**'Healing? Jesus still healing?'**

The healing ministry in the  
church today – inspiring teaching

St James' Church: 7:00pm  
Celebration of Healing + Eucharist

**Sunday, 11th July**

United Service: 10:30am

St Peter's Church  
Why not stay on for lunch?

## Music & Poetry Evening

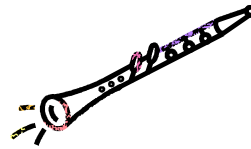
(plus Pâté, Cheese & Wine)

in aid of the F.L.I.C project

### Saturday 17th July

7.30pm Great Hall of the Bishop's Palace.  
£10 a ticket, including refreshments,

Tickets from **Diana Thomas**:  
email: dianathomas@btinternet.com  
text: 0777 2818 729  
phone: 01432 277670 (Evenings only)



## Clarinet Concert in St Peter's

Winforton Wind will give a clarinet concert  
in St Peter's Church in aid of The FLIC Project

**Saturday 3rd July 7.30pm.**

Tickets to include light buffet supper £10

Tickets from Janet Strevens 268585,  
Liz Allen 270890 or The Outback in Church Street.

During the concert Alex Coppock will give a short  
presentation on the FLIC (Finding Life in the City) Project.

Please remember to collect a  
**PRAYER FOCUS FOR JULY**  
from the back of church.



**Monthly Parish Prayer Meeting**

Next Meeting: 20th July 2010 @ 7.30pm  
Check the Church Notice Sheet or the Website.

St. Peter's Church House

**PLEASE COME—ALL WELCOME**

## SPSJ Gift Day

An opportunity to give thanks for the regular financial support that we  
receive, and also to encourage us all to review and renew our giving.

**Sunday 4th July 2010**

See the website or Paul's letter for full details

## SPSJ CONTACT DETAILS

### PARISH OFFICE

Helen Durant: Parish Administrator  
24, St James Road  
Hereford  
HR1 2QS

Tel: 01432 276320

email: spsjoffice@btinternet.com

The deadline for items for our weekly Sunday  
Notice Sheet is Thursday 10.30am.

**UPDATE Coordinator Diana Thomas**  
dianathomas@btinternet.com

The deadline for items for **UPDATE** is the  
20th of each month, email your items to Diana

**For all of this and more  
look on our website**

**www.spsj.org.uk**

Website items to Peter Massey  
pwmassage@btinternet.com

## Paul's Ponderings

I have on my wall here a small poster, which is laid out in the form of the classic eye-chart at the opticians, with large print at the top, and the print size reducing as you move down the page. What does it say? Read on to find out!

If you weren't there on June 12th, I hope you have at least seen the video - and given some money! It was an amazing experience in all sorts of ways, not least being led into St Peter's when I was blindfolded! Let me tell you a bit about that. I have walked into the church I guess on average 4 times a week for 11 years - over 2000 times - in normal sighted mode. This was different.

Sitting outside the church I asked to be blindfolded, and used the first thing that came to hand - my black preaching scarf! (There could be a parable there somewhere - put on your official garments and lose your perspective - Andy and Jonathan watch out!). I was then led by an experienced sighted guide into the building.

That was scary! I knew roughly where the door was, approximately where the steps were, but still managed to be tense and edgy. And I still managed to walk straight into the table at the bottom of the stairs! [A note here - how to pray for our VI friends and neighbours - life for them contains more tension, more unknowns, and more physical accidents, so their bodies take a pounding, and wear and tear becomes a real issue.]

Then up the spiral staircase, one hand on the right-hand outside wall. All going well - until we walked past a window recess, and suddenly the wall wasn't there any more - more scary moments. Oddly, though, from then on life was fairly easy, because I had done the same route 5 minutes earlier, with my eyes open, so knew what lay ahead. And not being able to look over the parapet was an advantage, in one way, as I couldn't see how far it was to drop! And then safely down, which was amazing.

Back to the top (this article, not the tower). The poster has these words on it "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor 5:7). Too easily we rely on what we can see around us, whereas we are called to put our trust in, rely on, the unseen truths of what God has done for us in Christ. I think I understand just a little bit more now of what this phrase means.

Walking by sight comes "naturally" - walking by faith means placing our hands in someone else's grip, and trusting our lives into their hands! Thank God that "He who called us is faithful" and we can trust Him. (2 Thess 5:24)

**People's minds are like parachutes - they only work when they are open.**

*Source unknown - contributed by Naomi Bell*

## Peter's Clergy Corner

I know that some people find change difficult whereas others, like me, find it stimulating, writes Peter Massey. Frankly those two groups need each other as checks and balances. However, I also occasionally come across a group of people who would like things to change but are too kind and do not want to upset others who, for whatever reason, resist change.

I am reminded of the apocryphal story of a new vicar who approached a long established church warden. "I bet you have seen many changes," said the vicar. "Yes," replied the warden, "and I have resisted every one of them!"

So here is a story by Anthony de Mello from his book 'The Heart of the Enlightened': 'Owing to a variety of circumstances, the egg of an eagle found its way to one corner of a barn where a hen was hatching her eggs.

*In time the little eaglet was hatched with the other chickens. Now as time passed, the fledgling, quite unaccountably, began to experience a longing to fly. So it would say to its mother, the hen, "When shall I learn to fly?"*

*The poor hen was quite aware of the fact that she could not fly and hadn't the slightest notion of what other birds did to train their fledglings in the art of flight. But she was ashamed to confess this inadequacy, so she would say, "Not yet my child, not yet. I shall teach you when you are ready."*

*Months passed and the young eagle began to suspect that its mother did not know how to fly. But it could not get itself to break loose and fly on its own, for its keen longing to fly had become confused with the gratitude it experienced toward the bird that had hatched it.'*

Many of us may, sometimes without thinking, behave like the mother hen—restricting others because what they are talking about is beyond our experience. I pray that this will never be the case among our churches as we explore what it is to be a missionary church of the Twenty First Century.

## PRAYER REQUEST

The **ACCESS** team are planning a great weekend of fun, go-carting and learning more about living for Jesus at the Gaines Christian Youth Centre on 2nd—4th July. **They ask for our prayers for themselves and the young people** they are pledged to serve.

## ACCESS BBQ

11<sup>th</sup> July (7:30-9:30pm)

10 ST BARNABAS CLOSE

Cost £3

This will be a chance to eat great food and say 'Goodbye' to those leaving for 'Uni' and 'Hello' to those joining us from d2b

## YOUTH ZONE

### ST JAMES' SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the 10.30 service, we welcome youngsters old and new between the ages of 3 - 11 to join our groups.

## ACCESS for school years 10-13

For more info call **Andy Clark on 07590 617738**

### d2b (Dare to Believe)

School Years 7 to 9

**St. James' Church 10.30am.**

A church based youth group, we meet every Sunday morning during term times.

### ST. PETER'S EXPLORERS

on Sunday mornings during the 10:30 service for ages 7-11+.