



Reports to the June 2010 Forum

Easter Story 2010

In June 2009 the Forum agreed to present Easter Story for the third time in 2010. With a committee drawn from most churches, a cast of 44 (including almost a dozen young people!) and various helpers we totalled approx 100. We encountered various set backs with snow and schools, but the whole event was saturated in prayer at all levels and, as always, God blessed us beyond our imaginings. Followed by hundreds, my greatest joy was to see so many folk in tears and touched to the soul on the day as many experienced the reality of God's love. At rehearsals, spending three months going step by step through the crucifixion could only result in blessing - and fun! It was a real touch of heaven to enjoy each other because we were all of one mind and heart. Special thanks to Alex for his very valuable support in rehearsals.

The Sound Recording was perfect (thank you David, Rob and CCF)

The Dancing, Prayer, Publicity, Photos, Costumes and Props were organised to a very high standard. Many thanks to all involved.

Thanks also to Roger and Gill Pullan, St John's and St Gregory's churches for space to dress. To St Gregory's for catering afterwards - that was very welcome and the church 'buzzed'. To Canon Greg Webb for his closing words.

Many thanks to the cast for the beautiful crystal candle holder presented to me at our "De-briefing" I did not deserve it after causing everyone so much hassle but I will treasure it immensely.

The cost amounted to £1,109.05 and with £99.35 in hand and gifts of £200, the final cost was £809.70 which included gifts to David Rout and Rob McCarthy. Further details are available if required.

Following the event the Ministers made these suggestions for future consideration - *my comments in italics:*

The final scenes should also be sound recorded and lengthy explanations shortened *[in hand]*
The ministerial input was not necessary - the action speaks for itself
The crucifixion be at St Peter's *[smallest site, town disrupted, The Croft space for follow up]*
Other town organisations take part *(I don't know who is in mind)*
Casting Wes as Judas for the second time could be picked up by the PC brigade *[Wes wanted to play this part!]*

To all involved – a very heartfelt thank you and every blessing.

Eleanor

Healing Ministry Task Group Report

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The Group was re-structured some months ago and has come forward with clear objectives with which to move forward:

1. To organise seminars twice a year (open to everyone) featuring a variety of subjects that relate to the subject of health, healing and wholeness with a guest speaker.
2. To re-run a rolling programme of training that will suit those people involved with meeting and greeting at the Kettle and Fish and/or the healing ministry within their own church setting.

Seminars: we can advise that we are delighted to welcome **The Rev'd Dr John Parr** here on the evening of Thursday, 1st July 2010. Dr Parr is an authority in the area of mental health and is also Team rector of the North Bury Team Ministry (All Saints); we would encourage everyone who has an interest in health matters, not necessarily connected to mental health, to attend this seminar - Dr Parr is known for his excellent, interesting and informative lectures. A poster is available should you be able to place this somewhere.

We are thrilled to confirm that **Jennifer Rees-Larcombe** has agreed to present our second seminar (full details to follow in due course) on 19th March 2011. Jennifer has a fruitful and long-established prayer, healing, speaking and writing ministry. After becoming seriously ill in 1982 with a virus that confined her with chronic pain to a wheelchair for eight years, she was healed through the prayer of a new Christian at a meeting at which she was speaking. She has also experienced the heartbreak of a broken marriage. Since then the Lord has focused her ministry on helping people adjust to pain, loss and trauma.

Training Programme: We are making arrangements to run an in depth course entitled "*In His Name*" mainly designed as a training course for healing prayer teams but also suited for those involved with the ministry of listening. This is different from the Acorn course and is an 8 week programme based on 2 hours per week which can either be run each week in the evenings or at weekends, or a mix of both. Your thoughts on what would suit best would be welcome. The programme will be jointly run by The Rev'd Martin Thrower, Dean of St Mary's Church Hadleigh, and The Rev'd Canon Greg Webb. Please ask for details should you wish to know more.

Lynda Sebbage

Eden's Project – The Noise

Sat 29th - Mon 31st May 2010 (Bank Holiday Weekend)

The Noise is about young people from Eden's Project helping to make a positive difference in the local community, because 'Actions Speak Louder Than Words'.

This year we chose Great Cornard as our focus, to do a whole load of stuff such as gardening, litter picking, painting and basically making a difference!

A photo-montage is available from bit.ly/Noise2010 . A copy will be on display at the meeting.

Christian Aid

Many thanks to all involved with Christian Aid Week, whether through collecting, giving, praying, counting, or acting on world poverty.

More than one hundred people attended the United Service at St John's, where our speaker was Eldred Willey, Coordinator for Norfolk & Suffolk. We are grateful to everyone who helped to make the evening run smoothly.

The total amount collected in Sudbury & Great Cornard was £5616.17, including the offering of £223.59 at the service. Although these figures are a little lower than last year, it can be considered a good result in the current financial climate.

£1812.28 was raised in Long Melford, and there were collections in many of the other villages in the district.

Those taxpayers who completed the Gift Aid form will enable their donations to be increased by 28%.

Congratulations to Alex Badrick and the young people of St John's Spark Club who raised £150 with their own version of "Joseph". This will go to a special project bringing clean water to an area of Burkina Faso in former French West Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world. Special funding arrangements will quadruple this amount.

Christian Aid works with local non-government partners in more than fifty countries across Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, the Middle East and Asia to promote long-term development and provide emergency relief. It campaigns for an end to poverty and injustice worldwide. Find more at www.christianaid.org.uk .

Malcolm Snow.