

## Poetry and Prose

A.A. Milne wrote this poem for his son Christopher Robin and it appears in the book of verse *When We Were Very Young*. Although a pacifist, the author served as a soldier in the First World War, and was sent to the Western Front during the Somme Offensive. His name is known all round the world as the creator of Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends in the 100 Acre Wood: Owl, Piglet, Eeyore, Tigger and many more. The four books of their adventures have been published in over 25 languages and can be found on the bookshelves of millions. The enchanting stories and poems are written not for children but for the child in us all, and their appeal seems to be timeless. Our thanks go to Sarah Zweers for submitting this poem and awakening our inner child.



## Vespers

*Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,  
Droops on the little hands little gold head.  
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!  
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.*

*God bless Mummy. I know that's right.  
Wasn't it fun in the bath to-night?  
The cold's so cold, and the hot's so hot.  
Oh! God bless Daddy - I quite forgot.*

*If I open my fingers a little bit more,  
I can see Nanny's dressing-gown on the door.  
It's a beautiful blue, but it hasn't a hood.  
Oh! God bless Nanny and make her good.*

*Mine has a hood, and I lie in bed,  
And pull the hood right over my head,  
And I shut my eyes, and I curl up small,  
And nobody knows that I'm there at all.*

*Oh! Thank you, God, for a lovely day.  
And what was the other I had to say?  
I said "Bless Daddy," so what can it be?  
Oh! Now I remember it. God bless Me.*

*Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,  
Droops on the little hands little gold head.  
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!  
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.*

*By A.A. (Alan Alexander) Milne  
(1882-1956)*



# September



2012

## The Chaplain Writes

### Meditation

Although September is not really the beginning of a new year, somehow it feels like that after the summer break. A fresh start after the break of summer holidays.

Whilst I am enjoying the last week of being away, I am having a coffee somewhere in Stockholm, meditating about the year ahead. What is the future of our chaplaincies? It is a question not only for a chaplain to ponder about but also a question which concerns all of us. And also, I may have some ideas, but if we don't share those ideas, they will not get me very far.

What do we wish for our churches? The answer is nearly predictable, because we would all like our parishes to expand. More people to welcome in our midst to join in our worship!

The door is wide open to welcome newcomers, but I would like to suggest a bold move: let's close the door for a while and take a look at ourselves first. What is the purpose of our getting together on a Sunday? What do we have to offer to newcomers? What could be the reason for them to join us?

As a community we need to grow in order to survive, but it almost seems to become the main reason for our existence. However, we need to bear in mind that we are brought together as a group of Christian disciples who need to grow in discipleship. And are we?

It is good to welcome new people as long as we continue to grow ourselves at the same time. Our enthusiasm whilst learning may inspire others. That was enough for the early Christians and will certainly help us in the same manner.

Alja Tollefsen

Chaplain of the East Netherlands





# Twente News

## Address Details

Our chaplain, Alja, has now settled into her new abode in Twente and we trust that she feels thoroughly at home there. Consequently her contact details on the inside cover have been adjusted accordingly.

## Summer Teas

After four beautiful Sunday afternoons and only two rainy afternoons, the summer teas are now over.

First and foremost, we would like to thank everyone who helped in one way or another to make St Mary's Teas such a success. We formed a good team, where everyone worked so well together. We welcomed a lot of enthusiastic visitors, and they also visited the Chapel and listened most carefully to explanations about the Anglican Church in general and the Chapel in particular. And on one Sunday a group of 35 cyclists from Markelo arrived, and asked if they could stop for a rest at the tearoom and drink some coffee or tea.

The teas have brought in a net profit of €1,038.55, as well as €47.50 for the Floral Guild, giving a grand total of €1,086.05. An Olympic record!

Many thanks to you all!

Jan and Theda



## Art of Repartee

Thomas Reed vs Henry Clay

Clay: I'd rather be right than be president.

Reed: The gentleman need not trouble himself. He'll never be either.

NYC Mayor Ed Koch vs Andrew Kirtzman,

after the reporter insisted on pressing a point about an inconsistent statement the mayor had made:

Koch: I can explain this to you. I can't comprehend it for you.

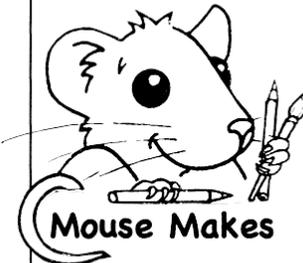
Abraham Lincoln vs Stephen Douglas, after the latter had called him "two-faced":

Lincoln: I leave it to my audience. If I had another face, do you think I would wear this one?

## Introducing ...

It was recently suggested that the magazine could run a series of articles from members of the congregation telling the story of their road to Weldam. Diversity is one of our strengths and in this way we would get to know one another a little better. Of course not all will feel called to put pen to paper or finger to keyboard but, if inspiration is what you're after, look no further than the blue file now archived in the Hut. These contributions and photos were compiled to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Chapel in 2000, and will rekindle some memories and produce not a few surprises.

# Harvest Festival 7 October 2012



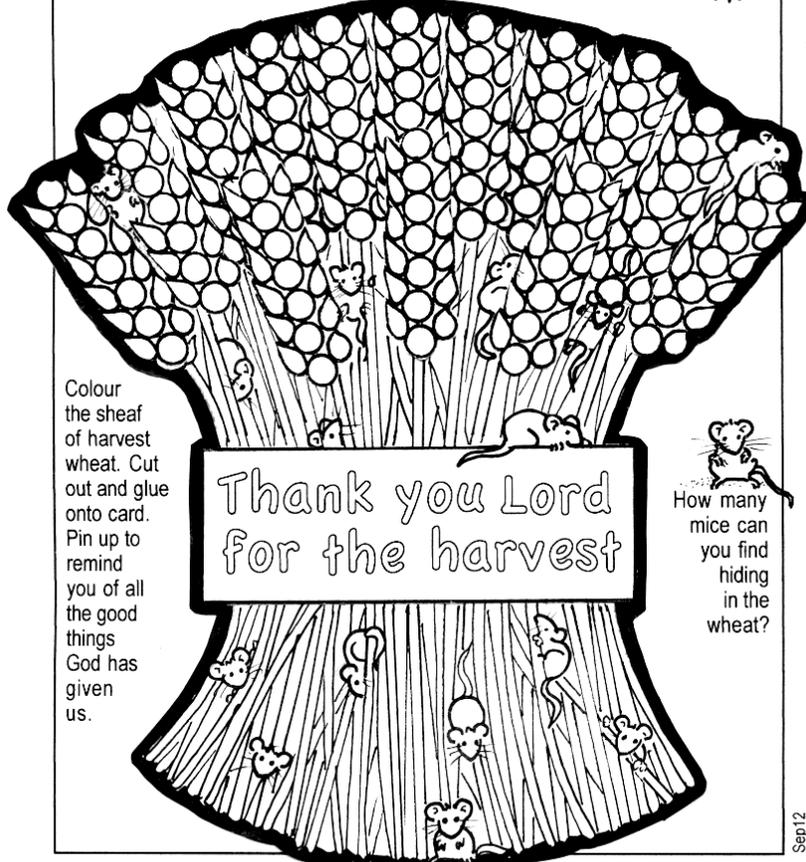
**Mouse Makes**

All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above:  
then thank the Lord,  
**O thank the Lord**  
for all his love.



"The land has yielded its harvest:  
God, our own God,  
has blessed us."  
*Psalm 67:6*





Colour the sheaf of harvest wheat. Cut out and glue onto card. Pin up to remind you of all the good things God has given us.

How many mice can you find hiding in the wheat?

**Thank you Lord  
for the harvest**

Sep12



## Harvest Gnome



*At harvest-time all lend a hand,  
To bring the crops in from the land,  
Jim is out at break of day,  
To help the farmer make his hay.*

*The farmer cuts his grass down flat,  
And Jimmy builds an enormous stack,  
He pitches up the hay on high,  
Until it almost meets the sky.*

*They work until the sun's gone down,  
Then make their way to the Rose and  
Crown,*

*And there they'll spin a yarn or two,  
Whilst supping jugs of Gnomeland Brew.*

*They tell the tales of times gone by,  
Of talking cows and pigs that fly,  
And things, that only gnomes have seen,  
Of places where no man has been.*

*And then at last at the end of day,  
The tired-out gnomes all make their way,  
To go to sleep and rest serene,  
With thoughts of harvest in their dreams.*

This poem was not only submitted but also written by **Malcolm McBride**, who now lives in Suffolk. First elected onto St Mary's Church Council in 1987, a year of particular significance in this anniversary month, he also served as Archdeaconry Representative from 1993 to 1999. He was elected People's Warden at the 1994 AGM, a position he held until 1999.

The picture of the Harvest Gnome above is the work of Malcolm's father, who in fact did the sketch of St Mary's that is used on the magazine cover.

Malcolm's name is securely "engraved" in the history of St Mary's Weldam.

## Emmaus Course

Our Chaplain, Alja, will be conducting an Emmaus course of six weekly sessions this autumn. It will start on Wednesday, 3rd October, and will open with a meal. Further details will follow in the notices at the end of September and in the October issue of the magazine.

### Key Dates

8th September Castle Fair

**Thursday, 20th September**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Service of Dedication:**  
**St Mary the Virgin**  
**Service of Eucharist at 10:30 am**

23rd September Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving  
30th September Ministry for Healing  
7th October Harvest Festival

### Young Achievers Empowerment Project

After the service on 19th August, under the shady trees outside the Hut, Pandu Hailonga-van Dijk, with some input from Heleen and Ferdinand, told an interested audience how the work of the Young Achievers had flourished and was producing fruit. She said the sharing of knowledge was leading to growth in outreach, and the continuing support from St Mary's was much valued in this work. Stories were related and Pauline Talstra suggested a film be made and shown at an evening get-together. This suggestion, which would match faces to names, was favourably received. Perhaps something for the future?



### Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens before the Service. If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of pastoral care, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens.

*Oscar Wilde vs Lewis Morris*, after the latter had just been passed over for the Poet Laureateship: Morris: There's a conspiracy against me, a conspiracy of silence; but what can one do? What should I do?

Wilde: Join it.

*Miriam Hopkins vs anonymous singer*

Anon: You know, my dear, I insured my voice for \$50,000.

Hopkins: That's wonderful. And what did you do with the money?

*James McNeill Whistler vs Oscar Wilde*, after the former had made a particularly witty remark:

Wilde: I wish I had said that.

Whistler: You will, Oscar, you will.

*Bill Clinton vs Dan Quayle*, after the latter said he planned to be "a pit bull" in the campaign against Clinton and Gore: Clinton: That's got every fire hydrant in America worried!

## Identification

During a summer music festival, a punk rocker stopped at the front desk of the reception tent to ask if she had any messages.



The desk clerk handed her an unsigned note, and she asked for a description of the person who had left it. "That's easy," replied the clerk. "He wore tight pink leather trousers, high-heeled black boots and a T-shirt with strategically cut holes. There was a row of colored safety pins through the outside edge of one ear, and he wore purple eye-shadow. Oh, and his hair was orange and spiked." "Oh, man!" she said, obviously disappointed, "that could be anyone!"

## Castle Fair, 8 September 2012 Art Exhibition

Again we will be exhibiting some art from some of our church members and friends of St Mary's: Chris Los (Arnhem church), Katarina Jankowski (Children's Corner at Fair), Mini Zanganale (Apeldoorn), Marjorie van den Boom (friend of St Mary's), Marian Steenberg (Apeldoorn Ateliers Group) and yours truly ... Pauline Talstra (St Mary's). We will also have the **KOOPJES HOEK** (Affordable Art) with an assortment of **MINI MASTERS**, unframed paintings, greeting cards, etc. (from €5!). Gifts for yourself or loved ones! Please come and visit us at the Gallery which is alongside the Tea Room.  
*Pauline Talstra*

## English Produce Stall

Our stall will be providing typical English products, including those products we seek for our Xmas baking. Worth a visit!



## From the Castle Fair Committee

As we approach the date of the Castle Fair, everyone is gearing up to make it a beautiful day. And we're hoping that all the efforts put into it will be rewarded with a good audience!

Regarding the helpers in the Tea Room, we would like them to wear a black top. If you think that is unflattering, you are very welcome to brighten it up with a scarf of some kind. We will try to make sure that all the helpers to have a good break at the back in the kitchen, where they can eat their lunch in peace and recharge their batteries. We hope to send the rota out to you before the Fair, but if that fails there will be clear rota plan in the kitchen. If we all work together it will be a fine and uplifting event for our congregation. Thanks to all who are making this possible.

*Jeanet Luiten*

## The Way I See It: Ordinary Blessings

"The captains and the kings depart ... ." They've gone: the Jubilee, the European Nations Cup, the Olympics. As a lady said to me at church last Sunday, perhaps one day the television will get back to normal. Well, this is "normal". It's also, funnily enough, what the modern Prayer Book calls "Ordinary Time" – that means the bits in between all the great feast days and penitential seasons and so on. At the moment it's the seemingly endless "Sundays after Trinity".

"Ordinary" is such a lovely word, I think. It's root is that reassuring word "order", and it encompasses ideas like orderliness, well-ordered, in order. It's opposite is strange, unusual, distinctive: extraordinary. One of the odd things about human behaviour is that most of us most of the time don't want to look strange, unusual or even distinctive. Just look at the way we dress, following fashion, deliberately trying to look like those around us. Think of the teenage uniform, male or female. Their whole ambition is to look exactly like their peers. Or think of guests at a wedding, especially the males, all looking exactly alike in bow ties and tails. Mind you, at times – perhaps at a party – we shall go to the other extreme and try to be as different and distinctive as possible – outrageous colours, pink hair, funny glasses.

Where the Gospels are concerned, our tendency is to remember the extraordinary bits – water turned into wine, storms stilled, lame people dancing and blind people seeing. Yet they are only extraordinary because their context is so utterly ordinary – women preparing meals, men sowing crops, feet being washed and food being eaten. The whole setting is so ordinary that the amazing acts of power that Jesus did stand out like beacons. But they happened – and this is important – in the ordinary world, to ordinary people, in the ordinary circumstances of life. In "Ordinary Time", when nothing special is happening, we have space and time to reflect on some of the wonderfully "ordinary" events that have taken place in our lives – touches, I reckon, of the love and grace of God. I'm thinking of ordinary acts of kindness, generous words, quietly spoken prayers, memories too precious ever to fade away. I'm thinking of the "ordinary" love of one human being for another, the "ordinary" hand on the shoulder in time of need, the "ordinary" serenity of a life well lived. Or, perhaps, they're all extraordinary, really.

© Canon David Winter, a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC  
(Source: Parish Pump, September 2012)



### Age Definition

Grandchildren don't make a man feel old; it's the knowledge that he's married to a grandmother.

### Understanding Engineers

Two engineering students were walking across a university campus when one said, "Where did you get such a great bike?" The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday, minding my own business, when a beautiful woman rode up on this bike, threw it to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, "Take what you want." The first engineer nodded approvingly and said, "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't have fitted you, anyway."

Reverend Fred Preston and his wife Doris, who arrived in Holland recently. At long last our flock has a shepherd – and a truly hard-working one too.

*Maureen Underwood (Secretary, 27th November 1987)*

*The framed copy of the Dedication Charter is displayed on the wall to the right of the main door to the Chapel.*

*The brass plaque engraved by Malcolm McBride is beneath the cross scored on the chancel wall by the Bishop during the Service of Dedication.*



### Remembering Our Archdeacon's Retirement in May 2012

After eight years as our Archdeacon, John de Wit, Chaplain of Holy Trinity Utrecht, took retirement in May 2012. Reflecting on the wonderful work that John and his wife Pam did for both the archdeaconry and the chaplaincy during this period, it is leadership that particularly springs to mind. Real leaders do not take on every task themselves; they get others moving. They do not make themselves the centre of all things; they serve the group they lead. They are ahead of the pack, always facilitating others to learn and develop. John and Pam were such leaders. John had a serving and caring ministry when it really mattered. He also had a huge ability to teach, and his sermons were the highlight in the church life of the congregation. Thanks to his skills in the fields of outreach and organization, his efforts resulted in the materialization of many new schemes.

We wish him and his wife Pam a long and happy life in Farringdon, England.

*Caroline Siertsema, Archdeaconry Representative*

**8 september 2012**

### **Kasteel Weldam**

*Tussen Goor en Diepenheim (N 824)*

### **English Fair**

*11.00 – 17.00 uur*

*Rondleiding in de tuinen en St Mary's Chapel  
English Tea Room – Loterij met mooie prijzen*

*Doolhof – Bagpipers – Morris Dancers  
Church Stall – Art Gallery – Boekbinden  
British Food – Brocante – Decoratieve Dozen  
Edelsmid – English Outdoor Wear  
Festoenen en Guirlandes – Glas Graveren  
Home-made Jams en Chutneys – Guirlandes en  
Kransen  
Kruiden – Home Decoration – Schotse en Ierse  
Kleding  
English Soaps – Glass Fusion – Kinderhoek met  
Tombola  
Smockjurkjes en Linnen – Klein Antiek  
Pomoloog  
Fancy Hoeden – Miniaturen – English Books  
Porselein Schilderen – Quilts – (Edel)smeedwerk  
Viltgebak – Tuinontwerpadvies – Tuinplanten  
Vintage Cars – Serviezen – Wijnproeven*

*Ten bate van St Mary's Anglican Church  
Ruime parkeergelegenheid  
Entree €6 p.p. Kinderen (tot 18 jaar) gratis*

*www.anglicanchurchtwente.com*

### **Don't Ask!**

"It's just so hot today," said Jack to his wife, adding roguishly, "What do you think the neighbours would think if I mowed the lawn *au naturel*?" "Probably that I married you for your money," she sweetly replied.

### **Age Concern**

Mother to teenage son:



"Just explain to me again how you can tap out a 500-word text message in six seconds flat, but it takes you 14 hours to pick up a pair of shoes."

### **Beware!**

An honest confession is good for the soul – but probably bad for the reputation.

### Quick Response

A policeman pulled over a teenager for speeding. He got out of his car and walked across to offending vehicle. As the driver rolled down his window, the policeman said, "I've been waiting for you all day." "Well I got here as fast as I could," came the reply

### Simple Home Remedies

Avoid cutting yourself when slicing vegetables by getting someone else to hold the vegetables while you chop.

A mouse trap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you hit the snooze button.

### BOY TO GRANNY:

"Have you seen my pills lying around? They're labelled LSD?"

### GRANNY TO BOY:

"Blow your pills! Have you seen the green dragon in the kitchen?"

## St James the Least of All

### On the Best Way to Visit New Homes in the Parish

My dear Nephew Darren,



The offer to bring in your team of visiting evangelists in order to call on every home on our new housing estate was most generous. I know it would have committed us to accommodating your party of 25 visitors and that there would have to be a residential training weekend for our own members of the team. I accept that we would have to produce a visiting pack listing all our church organizations, giving contact names and numbers and a short résumé of what each group did, along with their "mission statements". You also suggested we should include a supplement outlining our stewardship scheme and telling the householders that there would be a further visit from those running that programme.

You seem convinced that there should be an opening service to which all the newcomers would be invited, and apparently even think that we might fly in some world-renowned speaker for the occasion. All of this would have required a finance committee to set budgets and organize fundraising. What you seem to have missed is that our new estate I referred to contains four houses. They would not have felt visited, but invaded.

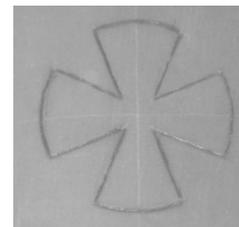
We had thought of something a little more low-key: an invitation to sherry after Matins, where we could find out which of them play golf and who may like to join the Bridge Club. Our idea of evangelism is a little broader than yours, it appears. The time will come when we can find out who will be prepared to go on the brass-cleaning, flower-arranging and grass-cutting rotas, which are the traditionally recognized signs of

Edward, with a slightly mischievous gleam in his eye, had given forewarning of his actions. The sprinkling of water on the church and its members was, indeed, appropriate, for the Act of Dedication included the words:

*Heavenly Father, as we dedicate this building so we dedicate ourselves, remembering that as we have sprinkled these walls with water and marked them with the sign of the cross, so we have been made yours in baptism and confirmation, and now we renew our commitment to you in our confession of faith.*

Count Solms read the letter of dedication from the Bishop of the Diocese Gibraltar in Europe and explained why he wanted his chapel to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Afterwards, the family graveyard outside the chapel, where members of his family are buried, was blessed.

Largely due to the benevolence and enthusiasm of Count Alfred Solms, the English-speaking community in this far corner of the Netherlands is fortunate in having the use of St Mary's, where everyone feels truly "at home".



It was a day to remember and we are grateful to Bishop Edward for such a fine service. Our thanks go too to Lady Felicity Hoare, who attended on behalf of Intercon.



And now we are doubly blessed, for not only do we have this lovely chapel, we also have a new chaplain. We were delighted to welcome the

### Marital Matters

The wife and I were sitting around the breakfast table one lazy Sunday morning.

I said to her, "If I were to die suddenly,



I want you to sell all my stuff straightaway."

"Now why would you want me to do something like that?" she asked.

"I figure that you would eventually remarry and I don't want some other idiot using my stuff." She looked at me curiously and said: "What on earth makes you think I'd marry another idiot?"

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.

— Bob Hope

### Foul Play

A scientific report issued recently stated that due to the wet summer many species of birds were nesting two to three weeks later than they should. The species most affected by the rain were owls.



A scientist stated that this summer's owls were finding it "too wet to woo"  
*Contributed by Blair Charles*

### Smart Thinking

With my ailing memory, I'm thinking of changing my password to "incorrect". That way when I log in with the wrong password, my computer will tell me ... "Your password is incorrect."

If you want to forget all your other troubles, wear too-tight shoes.

## The Dedication of Weldam Chapel, Goor, Holland (1987)

Not far from Holland's eastern border with Germany and just a stone's throw from the country road linking the town of Goor with the village of Diepenheim, the adventurous hiker will suddenly stumble across a delightful little chapel, nestling amidst woodland trees and an abundance of rhododendron bushes. The hiker with an eye for architecture will be pleasantly surprised at finding such a typically English-looking chapel located in the middle of the Dutch countryside. Indeed, the chapel was designed by an English architect, W.J. Weatherley, and built in 1898 to the order of the owner of Weldam Castle, Count William Bentinck, an Englishman, and his wife Countess Mary. For many years it served as a family chapel and then in 1979 their grandson, Count Alfred Solms, invited the Anglican community from the surrounding area to hold regular services there. Count Solms himself is an Anglican and, as church warden, takes his duties seriously and enthusiastically. At his suggestion, it was decided to have the chapel dedicated.



A special service was held on 20th September, 1987, during which Bishop Edward Holland, the Suffragan Bishop of Europe, performed the act of consecration and dedicated Weldam Chapel to St Mary the Virgin. Bishop Edward likened the ceremony to the baptism of a child. This comparison proved, in fact, to be an accurate one for, in addition to scoring the sign of the cross on the chancel wall, the Bishop sprinkled water everywhere, not only on the church fabric but on the members of the congregation too. Bishop

committed Christians.

Inevitably, this means that some of our people will not be joining your own team to see how it is done, as you visit the residents of the new tower block in your parish. Most of our congregation abandoned attempting stairs some years ago and their polite enquiries about which Hunt residents belong to and where they stable their horses may lead to a rather stilted conversation.



You may be all prepared to welcome your new residents with enthusiasm, excitement and frenetic activity; our policy of polite indifference and brief conversations about the weather should soon help ours to settle in in no time.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace  
© *The Revd Dr Gary Bowness*

*Sandi V [www.wacky.wits.com](http://www.wacky.wits.com)*



A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing ... and the lawnmower is broken.

### Backspace Key Needed!

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body."

– *Winston Bennett*,  
University of Kentucky basketball forward

"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country."

– *Mayor Marion Barry*, Washington, DC

"I love California. I practically grew up in Phoenix."

– *Dan Quayle*

"The word *genius* isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."

– *Joe Theisman*,  
NFL football quarterback & sports analyst

"Traditionally, most of Australia's imports come from overseas."

– *Keppel Enderbery*

## Life

Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks ... months ... maybe even years.

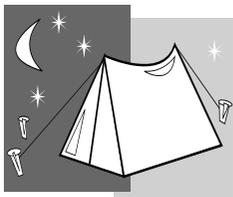
Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospitals, dying of nothing.

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Why does a slight tax increase cost you €800, and a substantial tax cut saves you €30?

## Camping Advice

Going camping this month? Take along a



tuba or a drum and place it beside your tent. It will keep the spaces on either side of your tent well and truly vacant.

## St Michael and All Angels

The principal feast day of the archangel Michael (whose name means *Who is like unto God?*) is celebrated on 29 September, a date that commemorates the dedication of his basilica on the Salarian Way near Rome. He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In the Book of Daniel, he is "one of the chief princes" of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In the Book of Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil (or dragon). No wonder then that in art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. In medieval paintings he was frequently represented in the act of weighing souls but such depictions are less familiar nowadays. The most famous shrine to St Michael in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century in commemoration of an earlier apparition.

Since 1969, this day has been celebrated as the feast day of St Michael and All Angels – to include the archangels Gabriel and Raphael.

This sculpture of St Michael adorns the steeple of St Michael's Church, Zwolle, which dominates the large marketplace. It is said that when back in 1682 the tower of St Michael's collapsed, the financial situation was such that the authorities had no option but to sell the church bells to the neighbouring city of Kampen. They drove a hard bargain, but when it became clear to the citizens of Kampen that they were



After church we were all invited to the castle gardens for refreshments. A large marquee had been put up on the back lawn. The weather was beautiful and everybody had made an effort to look his or her best! There was a festive atmosphere and we all enjoyed ourselves.



Thanks to generous contributions from all congregation members, we were able to present Count Alfred with two bells: a large bronze bell to call the family together, and a small silver table bell, engraved with the family motto *Dominus providebit* and the date July 4th, 2012.



We wish Count Alfred and his family every blessing for the future. This celebration was a joyous occasion and one we'll all remember for years to come!

*Joyce Wigboldus, Churchwarden*  
(photographs by Jan te West)

and the fact is I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've delayed my trip by your talk." The man below responded, "You must be in management." "I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?" "Well," said the man, "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's all my fault."

## Occupational Differences

A woman in a hot air balloon realized she was lost.

She reduced altitude and, spotting a man below, shouted: "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised to meet a friend an hour ago but I don't know where I am." The man replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering some 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees N latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees W longitude."

"You must be an engineer," said the balloonist. "I am," replied the man, "how did you know?" "Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you have told me is probably technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information



## Count Alfred's 80th Birthday

Although the actual birthday falls on July 4th, Count Alfred and Countess Christine decided to share this special birthday with St Mary's congregation on Sunday, July 15th. There was a lovely church service, which was attended by many members of the Solms family and other guests. The church was absolutely packed. At the request of Count Alfred, the Wladimir Byzantine Men's Choir from Hengelo, led by Mrs Dorota van Linschooten-Koczorowska, sang parts of the liturgy in Russian. At the beginning of the service they sang *Slawa* (Honour to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost), before the Gospel *Alliloeia* (Allelujah), then *Weroejoe* (the Creed); at the intercessions we heard the response *Gospodi Pomiloej* (Lord, have mercy); they sang *Otsje Nasj*. (Lord's Prayer), and after the dismissal *Boedi imja* (The Lord's name be praised now and forever).

The choir consists of 25 gentlemen, who visibly enjoyed being able to contribute to the celebration in such a special way. After the service had been concluded, the choir had some surprises in store for Count Alfred: first, before we left the church they burst into song, singing *Mnogaja ljeta* (We wish you many happy years – the equivalent of *Happy Birthday*), and then one of the choir members, Mr ter Haar, came forward and on behalf of the entire choir asked Count Alfred if he would be willing to be their Patron. Count Alfred graciously agreed. So we may expect more performances by the choir in future!



paying well over the odds for the severely damaged bells, they delivered the entire purchase price in small copper coins. After meticulously counting the vast quantity, the tellers in Zwolle found that the copper had turned their fingers blue – and so the inhabitants of that fair city acquired the nickname *Blauwvingers* (Bluefingers).

A new church dedicated to St Michael was opened in 1964 on the Bisschop Willebrandlaan and it housed the shrine to Thomas à Kempis, mystic and writer of *The Imitation of Christ*. After the church closed in 2005, the striking reliquary was transferred to *Onze Lieve Vrouwe Basiliek*, not far from the market square, where it can be seen to this day.



*Grant me, O Lord to know what is worth knowing,  
To love what is worth loving,  
To praise what delights you most,  
To value what is precious in your sight,  
To hate what is offensive to you.  
Do not let me judge by what I see,  
Nor pass sentence according to what I hear,  
But to judge rightly between things that differ  
And above all to search out and to do  
What pleases you,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Thomas à Kempis (1380-1471)*



## A Wonderful Life

After living a colourful life, an ageing gigolo finally found that the years were catching up with him. So he went to the doctor for a check-up. "I've had a lifetime of wine, women and song," he boasted, "and I don't think I'll be able to give it all up." "Well, now for the good news," said the doctor, "you won't have to give up singing."



Childhood is the time of life you make funny faces in the mirror. Middle age is the time of life the mirror gets even.

A man walks into the doctor's. He says, "I've hurt my arm in several places." "So don't go there anymore," replies the doctor.

– Tommy Cooper

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| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> September</b><br><br><b>Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>  | <b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b> |
|   | <b>Duty Warden</b>               | <b>Everhard Ottens</b>     |
|   | <b>Intercessor</b>               | <b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>     |
|   | First Reading<br>Linda ten Berge | Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9     |
|   | Second Reading<br>Arjen Haffmans | James 1:17-27              |
| <b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>  | Gospel                           | Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23  |

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| <b>9<sup>th</sup> September</b><br><br><b>Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>   | <b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b> |
|   | <b>Duty Warden</b>                | <b>Everhard Ottens</b>     |
|   | <b>Intercessor</b>                | <b>Jeanet Luiten</b>       |
|   | First Reading<br>Els Ottens       | Isaiah 35:4-7a             |
|   | Second Reading<br>Joyce Wigboldus | James 2:1-10, 14-17        |
| <b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>  | Gospel                            | Mark 7:24-37               |

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| <b>16<sup>th</sup> September</b><br><br><b>Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</b><br><br><i>Baptism of Aurelia Boerboom</i> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>  | <b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b> |
|   | <b>Duty Warden</b>               | <b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>     |
|   | <b>Intercessor</b>               | <b>Caroline Siertsema</b>  |
|   | First Reading<br>Heleen Rouwerda | Isaiah 50: 4-9a            |
|   | Second Reading<br>Janice Collins | James 3:1-12               |
| <b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>  | Gospel                           | Mark 8:27-38               |

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| <b>23<sup>rd</sup> September</b><br><br><i>Celebration of 25th Anniversary of the Dedication of St Mary the Virgin, Weldam</i><br><br><i>Visit of Kamerkoor Salland</i> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>    | <b>Revd Canon Meurig Williams</b> |
|   | <b>Duty Warden</b>                 | <b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>            |
|   | <b>Intercessor</b>                 | <b>Philippa te West</b>           |
|   | First Reading<br>Maureen Underwood | Genesis 28:11-18                  |
|   | Second Reading<br>Pauline Talstra  | 1 Peter 2: 1-10                   |
| <b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>  | Gospel                             | John 10:22-29                     |

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| <b>30<sup>th</sup> September</b><br><br><b>Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b><br><br><i>With Ministry for Healing</i> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>  | <b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>   |
|   | <b>Duty Warden</b>               | <b>Everhard Ottens</b>       |
|   | <b>Intercessor</b>               | <b>Simone Yallop</b>         |
|   | First Reading<br>Blair Charles   | Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 |
|   | Second Reading<br>Hans Siertsema | James 5:13-20                |
| <b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>  | Gospel                           | Mark 9:38-50                 |

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| <b>7<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><br><b>Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</b><br><br><i>Harvest Festival</i> | <b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b> | <b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b> |
|  | <b>Duty Warden</b>              | <b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>     |
|  | <b>Intercessor</b>              | <b>Philippa te West</b>    |
|  | Maureen vd Heide                | Joel 2:21-27               |
|  | Elizabeth vd Heide              | 1 Timothy 2:1-7            |
| <b>10:30 am</b>  | Gospel                          | Matthew 6: 25-33           |