



# PARISH OF GREATER WHITBOURNE

PCC Newsletter - January 2015

## \*GREETINGS, MORTALS!

The idea of a newsletter for our Greater Parish has been growing slowly over the last year or so. Copies have been produced for some individual churches. It is different from the magazine. It will not be regular, just when we have time to produce one and there is something worth reporting. We hope to circulate it free, by email and in Whitbourne shop and possibly pubs. But this is a trial run, of two or three issues. If you like it, please say so and there might be more!

It will contain news of our four churches in the Greater Parish and their activities, and also sometimes of our link parishes in Tanzania, St. Francis Mapinduzi and St. James Amboni.



## EDVIN LOACH

THE Plough Sunday service, Helen's latest brainchild, was a great success. The plough itself was too big to get into the church, but children brought in their miniature ones and Lizzie, the organist, produced an impressive brass version, complete with horse. Local farmers and children took part in the service.

## WHITBOURNE'S CONIFER



<<<<Now you see it

<<Now you don't

Our Whitbourne conifer, which had grown too big for its boots, was cut down before Christmas.

Now we have plans to remove its mate, to the right of the lychgate.

## TEDSTONE DELAMERE

A new lighting system should show up the beautiful roof. The money is there, the ideas are there, a sample light is up, in the chancel. We are just waiting for a Faculty.

## UPPER SAPEY

Regular Saturday coffee mornings are proving surprisingly popular in spite of the weather and the legendary coldness of church buildings. They are attracting up to fifteen people each week and are a good place for keeping up with news. Wrap up warm, and if you fancy it, make yourself useful by polishing some furniture while you are there! The Friendship Room and Church Rescue Fund is accumulating nicely, helped by donations.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February there will be some slides of Tanzania and our links there. Do come – karibuni sana!



**LAY TEAMS:** The best news so far this year - we now have a Lay Team (LMDG if you must – Lay Ministry Development Group is its official title). There were twenty-two nominations in November. A short-list was drawn up with the help of John Daniels (our Diocesan Companion), and after consultations, the final list was approved by the PCC in January. However, there is still time for people to drop out; if they do, we might invite other nominees. The team so far is: the Rector, John & Sylvia Bland, Chris Evans, Susan Wyatt, Brenda Allan, William North and Jackie Evans. Gordon Bailey is our local advisor, and John Daniels our Diocesan Companion.

### WISE WORDS FOR THE LAY TEAM? (or anybody else)

For want of a skilful strategy an army is lost; victory is the fruit of long planning. (Proverbs 11:14)

## MESSAGE FROM DAVID

**LENT LUNCHESES:** Every year the Greater Parish organises a series of Lent Lunches, in aid of a charity of the host's choice. Everybody is welcome, but please ring by the previous evening to book a place. The first is in Whitbourne Church at 12.30, on 18<sup>th</sup> March, following on from the Ash Wednesday service (ring Ann Taylor 01886 821744). The second is at Gaines Lodge on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon. (Brenda Allan 01886 821450).

If anybody would like David to visit them, either because they are ill and need cheering up or housebound and lonely, please do give him a ring.

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Website: [www.whitbourne.org.uk](http://www.whitbourne.org.uk)



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\*'Greetings Mortal' is what you hear if you ring Simplydial, which offers cheap telephone calls to Tanzania (and many other places). Skype, of course, is much cheaper, but if your friend does not have Skype, Simplydial at 13p. per minute is better than BT at £1.21.

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