
News & Notes

Issue 290

June 2000

Genetically Modified Pope

Terry Sankey

"Have you tried any of that geriatrically modified food yet?" was overheard being asked in a supermarket queue.

How about genetically modified humans, who remain healthy, non-grumpy, continually smiling, helpful, non-judgmental, caring, totally honest, etc. Who would set the standards? What would be ideal?

What would happen to those who were not genetically correct? Life would be very boring!

When people come to faith, God does not genetically modify them, but gives that inner strength and power to change, but that takes a lifetime, and is a long uphill process, often falling back into the old ways.

I've often heard it said in a very judgmental way that the Church is full of hypocrites; which completely misses the point. That is like saying that hospital is full of sick people. Of course it is! The question to ask is whether people on the wards or in church are getting better.

For those of us who are seen in church; how about a

little more humility? We might start admitting our faults and recognising that we are actually no better than anyone else. After all even our best deeds are often pickled with self-centredness. Even our giving to good causes is with restraint or conditions in case it might curtail our lifestyle. We think we can hold on to our wealth, but we cannot!

An accountant was asked how much a former client had left when he died. With stark truthfulness he replied:- "All of it!"

We like to be seen as generous, but are we? We are not actually as good as we wish to be perceived. Self congratulation is hardly in order.

As the Bible says:- "God delights in a cheerful and generous giver."

As one person who became a Christian some months ago said to me recently:- "You think my attitude is bad? You ought to have known me three years ago before God got his hands on me!"

No we cannot be genetically modified, but we can be gradually transformed through much hard graft and the goodness and Grace of God.

Church Services

Sunday 4 June	8.00 am	Holy Communion	WC	Nunton
Easter 7	9.30 am	Parish Communion	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	WC	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong	GS	Homington
Sunday 11 June	8.00 am	Holy Communion	WC	Homington
Pentecost	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Odstock
	11.00 am	Family Service	WC	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	GS	Charlton
Sunday 18 June	8.00 am	Holy Communion	WC	Britford
Trinity Sunday	9.30 am	Morning Service	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	WC	Nunton
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	GS	Coombe
Sunday 25 June	9.30 am	Parish Communion	WC	Charlton
Trinity 1	11.00 am	Morning Service	GS	Odstock
	3.00 pm	Songs of Praise	GS/WC	Coombe
Sunday 2 July	8.00 am	Holy Communion	GS	Nunton
Trinity 2	9.30 am	Parish Communion - Patronal	WC	Britford
	11.00 am	Festival	GS	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Parish Communion	WC	Homington
		Evensong		

From the Editor

This month's edition has been paid for by our advertisers and several smaller donations - all very valuable - thank you. The monthly production cost of *News & Notes* is £32.50. If you would like to sponsor an issue, please get in touch! Editorial items for inclusion in *News & Notes* should be sent to Clare Penny at Azalea Cottage, Chapel Lane, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HF, telephone 01725 512869 or email clare@azalea.demon.co.uk. Monetary donations should be sent to Neil Guttridge, *News & Notes* Treasurer, on 01725 511468 or at Court-Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HQ. Notices of charity and non-profit making events are inserted free, but all other advertisements are charged at £2 per 30 words, or £20 for 12 insertions. The deadline for the June issue is Friday 23 June.

News from the Vicarage

Graham Southgate 01722 330628

I have recently received a mailing from the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, entitled *Church in Danger*. It tells of the plight of the Christian community in what we call the "Holy Land". Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem are familiar names to most of us. What fewer people realise is that witness to the Christian faith has continued in those places for the past two millennia. Yet today many of those churches, including the Anglican Church, are under greater pressure than for centuries. The problem arises because of the confrontation between Palestinian nationalists and the State of Israel: Christians are thus being "squeezed" from both sides. The Christian presence in the Holy Land has been declining seriously for over a century. In recent years the worrying trickle has become a flood: the Christian population has become so marginalised that many young Christians have left to look for a future elsewhere.

The Anglican Church is a small part of a tiny Christian presence with just one bishop and 32 priests. Though small in number, its ministry is remarkable and greatly admired by the population. Principally through schools, hospitals and churches, its presence in the Holy Land has given hope to many and has been a faithful witness to God's love. For instance, the Theodor Scheller School for Orphans provides valuable assistance just where it is needed. Yet last year it had to turn away 100 homeless children because its water supply had become contaminated by sewage from a neighbouring refugee camp. One of its projects is to renew that water system and so enable more children to be helped. As we approach the start of the Third Millennium, the Archbishop asks for your help to ensure the success of this and other projects. I would be pleased to pass on further details of the appeal, if you would like to take up the challenge.

While thinking about the Holy Land, I wonder if it is feasible to consider a locally arranged pilgrimage to the Holy Land: what better way to mark the start of the new millennium next year than to visit the place where the story started? I was there five years ago and am happy to report that the rumours alleging commercialism of the Holy Land are unfounded - rather it is, as it is so often described, a holy land. Such a visit would need very careful planning but would, I think, be well worth the effort. Typically a pilgrimage might comprise twenty people journeying together for ten days (eg four days based in Galilee, five days based in Jerusalem) to the holy places, with plenty of opportunity for reflection. If you are at all interested then please let me know.

Holy Days in June

- 1 June Ascension Day 07.00 am Holy Communion at Gurston Hill Farm, Broad Chalke (bring your own breakfast!).
- 12 June Saint Barnabas, Apostle 08.00 am Holy Communion at Nunton.
- 22 June Corpus Christi 08.00 am Holy Communion at Nunton.
- 24 June Birth of John the Baptist 10.00 am Holy Communion at Nunton.
- 29 June Saint Peter the Apostle 08.00 am Holy Communion at Britford.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

On 21 May 2000 at Britford: Rhea Lillie Andrews.

Confirmation

On 20 May 2000 (by the Bishop of Ramsbury at Tisbury): Martin James Westall of Charlton All Saints.

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WEDNESDAYS 7.30 - 9.00 PM BEGINNERS
BISHOPSTONE VILLAGE HALL
MONDAYS 10 - 11.30 AM BEGINNERS
MONDAYS 7 - 8.30 PM INTERMEDIATE
TEACHER MRS PRIM MCHAMISH

01722 780750

PLEASE RING FOR MORE DETAILS
(ALSO PRIVATE LESSONS BY ARRANGEMENT)

The Charlton Hog Roast & Barbecue!

Saturday 1 July at 6 pm at Charlton Courtyard,
adjacent to Charlton House

Adults £6 * Children £3 * Under 5 free
Refreshments * Raffle * Skittles

Please book tickets in advance as this allows us to cater accurately. Telephone Barbara Box on 01725 510758 by 23 June.

Britford Millennium Weekend 24/25 June

On Saturday 24 June Britford Village is holding a Barn Dance in a marquee on the Village Green. Dancing to Gary Nunn, with a Spit Roast Supper and a selling licensed Bar. Time 7.30-11.30 pm. Tickets are £7.50 adults & £3.00 children.

We would love to see any of our neighbouring villagers who would like to come along and help us celebrate the Millennium. If you would like tickets or any further information please ring Rod Shipsey on 01722 335096.

On Sunday 25 June, there is a Village Tea Party on the Village Green for Britford Villagers and their families only - if you have not received a notice about the above please ring Rod on the above number.

We are all looking forward to wonderful and memorable weekend - if anyone can organise good weather, please do so!

WI

Diane Wait

Mrs Sue Bourne, President, welcomed 25 members to the Barker Room, Nunton for the May meeting. She was also delighted to welcome two members from Downton Afternoon WI and it is hoped they will attend future meetings along with other Downton members.

Details of the Summer Garden party being held at Melstock on 12 June were finalised and members were encouraged to bring along as many guests as possible to enjoy the special display of gorgeous hats by Tiffanys (modelled by members), variety of interesting stalls, excellent tea (cost to guests just £1.00) and the beautiful gardens. Please do come along for what promises to be a lovely afternoon.

Miss Betty Marks won the flower of the month competition with a delightful pale yellow cascading shrub rose called "Canary Bird".

There was no speaker for the May meeting, but members discussed and voted on the following three important resolutions, which will appear on the agenda at the TGM on 7 June.

Mrs Jean Van Hagen presented Resolution 1. Members voted that HM Government should be urged to start funding children's' hospices in

accordance with the same principles that adult hospices are currently being funded. Members felt it important that more children's' hospices be made available in the near future.

Mrs Rita Hobbs presented Resolution 2. Members voted the HM Government should be urged to make available more funds to greatly improve community care for stroke sufferers, which would achieve a far higher national standard of care. Members felt very strongly that there should be an equal standard of care for stroke sufferers in whatever part of the country they happen to live.

Resolution 3 was presented by Mrs Sue Bourne and the topic was "payment of benefits at Post Offices". Members expressed their views very strongly on this subject and voted unanimously that HM Government be very strongly urged to continue to allow customers to collect their pensions and benefits in cash at the Post Office beyond the year 2002. This was a powerful "yes" vote and the one Mrs Van Hagen was asked to present to the TGM. Many thanks to her for agreeing to attend this important meeting.

12 June - Summer Garden Party - would visitors please arrive at 2.30 pm.

Britford Parish AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Britford Parish will take place on 7 June at the Britford Memorial Hall at 7 pm. Mr Graham Wright of Salisbury Joint Transportation Team will give a presentation on the Park and Ride Scheme.

Derby Day Coffee Morning

The Ebble Valley Branch of the Conservative Association will hold a coffee morning on Saturday 10 June at 10.30 am at Melstock, Nunton. Stalls - Bring and Buy, Nearly New, Plants, Derby Sweepstake and Raffle. Everyone welcome, and please bring your friends.

The Salmon & Trout Association

Wessex Branch

Fly Fishing For Trout

A course for youngsters aged 11 - 16

Tackle provided

Tuition by qualified instructors

Fee £5.00

Saturday 17 June 10 am - 5 pm at Steeple Langford

Saturday 19 August 10 am - 5 pm at Verwood

Details and registration forms from

Jon Penny on 01725 512869

Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Village Fête - Grand Draw

Adrian Taylor

Tickets for the Grand Draw are being distributed for sale throughout Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham and will also be sold at the Fête on 8th July. If you have not been involved before and feel you could help by

selling some tickets before the Fête, please contact Adrian Taylor (Nunton) on 01722 325862, Gill Smedley (Odstock) on 01722 329488 or Susie Jenkins (Bodenham) on 01722 329748. We shall also need draw prizes and will be delighted to receive any that you are able to donate. Many thanks.

The Country Event on your Doorstep

Salisbury & South Wilts Agricultural Show Sunday 18 June 2000, at Whiteparish, near Salisbury

See Cattle, Sheep, Llamas, Heavy Horses (some in harness)

Horse & Donkey Shows, Exemption Dog Show - from 12.30, bring your dog

*Llama obstacle course * Grand Parade of Livestock 3 pm, with commentary * Working Vintage Tractors & Machinery * Pre-1969 Lorries, Cars & Landrovers * Vintage Drive Past * Trade Stands * Rural Crafts * Children's' Farm - meet the Animals * Displays * Attractions * Refreshments * Live Band * Licensed Bar * Free Parking*

Adults £4, School age Children £1, Under 5 free

Enquiries - Show Secretary 01794 884355

Contacts

<i>Team Rector</i>	Canon Sydney Willcox, The Rectory, Broad Chalke 01722 780262 (Day off - Mon)
<i>Team Vicar</i>	Revd Roger Redding, Vicarage, Ebbesbourne Wake 01722 780408 (Day off - Mon)
<i>Team Vicar</i>	Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Nunton Vicarage 01722 330628 (Day off - Fri)
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Nunton - Harry Joynt 01722 329782 Odstock - Peter Martin 01722 412906 Charlton - Peter Cox 01722 329709 Britford - Daphne Scamell 01722 334858

Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00 am Barker Room, Nunton
Junior Church	To coincide with 9.30 am services at Nunton or Odstock Churches, held at the Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Tiny Tots	Every Wednesday, 2 - 4 pm The Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30 pm Barker Room, Nunton
Singing Group	Every Monday, 8.00 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Ebble Pre-school	Monday-Thursday 9.00 am - 12.30 contact Sharon Chandler 01722 329719
Mobile Library	Alternate Fridays (2, 16, 30 June): Village Hut, Charlton 10.00 - 10.15 am Alternate Tuesdays: Brookmead, Britford 10.35 am Post Office, Bodenham 10.55 am Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.10 am Crossroads, Odstock 11.35 am

Dates for your Diary

7 June	Britford Parish AGM, 7.00 pm Britford Memorial Hall
10 June	Derby Day Coffee Morning, 10.30 am Melstock, Nunton
24 & 25 June	Britford Millennium Weekend
1 July	Charlton Village Barbecue, 7.00 pm Charlton Courtyard
7 July	Charlton Garden Society outing to MacPenny's Nursery
8 July	Nunton, Odstock & Bodenham Fete
23 September	Charlton Harvest Supper
4/5 November	Charlton Bonfire Night
14 October	Charlton Autumn Sale