

St Ursula's Church Magazine

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Table of Contents

Chaplain's Message.....	2	Christmas – already?.....	17
Why Me?.....	3	Junior Church Birthdays.....	18
Chaplain's Notes.....	4	For Your Diary.....	19
Confirmation Service.....	6	Calendar of Services	21
Council Report.....	8	Prayer Diary.....	22
Weekend Away.....	9	Rotas for August 2010.....	24
A Word for the Month – Shepherd.....	10	Rotas for September 2010.....	25
Contemplative Prayer in Liebefeld.....	11	Farewell to Marianne.....	26
FAQ: "Middle of the road".....	12	Tribute to Joanna Davie.....	28
Information and Notice Boards.....	13	Preserving our Environment.....	32
Archdeaconry Retreat 2010.....	14	Charities we support:	34
Junior Church	15	Here to help you.....	44
Confirmation Class Weekend Away.....	16		

Chaplain's Message

Last year's "Back to Church" Sunday was a successful and enjoyable occasion. In fact, people enjoyed it so much that we shall repeat it again this year – on 29 August.

Over the past twelve months quite a number of people have filled in Welcome cards and we shall be sending them a special invitation. Our survey found that 38 percent of our congregation first found out about St Ursula's through friends – that is, through people like you. So, please spread the word and, better still, bring someone along with you.

What are we inviting them to? Thanks to our survey, we can feel confident in describing ourselves as middle-of-the-road Anglican. (This month's FAQ describes what that means.) Being confident in what we do in our worship is important for our outreach. Confidence is infectious and helps both regulars and newcomers to feel part of the action.

The service on 29 August will be a bit simpler than usual and will contain some explanations. We should beware, however, of dumbing down our liturgy and of explaining too much away. Our worship is centred on God, who is transcendent and mysterious. All of us, whether we are new to worship or have been coming to church since childhood, need to feel that there is “something” in it that is just beyond our reach or understanding.

In what way, for instance, is Christ present in the sacrament and how is it possible? We cannot say for sure but that does not matter. The important thing is that we *believe* it and that others can sense it in the reverent atmosphere of our worship. We may not know the significance of all the details that make up the liturgy – candles, vestments, gestures etc. – but we can accept them for what they are: ways of expressing our belief that something special is happening here. Having accepted that these aspects are there for a reason, we might then want to explore what that reason actually is. That too will increase our confidence.

In short, we do not have to apologise for our liturgy. If we present it with confidence, then we can readily invite people to be part of it. Tell them, it's a bit like swimming in the Aare – just let it take you along and enjoy the experience.

Peter

Why Me?

It's not a new question. A whole village is wiped out by an earthquake. A beach full of tourists is struck by a tsunami. Fifty miners are killed in an explosion underground. A madman runs amok and shoots passers by at random. An aeroplane crashes. And we ask why.

A daughter takes an overdose of drugs. A son trips on a rough mountain slope. A friend misjudges the sharpness of a bend in the road. A beloved companion dies of an incurable illness. And we ask why.

In John 9, Jesus' disciples ask the same question. Jesus notices a man who has been blind from birth. "Was it because he sinned, or was it his parents' fault?" the disciples ask. And Jesus says no. It is "so that God's works might be revealed in him." And then he spreads mud on the man's eyes, tells him to wash in the Pool of Siloam, and the man receives his sight.

In a way, it seems as if Jesus is avoiding the question. To our western minds, the "so that" implies that God let the man suffer on purpose, so as to perform a miracle cure. So what about all the other blind people who don't have Jesus to spread mud on their eyes? What about the people who are neglected or abandoned because of their handicap?

We can relapse into a sort of fatalism. Change and decay are inherent characteristics of life itself. If a stem of wheat does not die back after yielding its fruit, how would it grow the next year? If the lion cannot hunt the antelope, it will starve in its turn. "Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, 'I have no pleasure in them'," wrote the Preacher (Eccl. 12:1). So does this mean that when one grows old, when "the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it," there is no longer any need to remember God, or to rejoice in God's presence?

God's creative power was not exhausted by making the heavens and the earth. But the world we live in runs in obedience to God's rules. It could not be otherwise. And among those rules are basic principles that matter and energy must remain in balance. Something cannot grow colder without something else growing hotter. Something cannot grow bigger without something else growing smaller. So it is with life and death.

The laws that control matter and energy do not control joy and pain, or love and hatred, or beauty and squalor. These are in God's direct control. They are the fruits of the Holy Spirit, who never ceases to work in the world, especially in those who in Jesus form part of the new creation (2 Cor 5:17), "born from above" (John 3:3). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reminded his hearers of the lilies in their beauty fading and withering each year, but returning annually, and of God's care even for the lowly sparrows. "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul... Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows."

The laws that control matter and energy do not control joy and pain, or love and hatred, or beauty and squalor. In God's hands, beauty, joy and love can only increase. Joy breeds joy, love breeds love, wherever the Spirit is at work, until at the end, all that is not joy is banished. When God's work is done, God will indeed wipe away every tear from our eyes and, "mourning and crying and pain will be no more."

- *Hector Davie*

Chaplain's Notes

Prayers for healing

Our next time of prayer for healing will be during the 10 o'clock celebration on Sunday 1 August. We will follow the normal pattern of inviting you to come forward after the intercessions and you can request prayer either for yourself or someone else.

The fact that the service this time is on the National Day is a reminder that countries, organisations and families sometimes need healing just as much as individual people. In fact, the ills of society (consumerism, alienation) can make people feel ill too.

Thank you

Shareene and I would like to thank you all for your prayers and support after our son Martin suffered his accident. He is now on the mend (but prayers for patience would not go amiss!). We have felt very much upheld and surrounded by prayer at this time. It really does make a difference.

Back to Church

An invitation to our "Back to Church" Sunday (29 August) is included with this magazine. Please use it yourself or pass it on to someone else. If you can come to church with them, so much the better. As last year we shall be celebrating the diversity of St Ursula's with an international lunch after the service. Can you bring a dish typical of your country or region? If so, please contact Lynn Robb (see "Catering Coordinator" at the back of the magazine).

Merci et au revoir

At the end of August, the Revd Roy Farrar will be stepping down from his role as locum chaplain at Neuchâtel. It has been a great help to me to have someone *en place* and the congregation at Neuchâtel has benefited greatly.

We are currently looking for a replacement, either a house-for-duty priest for Neuchâtel or a combined post with St Ursula's. By the time this magazine appears, the situation will have become clearer.

We send our thanks and best wishes to Roy and Mieke and hope they will enjoy a long and happy (second) retirement.

What is an Ecumenical Label?

The national ecumenical organisation in Switzerland (in German, the Arbeitsgemeinschaft christlicher Kirchen in der Schweiz, AGCK) awards these labels to inter-church projects that serve the community and foster cooperation among the churches. This year's labels go to:

1. the Council of Churches in Vaud for their ecumenical services in Lausanne Cathedral. I preached when it was the Anglicans' turn in May, at a service which also formed part of the Archdeaconry Choir Festival;
2. an ecumenical presence at the *Gastronomiemesse* in Basle;
3. the *Ecole de la Parole* in the French-speaking part of Switzerland;
4. the summer school on art and ethics in Nyon.

The labels will be awarded at a service in Lausanne Cathedral on Sunday 5 September at 18.00.

Confirmation Service

The confirmation service was held on Sunday 20 June at 10.00, led by Geoffrey Rowell, our diocesan bishop. Six young members of St Ursula's were confirmed, together with three adults and three people from Neuchâtel.

The service was meaningful and moving. The young people participated by doing the readings and leading the intercessions, and the bishop's sermon had a message for all.

The whole congregation from Neuchâtel came to support their candidates. There were also a good number of family members and friends of the members of St Ursula's. So the church was packed, with people even sitting in the porch.



Despite the cool weather, we managed to gather in the grounds after the service to take some photos.



The service was followed by an apéritif for the whole congregation



and lunch for those who had been confirmed and their guests.



More pictures are available on the church's Picasa page
(<http://picasaweb.google.com/st.ursula.berne/Confirmation#>)

- *Tricia Carrick*

Council Report

Council meetings were held on Monday 31 May and Tuesday 6 July.

A lot of routine business has to be done at each council meeting to keep things running. This includes a discussion of the financial situation, which at the moment is not looking good as our income is not as high as expected.

Building projects are also discussed at each council meeting. As you will have seen, the carpet in the church has been replaced. The next projects are the painting of the offices with the replacement of the floors and some improvements to the sound system in church. After that the replacement of the ceiling and lights in the upper hall will be organised.

The photocopier in the garage no longer works reliably, mainly because we use it so seldom – just for printing the magazine. It is not worth repairing again, so council agreed to dispose of it and investigate other options for printing the magazine.

At the meeting in July, council discussed the upkeep of the garden and agreed to look into the possibility of employing a professional for one or two days a month to keep it looking good.

Stefan Germann, our Environmental Officer, gave a very interesting presentation to council on 31 May. We hope to have more information for you very soon.

Council agreed to advertise for an assistant chaplain to take care of the congregation in Neuchâtel (33%) and also run the youth work in Berne and take services when necessary. At the meeting on 6 July, there was no indication whether there were any applications – but the closing date had not been reached. Interim plans for both youth work and Neuchâtel will be discussed in the next few weeks.

Jadon Hartsuff, a trainee priest from USA, will be visiting us for three weeks from 18 July. He would like to meet as many people as possible and learn about life at St Ursula's.

As always, many other topics were discussed – far too many to mention in this brief report, but please ask if you would like to know more. Contact a council member – the list is at the back of this magazine or on the web site.

- Tricia Carrick (Council Secretary)

St Ursula's Church Weekend Away Interview #3 of 3

by Jennifer Hockley (based on real feedback from 2009)

How would you rate the accommodation and its suitability?

"space & arrangement of premises was a plus"



How would you rate the food?

"it was great, good food"



What did you like most about the Weekend Away?

"the experience of being the person in the bible"

"spending time with each other in a beautiful setting"

"the teaching, the fellowship, the clear mountain air"

"having time to spend informally with people; getting to know people I didn't yet know"



Would you recommend this weekend away to others?

"Yes, for the fellowship, getting to know people, leaning together"

"Yes, because it was an enjoyable experience"

"Yes, for the church bonding it always brings"

"Yes, it's a place to learn"



DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS 8 AUGUST, 2010

(Use the form on our website or available in the church hall)

Space is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

INFORMATION PACKAGES FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REGISTERED WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT CHURCH BEGINNING ON SUNDAY 15 AUGUST

Suitable for **families with or without children, couples** and **singles, older** and **younger** members of our church family – All are welcome!

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2010

JUGEND- UND FERIENHAUS, AESCHI

(above Spiez, overlooking Lake Thun)

The Revd Dan Morrow from Zurich will lead the sessions on
"The Art of Faith"



Youth dorm rooms here, adults only here (chapel too), families & dining here

A Word for the Month – Shepherd

It is hard to open the Bible without coming across a sheep or a shepherd - which makes it hard for us in Switzerland, where both are seldom seen, to appreciate the labour and care that shepherds show. Even in Britain, where the hardships of winter lambing time, where rescuing sheep from snowdrifts and bringing them food by helicopter can mean harsh days and long sleepless nights, there is no real parallel with the life of a shepherd in the Holy Land.

In the Middle East, a frequent sight is a shepherd leading the flock (often of sheep and goats together), calling them, encouraging them, stopping where the pasture is good. The great leaders in the Bible were all shepherds - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David.

We have two striking reminders in the Bible of how God cares for us like a shepherd. We have Jesus' assurance, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep." And we have that favourite of all psalms, where the psalmist rejoices that God will provide everything needful, there will be no want, only green pastures and still waters.

The image in Psalm 23 captures a tremendously personal vision of the relation between the shepherd and those in need. As in many of the personal psalms, there is a background of grief and suffering, always accompanied by the confidence that God will come to the sufferer's aid. In Psalm 23 the confidence prevails, and the suffering is only hinted at - the psalmist's soul is in need of restoring, the psalmist has enemies, the psalmist walks in a dark valley where fear is lurking. The shepherd's rod is there to ward off attack, the staff to protect from the danger of straying away from the shepherd's protection.

The Bible also refers to the care of the shepherd for the sheep more widely, as a symbol of God's relationship with God's people. God is "Shepherd of Israel" (Ps 80:1). In the Old Testament, we find people commissioned to act as shepherds on God's behalf - the king (2 Sam 5:2), the temple priests, but these people can be corrupt and selfish ("Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" (Jer. 23:1)). When the day comes, God "will feed the flock like a shepherd", gathering the lambs and cradling them, leading them with gentleness. (Is. 40:11).

In Jesus, God lived among us. John's Gospel records seven "I am" sayings, recalling Jesus' true character (for when Moses asked God's name by the burning bush, the

answer came "I am what I am"), and in chapter 10, two follow in quick succession - "I am the gate of the sheepfold: whoever enters by me will be saved", and then the one we all know, "I am the good shepherd."

The good shepherd has "other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also... So there will be one flock, one shepherd... My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish."

These other sheep were in the first place the gentiles, excluded by many in Jesus' day as being outside God's promises. But they were also the sinners, those spurned by society - the lost sheep of the parable. The good shepherd would not rest before all hundred sheep were safe, not just the ninety-nine who were safe already, but the one solitary sheep who was lost.

As with many things in the Bible, an image applied to God and Israel is revitalized by being applied to Jesus and the church, and is then applied further to all of us. As God loved us, we love one another (1 John 4:19). As God cares for us, we care for one another. The Latin word for shepherd is "pastor", and the word for flock is "grex", from which our word "congregation" comes. Although, like Peter, the leaders of the church are particularly charged with "feeding the flock" (1 Pet. 5:2), although pastors, like evangelists, seem to exercise a special ministry (Eph 4:11), we are all evangelists, and we are all pastors, exercising pastoral care and pastoral concern for each other. Let us all be shepherds to one another, as we have God for our shepherd, and may our eyes be fixed on Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

- *Hector Davie*

Contemplative Prayer in Liebefeld

What is the essence of contemplative prayer? The way of pure faith. Nothing else. You do not have to feel it, but you have to practise it.

Thomas Keating; Open Mind, Open Heart

Feel free to join the practice group on 12 and 26 August, 9 and 23 September at 19.00 at Brian's house in Liebefeld.

For further details, contact Brian on 031 971 6681 or bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch

FAQ: Why should we be a "middle of the road" Anglican church?



This is the logical place for us to occupy in the spectrum of churches in Berne. St Ursula's has not been the only English-speaking church in the city for some years now. People who prefer a free evangelical style of worship are catered for in more than one church and the Roman Catholics have the English-speaking congregation at the Bruder Klaus Church.

As we are the only *Anglican* church in the area, however, we cannot aim to imitate St Matthew's Westminster or Holy Trinity Brompton (no matter how much some of us might wish we could be like the one or the other!).

We should fit somewhere in the middle – a typical Anglican place to be.

What does “middle of the road” look like?

Worship styles are constantly evolving and different traditions often borrow ideas from each other. One important area is the use of visual elements like candles or a bowl of water to remind you of baptism. Some experimental worship might even use incense! These are helpful ways of speaking to today's “sound-bite” culture.

Nowadays, you would expect to find the following in almost all Anglican churches that describe themselves as “central” or “middle-of-the-road”:

1. the Eucharist as the main Sunday service; reverence for the sacrament, but without defining too closely what is taking place
2. vestments
3. a procession in and out, probably with a robed choir
4. organ-led music and mainly traditional hymns
5. candles on the altar (and called that, not a “table”)
6. one or more servers
7. lay people reading the Old Testament and Epistle and, in many places, leading the intercessions
8. a ten-minute sermon
9. a greater emphasis on the incarnation than the atonement (although it might be difficult to be sure, as people tend not to enquire too closely)
10. tea and coffee after the service

“Middle of the road” does not mean being like the church in Laodicea (Rev. 3:15-16), however. It can be an awkward place to be and require sacrifices, giving up some preferences or putting up with others, for the sake of the greater good of the congregation.

It is also a matter of perception. Think of a tree. If you are a rabbit at its base, it looks high. But if you are an eagle soaring above, it looks low.

Provided both the rabbit and the eagle are aware of each other's point of view, then it can provide a home for both.

- *PMP*

Information and Notice Boards

You may have noticed that the piano in the hall has been moved. One of the reasons for doing this was to allow the music group to close off half the hall for an undisturbed music practice on Sunday mornings before the service.

This gave us an opportunity to revise our provision of information, and we came up with the following concept:

- Information about the church and related activities is available on the cupboards which have taken the place of the piano. Some of this information is also available in the church porch. These items are for you to take away.
- Magazines from other churches in Switzerland and information about various charities are in the pigeon holes in the entrance hall. Please take and read these, but then return them.
- Information about other events that may be of interest to church members is on the shelf in the hall entrance. Feel free to take these away.

Please tell us what you think.

The next step is to improve the use of the notice boards. Watch this space!

-*Tricia Carrick*



Archdeaconry Retreat 2010

A journey into contemplative prayer

with Fr Louis Christiaens S.J.

The Ignatian Way

Friday, 24 September from 18.00 to

Sunday, 26 September at 15.00

at

La Pelouse, route de Chiètres, 1880 Bex

More information on our website or pick up a leaflet.



Junior Church

The Junior Church continued to meet during the summer holidays. However, because lots of families were away, the classes were combined so that there was more than one or two children in each class. The summer holidays also gave a welcome break to most teachers, many of whom were away with their families.

New Start

The new Junior Church year starts on 15 August. Parents will receive a letter beforehand with various information, together with a class list showing which children are in each class and who the teachers are. We are grateful that Adoree Weibel has agreed to join the Pilots teaching team – this means we now have 3 or 4 teachers for each group.

Something else that is new is the teaching material. From July, we have been using material called “Seasons of the Spirit”. This follows the lectionary, which means that the children’s teaching is based on the same readings that the adults hear in the service. It is quite a challenge for the teachers to get to grips with this new material which is structured differently from the Scripture Union material that we are used to, but it is also an exciting opportunity.

All-Age Worship

Many people are not enthusiastic about so-called “All-Age Worship” – often older people equate it with a “children’s service” and families with small children think that it is an hour when they have to keep their children quiet, still and well-behaved. Consequently many stay away from such services. Of course, it does not need to be like this and at our recent Junior Church teachers’ meeting we discussed ways of involving the children and young people in worship that is valid for all. No conclusions reached, but we’ll keep thinking about it.

As part of this discussion, we were reminded that all of our main (10 o’clock) services are actually “All-Age”. We meet together each Sunday in church for our opening worship. We then split into groups for age-related teaching (adults staying in church for Bible readings and the sermon; children going to their classes). We also pray together in our groups. After this we come back all together to gather around the Lord’s table and celebrate the Eucharist.

Activity Club

The members of the 7 – 12 activity club will meet on Saturday 28 August for an outing to the Schwarzenburg area. This should be lots of fun. Detailed information will be available soon – if you don't receive this by the middle of August, please contact the church office.

Confirmation Class Weekend Away

The young people's confirmation class, together with some adult leaders, enjoyed a weekend away in Sargans from 11 – 13 June. We were invited by the Wildhaber family to use their family house there, which was an ideal location with plenty of space for all and good rooms for teaching and fun.



Friday evening meant arriving, finding out where everything is, eating and games, finishing with Evening Prayer. After Morning Prayer and breakfast on Saturday morning, there were two teaching sessions about the Bible. After lunch, we walked

through the woods along a "Stations of the Cross" path to a tiny chapel with a beautiful painting of pilgrims, saints and martyrs. Both the path and the painting provided good illustrations of our Christian journey which was particularly relevant to those about to be confirmed.



We were very lucky with the weather as, after a very hot Friday, it rained all morning on the Saturday but stopped just at the right time for our walk and the barbecue that followed. It didn't matter that it rained again afterwards as



we were inside playing games – a Bible quiz and then Bible trivia again (by popular request, as it had gone so well the previous evening).



There was a final teaching session on Sunday morning on “How to read the Bible”. This was followed by our own time of worship – prepared and led entirely by the young people. A pizza lunch was followed by packing up, clearing up and going home.

Everyone who participated had a good time and learnt something. Thanks to all (young and older) who came and contributed. Special thanks must go to Maxine and Edi who organised all the practical stuff – accommodation, food, transport etc. And to Peter who took time on the Saturday to come and join us and lead some of the teaching, particularly in the woods.

– *Tricia Carrick*

Christmas – already?

Well, not quite. But now is the time to make a note of this year's Advent Course. It is called *Birth Announcements* and we shall be having a close look at the Christmas stories in the Gospels. If you think you have known the story since you first wrapped a tea-towel round your head and appeared as a shepherd – think again! There is a lot more to them (and yes, “them” - there is more than one).

There will be four sessions, on Friday 26 November, 3, 10 and 17 December.

They will be held at lunch time and repeated in the evenings.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations

**to our Junior Church children
with birthdays in August and
September**

Jooris Philipp 5 on 20 August

Henry Giulini 2 on 27 August

Rose Giulini 2 on 27 August

Benedikt Bisig 8 on 30 August

Shelley Wildhaber 11 on 3 September

Eric Sovilla 16 on 7 September

Benjamin Bärtschi 3 on 19 September

Florie Masciadri 10 on 23 September

Edi Kingori 11 on 27 September

Svenja Tomczak 3 on 30 September

For Your Diary

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30-10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir practice

Other Events

Thursday 12 August	19.00	Contemplative Prayer at Brian Morgan's
Thursday 26 August	19.00	Contemplative Prayer at Brian Morgan's
Saturday 28 August	10.00 - 17.30	Junior Church 7 – 12 Social Group
Sunday 29 August	12.00	International Lunch
Saturday 4 September	10.00 - 14.00	Book and Food Sale
Tuesday 7 September	19.30	Church Council
Thursday 9 September	19.00	Contemplative Prayer at Brian Morgan's
Sunday 12 September		COPY DATE
Friday 17 – Sunday 19 September		Church Weekend Away in Aeschi
Thursday 23 September	19.00	Contemplative Prayer at Brian Morgan's
Thursday 23 September	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating
Friday 24 – Sunday 26 September		Archdeaconry Retreat at Bex

THUN SERVICES

Services are on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 19.30
in the Pavillon Bostuden
(Bläuerstrasse 5, off Bubenbergstrasse)

5 August
12 August
2 September
9 September

Future Dates

Sunday 10 October	10.00	Creationtide Service
Sunday 24 October	10.00	Harvest Festival
Wednesday 3 November	12.00	Cecily's Fund Soup Lunch
Friday 19 November and Sat 20 November	17.00 - 19.30 10.00 - 15.00	Christmas Bazaar
Friday 26 November	12.00 – 14.00	Start of 4 week Advent Study Course
Sunday 12 December	10.00	Nativity Play Service
Thursday 16 December	19.30	Heiliggeist Carol Service

NEUCHÂTEL CHURCH

Chapelle des Charmettes, Rue Varroz 1

Services are held twice monthly:

10 am on the FIRST Sunday of the month: Communion service

Children meet for Junior Church at 10 am in the Villa Yo-Yo and join their parents in church for Communion.

5 pm on the THIRD Sunday of the month: Family Communion service

Minister in charge : The Rev. Roy Farrar

Tel: 032 730 51 83

Chemin du Chasselas 11
2012 AUVERNIER

Read the monthly magazine on the website, or, to receive a paper copy, phone Rosemarie Zimmermann, 032 853 2986

www.neuchatel-church.ch

Calendar of Services

- 1 August **Trinity 9**
10.00 Sung Eucharist with prayers for healing
Hosea 11:1 – 11; Colossians 3:1 – 11; Luke 12:13 – 21
- 08/08/10 **Trinity 10**
8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Isaiah 1:1, 10 – 20; Hebrews 11:1 – 3, 8 – 16; Luke 12:32 – 40
- 15 August **The Blessed Virgin Mary**
10.00 Eucharist with Holy Baptism
Isaiah 61:10 – end; Galatians 4:4 – 7; Luke 1:46 – 55
- 22 August **Trinity 12**
8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Eucharist
Jeremiah 1:4 – 10; Hebrews 12:18 – end; Luke 13:10 – 17
- 29 August **Trinity 13 “Back to Church Sunday”**
10.00 Eucharist
Jeremiah 2:4 – 13; Hebrews 13:1 -8, 15 – 16; Luke 14:1, 7-14
- 5 September **Trinity 14**
10.00 Eucharist
Jeremiah 18:1 – 11; Philemon 1 – 21; Luke 14:25 – 33
- 12 September **Trinity 15**
8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Jeremiah 4:11 –12, 22 – 28; 1 Timothy 1:12–17; Luke 15:1-10
- 19 September **Trinity 16 - Weekend Away**
10.00 Eucharist at St Ursula’s
Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1; 1 Timothy 2:1 – 7; Luke 16:1 – 13
- 26 September **Trinity 17**
8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Eucharist with Holy Baptism
Jeremiah 32:1 – 3a, 6 – 15; 1 Timothy 6:6 – 19; Luke 6:19-end

Prayer Diary

August

1. **Sunday** The people and government of Switzerland
2. Monday A just distribution of the world's resources
3. Tuesday USPG/Anglicans in World Mission
4. Wednesday The people of Kyrgyzstan
5. Thursday People who are housebound
6. Friday *The Transfiguration*, feeling that our Lord is close
7. Saturday Disarmament talks
8. **Sunday** *Dominic*, preachers of the Gospel
9. Monday The Mothers Union
10. Tuesday *Lawrence, deacon and martyr*, the Church's care for the poor
11. Wednesday The International Old Catholic Conference meeting in Zürich
12. Thursday Young people in our church
13. Friday Nurses
14. Saturday Our neighbours
15. **Sunday** *The Blessed Virgin Mary*, our families
16. Monday Children returning to school
17. Tuesday Volunteers in our church
18. Wednesday Farmers
19. Thursday The Thun Church Group
20. Friday The work of the Salvation Army
21. Saturday The work of Spitex
22. **Sunday** The Church's ministry of hospitality
23. Monday Airport chaplains
24. Tuesday Quiet times
25. Wednesday Social workers
26. Thursday The Charities and Mission Team
27. Friday *Monica*, help for parents to bring up their children in the faith
28. Saturday *Augustine*, theologians
29. **Sunday** The Back to Church service at St Ursula's
30. Monday Cleaning up after environmental disasters
31. Tuesday The congregation in Neuchâtel

September

1. Wednesday The Children's Home, Sri Lanka
2. Thursday The British School of Berne
3. Friday Groups who use the Hall
4. Saturday Today's book and food sale
5. **Sunday** The Ecumenical Labels project
6. Monday Making St Ursula's a carbon-neutral church
7. Tuesday The Council meeting this evening
8. Wednesday Family members living far away
9. Thursday People suffering from chronic illnesses
10. Friday The financial needs of our chaplaincy
11. Saturday Current troublespots in the world
12. **Sunday** Industrial Chaplains
13. Monday Christian stewardship
14. Tuesday *Holy Cross Day*, confidence in the saving power of the cross
15. Wednesday Care homes in the Berne area
16. Thursday The Bible Reading Fellowship
17. Friday The Church Weekend Away
18. Saturday *Hildegard of Bingen*, art and music in spirituality
19. **Sunday** The Beatification of John Henry Newman (today)
20. Monday The English Speaking Playgroup
21. Tuesday *Matthew, apostle*, opportunities for outreach
22. Wednesday AGCK (the national ecumenical body for Switzerland)
23. Thursday This year's Pledge Giving Appeal
24. Friday The Archdeaconry Retreat
25. Saturday People who advertise in our magazine
26. **Sunday** Works of charity and mercy
27. Monday People providing essential services in our locality
28. Tuesday People in the news today
29. Wednesday *St Michael and All Angels*, confidence in God's protection
30. Thursday God's giving and ours

Rotas for August 2010

	1 August	8 August	15 August	22 August	29 August
Duty council	E. Hutchison	M.Wildhaber	H. Davie	T. Carrick	J. Eze
Readers	S. Brawand HELP	B. Morgan H. Davie	C. Hodler J. Wong	A. Masciadri P. Jayaraj	T. Carrick M. Shearmur
Intercession	E. Hutchison	T. Carrick	S. Faillettaz	H. Davie	E. Hutchison
Sidesperson	B. Morgan	S. Klein	S. Faillettaz	Y.Chittazhathu	J. Wenger
Video	A.Funkhouser	A. Thomas	T. Carrick	J. Carrick	E. Wildhaber
Audio	HELP	HELP	A. Tomczak	W. Bisig	H. Wenger
Server	L. Robb	D. Goepfert	A. Thomas	M.Wildhaber	A.Funkhouser
Chalice	E. Hutchison K.Chittazhathu	B. Morgan H, Davie	A.Funkhouser R.Freiburghaus	E.Hutchison H.Davie	P. Perrett R.Freiburghaus
Tea and Coffee	J Chisholm, S Berger	R Fenner, J Wong	S & M Brawand	HELPERS PLEASE	M Mead, E Vondracek
Crèche	Holidays	J. Kutesko B. Piper	W Bisig M. Wildhaber	C. Klinger J. Viggiswarapu	C. Hodler S. Bouldin
Flowers	M. Wittwer	Y. Chittazhathu	C. Hodler	J. Josi	K. Hoag

Volunteers Please

St Ursula's needs more people to help with the coffee/tea service after the 10 o'clock Sunday worship. Volunteers arrive around 9:15 to set up and are usually finished by 12:30 at the latest. Please contact Mary Mead, tel: 031 982 00 37.

Thank you.

Rotas for September 2010

	5 September	12 September	*19 September	26 September
Duty council	B. Morgan	E. Hutchison	E. Wildhaber	T. Read
Readers	D. Low A. Masciadri	C. Hodler P. Jayaraj	H. Davie J. Wong	T. Carrick M. Shearmur
Intercession	S. Faillettaz	A. Thomas	H. Davie	T. Carrick
Sidesperson	S. Faillettaz	P. Perrett	Y. Chittazhathu	H. Davie
Video	H. Davie	M. Wildhaber	P. Perrett	J. Carrick
Audio	H. Wenger	W. Bisig	A. Tomczak	W. Bisig
Server	R. Freiburghaus	A. Thomas	M. Wildhaber	R. Freiburghaus
Chalice	D. Low P. Perrett	P. Hawker HELP	H. Davie HELP	E. Hutchison K. Chittazhathu
Tea and Coffee	A Low J Josi	HELPERS PLEASE	M & E Wildhaber	R Fenner A Dedei
Crèche	R Eze M Wildhaber	S Hutchison A Pfister	F Hänggi A Tomczak	L Robb B Aréstegui
Flowers	R. Schelker	Y. Chittazhathu	Y. Bomonti	V. Hawker

Reminder

If you swap duties with someone else, please inform the rota coordinator (Ruth Freiburghaus) or the church office. Contact details on the last page of this magazine.

* - those on duty on 19 September include people who will be at Aeschi - these people are asked to ensure that the corresponding duty in Berne gets carried out!

Farewell to Marianne



On 1 June many members of our church family as well as those of Marianne's own family and a number of her friends from the Kammerchor and the Hort gathered at St Ursula's to bid farewell to Marianne Woodford and to remember her with gratitude and thanksgiving. Hers was a long and eventful life and one had the impression that she enjoyed it to the full. She had a strong faith and always looked on the bright side and hoped for the best. Marianne had a smile and a kind word for everybody as well as a real sense of fun, which she loved to share with whoever was around. I knew her for 50 years, from the very active time when her husband Norman was alive and her two sons still at home, right up to the last few years of her life when she was in the retirement home at Muri, her sight having failed and her hearing going too.

Marianne started to attend St Ursula's regularly about 30 - 35 years ago and she made many friends among our congregation. She soon became very active in the "background" work of the church, especially on the catering side, and whenever there were cakes and Christmas puddings to be made, meals to be prepared and served for social gatherings, there was Marianne doing her bit. She and Hilda Grant, her closest friend, used to prepare a meal once a month for people on their own or elderly couples and serve it in the church hall. They saw to this Outreach Lunch for

several years and always with expertise and goodwill. After Norman died, Marianne relied more and more on Hilda's company and as they lived just a couple of houses apart on the same street, they could call out to each other from their balconies. When Hilda's health failed and she too died, Marianne was more than glad of visits from our church family as well as those of her sons and grandchildren. Often of an evening when I was out walking the dog, I would drop in on her to chat and she was always very welcoming and ready to make a cuppa and she regaled me with tales about her family or about her (chequered) past. This she did with no uncertain relish.

Marianne loved music and attended many concerts and she was also musical herself. She had the most beautiful voice, both singing and speaking, and it was always a special pleasure to sit with or near her at church services.

Loving as she was, Marianne was also well-loved. The church family gave her a wonderful 80th birthday party, graciously hosted by Jackie Messer in her lovely home, with plenty of good food supplied by Sharon and Jackie and others. Her 90th birthday was also celebrated by members of St Ursula's, this time at Judith Josi's house with music provided by Elisabeth (violin) and Rosemary (soprano). Marianne thoroughly enjoyed these occasions. Now her long life (all but 95 years) has come to its close, but she lives on in our hearts.

— *Dorothy Beriger*

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT STEWARDSHIP AND PLEDGED GIVING

Small boy in restaurant: "Dad. How come the pastor says we should give God ten percent when the waitress gets fifteen?"

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances." During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Tribute to Joanna Davie

Joanna arrived in Berne and at St Ursula's in September 1986. Many of us have known her as a good friend since then. Friends' lives touch at various places and we all see different aspects of a person. For this reason, this tribute is a collection of memories contributed by many friends of Joanna – mostly anonymously - we hope that you will recognise Joanna in the short anecdotes and give thanks for all that she gave to St Ursula's and the many friends she made there.

Joanna contributed in very many ways to St Ursula's: she taught in Junior Church for many years and she always took along something for the children to eat, as she thought it was a long time for them to concentrate without food. Joanna organised the catering at many different events coordinating a good team of helpers. Recently, she was part of the team arranging afternoon teas for older members – her quizzes were especially appreciated.



For many years, Joanna organised the reader's rota. And she made sure that everyone who read did so clearly (that was in the days before our audio system). And recently she joined the music group and played the piano during some services. She was somewhat hesitant about doing this, but did so competently - leading the singing in the worship of our Lord.



“Joanna was a fine “Gentleman of Japan” - the part she played in St Ursula's production of the Mikado. She, together with her daughter Tamsin, was also one of General Stanley's daughters in “The Pirates of Penzance”. And years later, Joanna could still do the actions to “How beautifully blue the sky”. Good memories.”

Ruth Freiburghaus wrote: “When I think of Joanna and St Ursula's, I remember the many years of Köniz house group. In the later years of the group, when we were mostly four or five (with Hector, Dorothy Beriger, Jean Diethelm) and met at the Davies', I felt that we really became friends. It was also the time when I began to appreciate Joanna's special talent of baking cakes and cookies for which she liked to use "healthy" ingredients. Another shared interest was language - comparing and

trying to match German and English expressions and discovering their origins. In the last postcard I received from Joanna she wondered if it was even possible to describe the special landscape of North Uist with its "verdant machair, peat bogs and brisk weather" in German. I treasure this memory of a dear friend."

"Just recently on my last visit, I asked Joanna if she had seen Peter and Vreni's invitation to their 50th wedding anniversary celebration. She hadn't seen it but asked her friend Marion from Pitlochry to look in the unopened post, who duly returned with the invitation. After having read it, Joanna's face lit up and she said "How lovely. That will be something to enjoy", probably knowing full well she would not be there in church on that day."

"With Hector, Joanna walked huge distances, from Bern to Calais and also from Bern via Germany to the Baltic coast, both in stages. With a small group in Switzerland we made several walks together with Dorothy and Hanno, and other church ladies. She had a great interest in and love of nature and was particularly interested in birds and had a good knowledge of birdsong. We corresponded on occasion about herons, storks and egrets which can be seen in our area."

"Joanna was a great admirer of Martin Luther and his theology and we discussed this often over meals or during walks."

"Joanna belonged to a little group of like-minded, church-going ladies who would meet from time to time at each others' homes for a charity lunch. Each member would contribute a small sum towards a charity of the hostess's choice. At the same time we would enjoy putting the world to rights and eating a good lunch out, without having to cook it. Of course, we took it in turns to be the hard-working hostess, cook and bottle washer.



At one of the very first lunches an Indian curry was served, and, on being asked for the recipe, the hostess had to admit that one particular ingredient was missing. It seemed that in the original recipe "Bombay Duck" was called for. But in Berne nobody had ever heard of this strange ingredient. What on earth could it be? Joanna had a reply: she would look it up in the dictionary when she got home! The answer would be whispered down the telephone and passed on from one person to the next until all seven of us had heard some variation on this theme. The versions got

more and more garbled. What did transpire, after much giggling, and endless 'phone calls was that "Bombay Duck was a dried, powdered fish usually served as a curry accompaniment". So thank you Joanna for this light-hearted start to what has become 'the BD's'. We will miss you so!"

"Once I asked Joanna (who had a great knowledge of plants), whether the greater celandine was a weed or a flower. Joanna replied "Oh! every plant is a miracle".

"Joanna was not only intellectually a many-sided person as we all know. In her free time she just as much loved outdoor activities, walks in small groups, where she enjoyed the countryside as much as the company of her fellow hikers. When the berries were ripe in the woods she loved picking them and making her own jam and she was also ready for all sorts of adventures like river rafting and mule trekking on the old trading routes across the Alps."

"As a reader of the magazine "Current Archaeology", she revelled in new discoveries in this science. I benefited from this as I was a recipient of these magazines."

"We remember Joanna as a person of firm faith, forthright and with clear opinions, but never forcing her opinions on others. She was caring and ready to listen. We saw her as a supporter rather than a leader, but in one important event she took the lead: the Centenary Flower Festival was her idea. She sought the opinion of others,



gained support, and brought her idea to completion, working tirelessly (and, typically, behind the scenes) on the weekend itself. The church had never looked so beautiful, there was a sense of reverence and spirituality, and, as she wished, a number of charities benefited from the proceeds. It is thanks to Joanna that we had this successful event of the Centenary Year."

"We shall always remember a wonderfully lovable woman with her own great love of the outdoors and a franciscan appreciation of all living things. She gave Christian witness by her simple life-style, her open heart and her gift for friendship. Upon such 'living stones' God builds his church."

- *Compiled by Tricia Carrick*

Joanna Davie - What a Gal!!!

A few years ago I had a bet with Joanna that she wouldn't go swimming in the sea off Scotland. Well, I lost!

What an unassuming lady she was, belying her many active interests and talents. Who was asked to organize the catering for visiting church dignitaries? Who loved growing her own fruit and veg, could milk a goat, make curtains, create quizzes, and collect the children from school in a pony and trap? Joanna, of course!!

She developed a interest in archaeology while reading English at St. Andrews, and became fascinated by ancient languages especially the Runic "writings" on Orkney. However, her great enduring love was English literature. She seemed to have read nearly every book worth reading , and reread favourites many times.

"No fuss Joanna" also had a quiet sense of adventure. One summer with a friend she explored part of Northern Nigeria on horseback for two months. Later she considered teaching in the Falklands, maybe lured by the mists and the horses. She also trekked in the blue mountains of Ethiopia with Hector after their marriage. Since living here, she and Hector discovered, on foot, parts of the country barely known even to the Swiss, all the while enjoying the local history, the flora, but less the fauna, - she complained birds didn't stay still long enough!!

She always had Hector's rock solid support in all matters and was very modest as to her own achievements. The family always came first.

We are going to miss her for so many reasons. Her varied interests also included choral singing and she was an inveterate games player, just for the fun of it. Scrabble was probably her favourite, and she nearly always beat me!

- *Mary Wittwer and Marion Faulds*

Preserving our Environment

Environment Update No. 1, June 2010

Diary Dates

Prague – Assembly of the European Christian Environment Network 9-13 June

London – 2nd Conference ‘Shrinking the Footprint’ CofE – Lambeth Palace, 30 June

Bath/Wells – Environment Conference 23 October

In June this year at Diocesan Synod I picked up the baton from Brian Morgan, our last Diocesan Environment Officer, who achieved so much in his three years in post. There is a brilliant short synopsis of the Synod on our website posted by our Communications Officer, Paul Needle. If you need a face to go with these words, you will find one there! I am a Reader in the Archdeaconry of France and have been involved in the Diocese for sixteen years. The above diary dates show the conferences I shall be attending on your behalf.

I am excited and encouraged that together we can continue to make a difference in the coming years in our habits and our care/preservation of the environment. I am aware that many of you have taken big steps in the areas of energy, recycling and protection both in your church buildings and in the local community. This is such an encouragement to us all.

I am also conscious of the pressures of time and energy on our Chaplains and ask those of you who have not yet appointed an Environment Officer to find someone in the congregation with a passion for the environment, and ask them to contact me. It is about relaying ideas to one another and keeping in contact with the goal in mind of ‘preserving our environment’.

I hope to write a **News Update** approximately every month on the diocesan website where I can post details of other useful websites, ideas and information that can be relayed through your EOs for distribution to your people (via the notice board maybe, or even by forming your own Environment Group). What I can share with you is that an Eco Group supports me, amongst others, here in France. This group is quite independent from the local church, and regularly passes on information to help us live more ecologically. It is a wonderful way of working together outside the

church and one which you might like to consider for 'outreach'. For many, caring for the environment gives rise to a new sense of 'spirituality'.

Whatever we do corporately is important but I also think it is our combined personal efforts which will make the biggest difference – water and food being our prime concerns. It is vital that we conserve and value these, employing wisdom and discernment. More of that in the months to come.

I will leave you with the **5R Concept** for consideration:

Refuse

Avoid purchase of environmentally burdensome materials whenever possible

Reduce

Reduce waste material

Reuse

Reuse waste material when possible

Reform

Reuse materials in a different form

Recycle

Reuse materials as resources



Finally, may I ask for your prayers, that I will represent the Diocese and work faithfully, with God's help, to encourage us all to make this important difference to our world. With every blessing to you all.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Madeleine Holmes

Le Peladis

Rte Pommier

24350 Lisle

France

madeleine@peladis.plus.com

0033553048544

Charities we support:

August: The Holy Land Institute for the Deaf (HLID) – Allah Kariem – God provides in Salt, Jordan



The Institute for the Deaf, founded by Brother Andrew, which St Ursula's has supported for many years is a busy place. About 145 students aged 4 – 20 with hearing problems and other disabilities are taught and cared for by 27 full-time and 8 part-time teachers.

Most of the students are boarders in order to get the full benefit of the training. The school provides a much needed service for deaf children who otherwise would not have access to education. In addition to the school there is a vocational department for training in carpentry, metal work, weaving, sewing and ear mould production among others. The skills the students acquire will help them to be self-reliant as adults.

The teachers care deeply about their students and help them through love and encouragement to overcome their handicaps. The Manager of HLID, Iyad Sweiss says it best: "The important thing here is to work with your heart."

In the past months HLID received two important visitors. One was in November 2009 when His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Hussein, King of Jordan, came at the occasion of the opening of a new vocational training building. The children greeted him enthusiastically and many had a chance to meet him personally.

In February 2010 Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, visited the Community Rehabilitations Centre for Disability in Jofeh village, a centre that is associated with HLID. The Archbishop and his team were very impressed by the opportunities for handicapped children and young people and very much appreciated the simple but delicious breakfast offered them.

Besides supporting HLID financially, we can pray for their needs:

- Pray that the teachers and caregivers are filled with God's love and strength as they work with the children and young people.
- Pray for more volunteers to give of their time and talents to HLID.
- Pray for the outreach to other areas which need this kind of service.
- Pray for the children that they adjust to the school environment so they can benefit from the teaching and training.

- Pray for the children and their families during their separation.

Check the board in the upper hall and www.allah-kariem.org for additional info.

- *Esther Hutchison Funkhouser for the Charity and Missions Team*

September: Children's Convalescent Home, Talagolla, Sri Lanka

The Children's Committee of Ceylon Appeal for the Children's Convalescent Home in Talogalla, near Colombo, is an approved charity in Sri Lanka under the Inland Revenue Act. St Ursula's Church has supported the Home in Talagolla for many years.

The setting up of the Home was the brainchild of the late Professor C.C.de Silva and the late Dr Lloyd Abeyratne. The Committee was formed in 1951 in order to establish a Convalescent Home for poor, destitute and sick children who were in need of post medical and surgical recuperation. For over 50 years it has provided an invaluable service to sick and undernourished children from low income homes. Children are taken in irrespective of race, creed or cast.

This home which has accommodation for 40 children and 12 staff fills a need at the Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, the Colombo North General Hospital Ragama and the Heenamulla Refugee Camp, where owing to the shortage of beds, many of the children would be sent back home prematurely only to return again and again to hospital.

The majority of the children are suffering from malnutrition, anaemia or rickets, some are physically handicapped, have speech, visual and hearing defects or suffer from rheumatic heart disease. Our aim is to keep the children at the Convalescent Home and give them a nutritious diet to raise their strength and resistance to overcome infections better.

A Pre School and Educational Program is now run at the Home and the older children are sent to the Village Government School. Two Montessori trained teachers are employed to teach and special tuition classes are conducted in the afternoons and at the weekends."

Every year we get a detailed month by month report from Mrs Sheryll Jinasena, Hon. Secretary/Warden on what has been happening at the Home and giving a glimpse of the work that is done on a daily basis.

For more information see the hall Charity noticeboard in September.

Weekly prayers for the Children's Convalescent Home in Talagolla

- Give thanks for the dedication of Mrs Jinasena, her staff and the doctors, who faithfully take care of the needs of the children.
- Pray for the children, that they may be nourished in body, soul and mind.
- Pray for the families of the children, that they find help to overcome poverty and the difficult circumstances they are in.
- Pray that the home will continue to have the needed personnel and resources to serve the children

- *On behalf of the Charity and Missions Team, Cecily Klingler*

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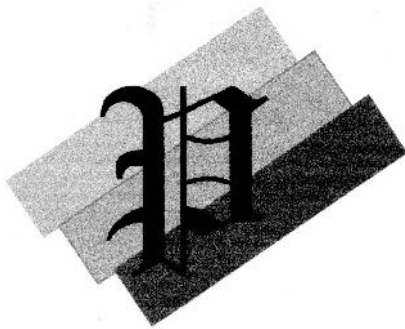
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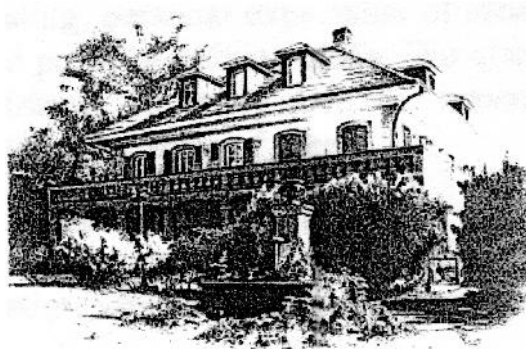
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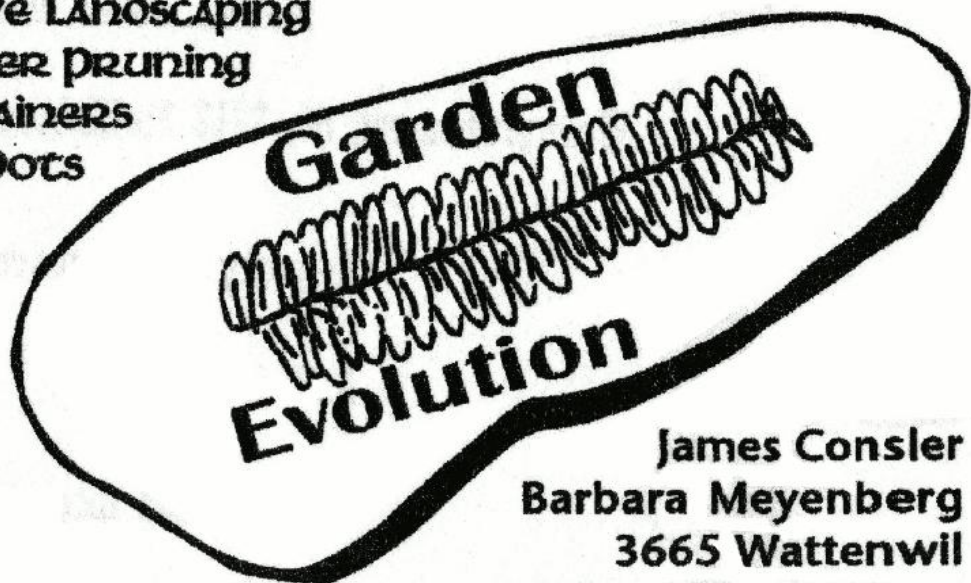
Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.2ya.com](http://www.icberne.2ya.com)

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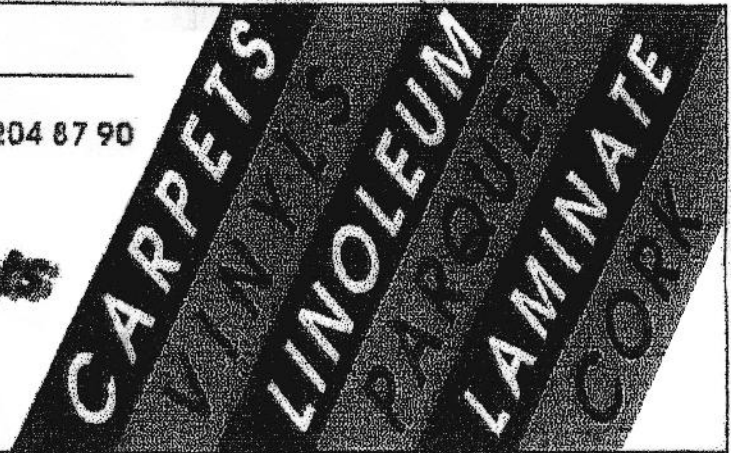
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New members are always welcome. Our website hosted by the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs is: www.angloswissclubs.ch

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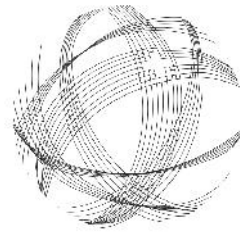
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Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
3 he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff —
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.