

## Diocesan Centenary Fund

THE CENTENARY Fund, started as part of the Diocesan centenary celebrations, still has grants available for churches and groups working with children and young people in Southwark Diocese. The Fund has already awarded more than 40 grants totalling over £80,000 to many different sorts of projects throughout our Diocese.

Some of the activities supported include a youth theatre, a junior choir, toddler services and a weekend retreat for a new youth group.

Money is still being raised, most recently by Ven Chris Hardman's successful run in the London Marathon and a fundraising event in March. All applications are considered by the grants committee chaired by Bishop Nick and the next deadline for grant requests is 30 September 2007. For more information and application forms see the Diocesan website or contact the Centenary Fund Administrator at Trinity House.

## You have to drill through the arsenic level!

EARLIER this year, Kennington Tandoori opposite St Anselm's church hosted a meal and an auction of gifts to raise funds for building wells in Bangladesh, where the staff come from.

£26,000 was raised in one evening and shortly afterwards, North Lambeth Team Rector, the Rev. Angus Aagaard, found himself with KT's head waiter Monsur on a plane to Sylhet Division in Bangladesh.

He told The Bridge "Armed with cheque book, insect spray and steel-capped boots we set out from Monsur's family village each day to outlying villages. These had no running water and no likelihood of raising their own money to build a well. We identified 183 sites for wells and 183 have been built with the money raised in the parish.



"The warmth and friendliness I received was wonderful. In contrast, the poverty was far worse than that I had imagined. In each village hut, not much bigger than the average Lady Chapel, over 15 people live with no furniture, money or jobs. Stagnant ponds act as washing machine, dishwasher and bath. They are full of fish for families to live off and are the only drinking water supply. There is no medical help if it is needed and clearly it was.

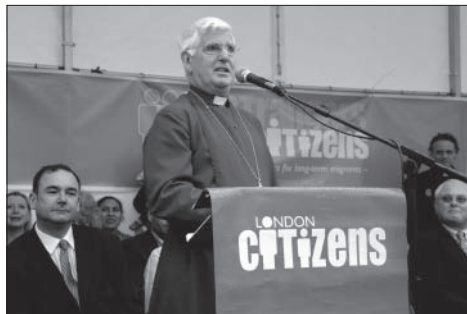
"Over the two weeks we negotiated with contractors to supply equipment to build the wells and assisted locals in

erecting the bamboo frame (above) from which we manually drilled towards the water. In a day clear running water can be delivered - you just have to make sure that you drill through the arsenic level to the fresh water below!

"After daily thinking of those living in poverty at morning prayer and often seeing images on television of poverty and oppression, it was a privilege to be involved in some small way to help alleviate it.

"The trip was a tonic for me as it renewed and refreshed my commitment to giving wherever possible to those living in poverty," he added.

## Strangers into citizens



**A very wet bank holiday Monday is not the best day to join in a march to argue for a better deal for migrant workers.**

**Terry Drummond reports:**

Even so on the May bank holiday over 3,000 people met in Westminster Cathedral for a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Cormac Murphy O Connor after which he joined Bishop Tom in leading marchers to a rally in Trafalgar Square.

The Mass included readings and prayers in several languages as diverse as French,

Arabic and Lithuanian. The sermon preached by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark celebrated the presence of the many nationalities who are migrants in the UK.

He particularly mentioned those who are without legal status and who are seeking to become established British citizens and who can contribute to the UK economy.

The rally was an affirmation of this hope and of the theme 'strangers into citizens' that stated both the aim and the aspiration of many people.

Speakers at the rally included Bishop Tom (photo above) and other faith leaders, Trade Unionists, Politicians and migrants who had arrived as strangers and had gained citizenship.

A rainy day did not dampen the spirits of those in Trafalgar Square who celebrated the fellowship of being part of multi national gathering.

## In the Palace Gardens

There has been a 'garden party' on the last Saturday in June in Lambeth Palace Gardens since 1945 when Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher decided the 'locals' needed cheering up after the stress and deprivation of wartime London.

Nowadays it's the venue for the North Lambeth Parish Fete on 30 June (2 pm - 5 pm). There's all the usual; 'fun of the fair' - music, food, stalls (home produce and books are the favourites), a tug o'war and sideshows - but with the unique extra, an opportunity to wander round or sit and enjoy the Archbishop's gardens. Entrance is £3/£1.50 and family concessions.

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### MANAGING STRESS IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT

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We believe the challenges of stressful lives need to be understood and addressed through working with the whole person. Created in God's image, but subject to the pressures of living in an urban, contemporary world, this retreat offers an opportunity for you to begin to redress the balance.

WHEN: Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:00am-5:00pm

MAXIMUM SIZE OF GROUP: 8

COST: £60 to include lunch and refreshments throughout the day

For more information contact Cathie (0208 488 0366)

or e-mail Dulwichpattisons@aol.com Mark your message "for Helen"



## Celebrating Spring in the countryside

THE FAITH in the Countryside Spring walk took place in Godstone Deanery this year, with a circular route beginning and ending at St Mary's, Horne.

Ann Wright told The Bridge: "The morning's walk took us across fields of sheep, through stables, past pill-boxes and ponds and over stiles which posed interesting challenges for the dogs accompanying us. We arrived at St Peter and St Paul, Lingfield, to be welcomed with smiling faces, cups of tea and lunch.

"After time to look round and a short service, we set off over Lingfield Common and Ardenrun, where the Edenbridge and Oxted Show will take place over the August Bank Holiday - looking out for the oak tree where the church tent will be. We reached St John's, Blindley Heath, for tea and cakes just as grey clouds rolled over, and were warm and dry during the shower.

"After prayers and a hymn in the church came the last leg of the walk, with some forty adults, children and dogs making their way up the gentle slopes to Hookstile Gully, across to Horne Court Woods and back through the fields to St Mary's, Horne.

"What better way could there be to spend the early May Bank Holiday than enjoying the Surrey countryside in the company of friends!"

### ADVANCE NOTICE

**Saturday 1 September**  
**A day of worship, teaching and reflection led by Mark Yaconelli**  
**St Mary Putney 9 am onwards**

For all engaged in ministry with children and young people.

Mark is an experienced youth worker and retreat leader. He is the author of 'Contemplative Youth Ministry: practising the presence of Jesus with young people' and is currently Director of Youth Specialities in California. We hope the day will resource and inspire all who work with children and young people and renew their vision for ministry as a new term begins.

**Booking details** from the Groups Support Officer caroline.shrieve@southwark.anglican.org or 020 7939 9412



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