

The Bishop of Grimsby writes:

Since last September, many of us searching the internet will have used a programme called 'Google Instant'. This software displays the results of our queries as we type them and Google claims that it will change the way we use the internet. A bold claim and only time will tell, but the question in my mind is whether, with all this access to knowledge and information, are we actually any the wiser?

Wisdom is about making the best use of what we know and making judgements which lead to good choices. Wisdom is not the opposite of folly, but rather it is the key ingredient to navigating our way through life. Down the ages wisdom has been prized in bringing together what we know, what we understand and what we've experienced of life, to interpret not only what is happening, but how people are reacting and behaving.

Wisdom and the search for wisdom are at the heart of religion and philosophy. In Judaism, wisdom is closely associated with justice and fairness. Across each of the world religions, wisdom is the distinctive human attribute to which we should all aspire. In Christianity wisdom is understood as a gift which gives our knowledge, understanding and experience such a Christlike quality that the wisdom of the world is seen to be folly.

Such a gift is grounded and renewed in our prayers, our study of the Bible and in the worship through which we celebrate our faith in Jesus Christ. There are no shortcuts to gaining the 'mind of Christ' or the wisdom which comes with it - it only comes through the practice of faith.

In the mighty rush of modern life, with a relentless demand for instant reactions, decisive leadership and immediate replies to emails - wisdom can so easily be squeezed out.

Impressive software and the faster delivery of information will never be a substitute for the wisdom we need to be happy, to live at peace with one another and to cope with all that life throws at us. In St. Paul's words to the Colossians, we need to "set our minds on the things which are above", for that is where true wisdom is to be found.

+David Grimsby



ST GENEWYS'

Monthly Draw

The first winners in 2011 were:

1 st prize	£50	S R Minty	(Entry 85)
2 nd prize	£20	E Whitworth	(Entry 52)
3 rd prize	£10	J Lonsdale	(Entry 109)

The next Draw will be made on 1 February

Mary

Church Heaters

Just over a week before Christmas, workmen coming to replace the heater opposite the organ condemned, with immediate effect, the remaining five heaters. As it had taken several weeks for the first heater to arrive we were convinced that we were going to have a cold Christmas. However, after an emergency order, five new heaters and fitters arrived the following day and we were able to decorate the church and prepare for Christingle in the warm. Although you may not

notice any difference in appearance, all the heaters are now new. The fact that we were able to go ahead and replace them immediately was due to there being sufficient funds – thanks to those who contribute regularly and those who boost the fabric fund through the monthly draw. Thank you for your support. If anyone would like to increase their monthly gift-aided commitment, make a regular gift-aided commitment or have a number in the monthly draw please contact a churchwarden.

Christingle

We had a full church again this year for a very enjoyable service this year. The collection raised £170 for The Children's Society – the same as last year. We were able to send a further £40 from filled candles that the children took in to school after Christmas. If you would like a candle (or two) to begin filling for next year, please help yourself from the supply on the steps of the font.

Carol Singing around the Village

It was with great regret that we felt we had to cancel the carol singing this year but we felt the road and path conditions were so poor that we could not, safely, ask young and old to scramble about on the ice. We hope that next year conditions will be a little more favourable.

CHRISTMAS WHIST DRIVE AND DRAW

The final figure for the Christmas Draw was £369, slightly more than announced in the January Parish News. Postponed because of the bad weather, the Christmas Whist Drive eventually took place on 5 January and raised £56, which makes a grand total of £425 for Scotton Village Hall funds. Again, thank you to everyone who helped achieve this.

Mary

ANNUAL RETREAT

Each year members of our congregations from Scotton, Scotter and Messingham go “on retreat” for a weekend at the beginning of September. This year our retreat will be held at Wydale Hall near Scarborough from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September. The Retreat is a “silent” retreat – we are silent from after supper on the Friday until after lunch on Sunday, although there will be an opportunity to “walk and talk” on the Saturday afternoon for a few hours. The cost of the weekend is £127 which includes a contribution towards a small gift for the retreat leader. This year our retreat leader is The Rev David McCormick, the Continuing Ministry Education Officer for our Diocese, who will give a series of talks on some aspect of the Christian faith and who will lead us in prayer and contemplation throughout the weekend.

If anyone is interested in joining us on this retreat, please get in touch with Sue Keast at 4 Crapple Lane, Scotton or ☎763190 or e-mail susan_keast@hotmail.com.



THEATRE TRIP

The Stamford Shakespeare Company present an annual season of plays in June, July and August at Rutland Open Air Theatre in the grounds of historic Tolethorpe Hall, Little Casterton, just off the A1, two miles north of Stamford. A coach trip has been organised to see:

Pride and Prejudice
on
FRIDAY 29th July 2011

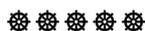
If you have not been to Tolethorpe before, it is a truly wonderful setting for a theatre. The players perform in an enchanting glade but the audience are protected from inclement weather by an all-weather canopy. However, it does get rather cold in the evening, so warm clothes and a blanket are highly recommended.

The evening starts with a picnic on the lawn (which you will need to bring yourselves), or if you prefer you can book a pre-performance meal in one of the two elegant restaurant rooms in the historic hall. (Details from me). The picnic on the lawn is great fun, but in the case of bad weather we should be able to find a space in the "Orange Room"! Failing that we can always eat in the coach!

The coach will pick up from Brigg, Scunthorpe, Scotter, Blyton and Gainsborough starting from Brigg at about 3.45pm.

The cost of the trip has yet to be finalised as we are awaiting a quote from the coach company, but is likely to be in the region of £23. This price is dependent on being able to fill a 50-seater coach! I have until 1st May to confirm this booking. If you would like to join this trip please let me know by contacting me at 4 Crapple Lane, by telephone on 763190 or by e-mail: susan_keast@hotmail.com

Sue Keast



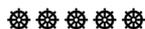
NORTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

The annual parish meeting will be held in the village hall, Manor Road at 7.00pm on Monday 14 March. All village residents are very welcome to attend. You can find out more about the developments planned for the playing field and village hall, learn how the Parish Council spends the precept that you pay for, and have your say about what you would like to happen in the village in future.

The annual assembly will be followed by a meeting of the Parish Council, which you can stay for if you wish, but as an observer rather than contributor.

If you are interested, you will be able to put yourself forward as a Parish Councillor this year. More information about this will be displayed on the Parish Notice Board in a few weeks' time. If you want to find out more about what is involved in being a councillor, come along to the annual meeting, or get in touch with me or one of the other parish councillors. My telephone number is 01724 762591.

Ruth Bohin; Clerk to Northorpe Parish Council



NORTHORPE PLAYING FIELD GROUP

Christmas Hamper

A raffle was drawn on 12 December to raise funds for the Playing Field. Thank you for your generosity and donations. Over £100 was raised. The first prize was won by Mrs A Gilbert and the second prize went to Tracey Westhead.

Northorpe Playing Field Update

All of the necessary paperwork relating to the Community Spaces Grant which will fund the final phase of the park has been submitted. We are now waiting feedback from the funder.

If there is anyone interested in joining the Playing Field Group, please email: Brenda-dunk@fsmail.net

Neil Montgomery

NORTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

We have been successful in obtaining a number of grants for the upkeep of Northorpe Village Hall, which will be spent in the coming month.

We are looking to instigate a drop-in book swap on Thursdays at 2.00pm, and indoor bowls at 7.00pm on Monday nights. Please show your support.

If you require more details please email; northorpevillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

A website is also being developed to inform people about facilities in the village. This can be found at: www.northorpe.com. If anyone is interested in joining the Village Hall Committee, please contact us.

Neil Montgomery



NORTHORPE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Ringmaster (which is an automated email alert system used by Lincolnshire Police) have sent details of a number of opportunistic car crimes in the immediate catchment area.

Neil Montgomery



A minister waited in line to have his car filled with petrol just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

"I know what you mean" chuckled the minister, "it's the same in my business."

SCOTTON AND DISTRICT WI

Thursday 10 February is now the date for the celebrations (postponed from December due to the snow) of the 75th anniversary of the formation of Scotton and District WI. Members are asked to arrive at the village hall at 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Mary



OH LA LA!

A taste of Paris is coming to Scotton this Springtime with the visit of Oh La La! on Friday 1 April. This charming and sophisticated trio whose programme will include Jazz, Parisian folk music, and a variety of French favourites and pop tunes have toured internationally as well as playing at Ronnie Scotts and the Royal Opera House.

The show, suitable for all ages, comes to Scotton Village Hall as part of the Lincolnshire Rural and Community Touring Scheme. Tickets are available from 22 Eastgate (762636) and cost £7 (£5 for over 60s and under 16s)

Don't miss Oh La La! – Friday 1 April at 7.30pm.

Mary (On behalf of Scotton Village Hall Committee)



'The soul is dyed the colour of its thoughts. Think only on those things that are in line with your principles and can bear the light of day. The content of your character is your choice. Day by day, what you do is who you become.'

Heraclitus (535-475 BC)

FEBRUARY SERVICES

6	5 th Sunday before Lent	8.30 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion, Northorpe Holy Communion, Scotton
13	4 th Sunday before Lent	8.30 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion, Northorpe Holy Communion, Scotton
20	3 rd Sunday before Lent	8.30 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion, Northorpe Holy Communion, Scotton
27	2 nd Sunday before Lent	8.30 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion, Northorpe Morning worship, Scotton

MARCH

6	Sunday next before Lent	8.30 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion, Northorpe Holy Communion, Scotton
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