

# St. Andrew's

June — August 2008



Magazine of the English speaking church in Gothenburg

17 April 2008

**St Andrew's Gothenburg – a church with a history and a future**

In November 2007 we celebrated the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of St Andrew's church, known as the English Church (*Engelska Kyrkan*), one of the first and finest examples of Victorian Church Gothic in Sweden by the architect Adolf Edélsvärd.

At the time, we were waiting for the result of a survey proposing a ten-year plan for the maintenance of the church building and a solution to recurrent problems of damp and mould.

The problems were much worse than we thought. A new roof is needed urgently, and so is repointing of the walls of the building. These are just the most urgent items of a programme of repair estimated at 9 million kronor – about three quarters of a million pounds at present exchange rates.

Although past benefactors have been generous with their donations, most of the capital is held in trust and cannot be used for repairs. No financial support is available from the Church of England, and while the local authority (*Länstypelsen*) has some funds available for work on historic buildings, they have many other applications for these funds, and will only be able to help to a limited extent.

We therefore have to appeal for donations to help place our building on a sound footing to continue to serve the English-speaking population of Gothenburg and the local community.

Our first priority is the roof, and we have been advised to replace the present copper roof with a slate roof, in line with the architect's original design. This would also be cheaper and more environmentally friendly. If we can raise sufficient funds, we should like to proceed with repointing at the same time.

But, to do this, we need your help. Please help keep this historical building alive. St. Andrew's is very much a part of Gothenburg's "Lilla London" tradition, and today provides care for an English-speaking congregation made up from over 20 different nations, as well as visitors to the city from all over the world.

Donations may be made to

SEB Bank Account Nr 5001-10 210 39  
(IBAN: SE23 5000 0000 0500 1102 1039, BIC: ESSESESS)

or Bank Giro Nr 755-7093

All the money collected will go to replacement of the roof and repointing the walls.

Reverend Barbara Moss  
St Andrew's Church

Jane Thorburn  
Chairman, British Factory<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The British Factory is an ancient organisation, established in 1699, with the task of administering Funds that are donated for the maintenance of the English Church in Gothenburg and the Holy Worship therein.

# Letter from the Chaplain

When Bishop David was with us on St Andrew's Sunday, he told us that the church is not the building, but the people. This remark was much appreciated, even (or perhaps especially) by Alan White, who as Treasurer of the British Factory has been so much involved in the preservation of our building.

We are very fortunate in having our own church building. Many chaplaincies and local congregations in this diocese worship in rented buildings, often Roman Catholic churches, which have not always been willing to offer hospitality to women clergy. The donations and purchases over the years have shaped our style of worship: our Marcussen organ, eagle lectern, stained glass windows, reredos and ikons, our new hymn books, and the altar frontals including the latest, donated by Mr and Mrs Ericsson, which was used for the first time at John Ashton's funeral.

St Andrew's, with its central location and Gothic architecture, draws people in: when the church is unlocked on a weekday, whether officially open to the public or not, there is usually at least one curious visitor who wants to look round. Last Sunday a tour group arrived at the beginning of the gospel! Alas, they did not stay for the sermon, but returned after the service was over.

Our building is a blessing. But it is also a responsibility. Like so many churches it has frequently needed repairs. The old "sermon books" (registers of services) record how the church would be closed over the summer while the chaplain was on holiday, and be unable to reopen on his return because the builders had not finished.

Shortly after our St Andrew's Week celebra-

tions, we received a report from consultant architect David Bäckström, pointing out the aspects of the building that need urgent attention, to solve the recurrent problems of damp and mould which were exacerbated by last year's extremely wet summer. Top of the list is a new roof. Then the outside walls need repointing (renewing the cement between the bricks), the stonework around the windows requires attention, and that's just the beginning. And the longer we delay, the more it will cost.



An appeal for funds was launched at the Annual Meeting in April, with the letter printed opposite. Of course, we shall be applying for grants from various organizations as well, but, for a start, let's show that we care about our building. We are now working on a "sponsor a slate" campaign. Could you give the cost of one slate? Or perhaps

one for each member of your family – or each year of your age? At the moment, we are waiting to find out how much a slate costs.

Soon after St Francis dedicated his life to God, he was standing near a ruined church on the outskirts of Assisi, and heard a voice saying "Francis, rebuild my church!" He set about repairing the ruins, he and his followers doing the work with their own hands. At last the day came for the building to be opened for worship. And as he prayed there, he heard the voice again: "Francis, rebuild my church!" The walls and roof were just the beginning. Then came the real challenge: to renew and inspire the people of God, who had become lazy, corrupt and demoralized, as God's living temple, in the love and service of God and of one another.

*Barbara*

# Who's Who at St. Andrew's

## **Chaplain**

Barbara Moss

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**Internet website:** www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg/st.andrews

## **CHURCH COMMITTEE**

### **Wardens**

Ann Gustafsson 031 - 16 17 43  
Sheila Andersson 031 - 711 55 71

### **Synod representatives**

Nancy Fjällbrant 031 - 28 49 33  
Tore Fjällbrant 031 - 28 49 33

### **Secretary**

Cecilia Klevedal 031 - 12 75 08

### **British Factory Representative**

Ann McKinnon 031-7956289

### **Treasurer**

David Perrin 031 - 51 01 32

### **Other Elected Members**

Kristina Ayaode 031 - 49 28 44  
Gisela Bamard 031 - 14 71 01  
Gillian Thylander 031 - 27 92 70

### **Ladies' Guild**

Marie Lygonis 031 - 92 22 96

### **SST, Contact for Nordiska kristna rådet, Sveriges kristna råd**

Tore Fjällbrant 031 - 28 49 33

## **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Webmistress**

Nancy Fjällbrant 031 - 28 49 33

### **Child Protection Officer**

Emma Jones 031 - 12 13 58

### **Sacristan and Magazine Editor**

Alan Taylor 031 - 42 38 64

### **Environmental Officer**

Ron Jones 031 - 26 94 25

### **Gardening Group**

Cecilia Klevedal 031 - 12 75 08

### **Ladies' Evening Group**

Ann Gustafsson 031 - 16 17 43  
Gisela Bamard 031 - 14 71 01

### **Choirmistress**

Gillian Thylander 031 - 27 92 70



**NB/OBS! Have you renewed your subscription**

Annual donation of 50:- for the church magazine would be appreciated to pay for printing and postage. If you collect your copy in church you will save us money. Payments can be made into our postgiro account 42 15 63 - 8 or directly to one of the Churchwardens.

# Services: June – August

Sung Eucharist at 11.00 am each Sunday except where stated below.

For latest information about our church services, see GP every Saturday, or consult the web site [www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg/st.andrews](http://www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg/st.andrews) *Lay Assistants and Intercessors who are not able to attend, please arrange an exchange or replacement and notify Barbara or Alan Taylor.*

**JUNE 15,** *4th after Trinity*

**LA:** Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

**I:** Gisela Barnard

**JUNE 22,** *10th anniversary of Barbara's priesting*

*11.00 Sung Eucharist with poems*

**Reader:** Keith Barnard

**LA:** Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

**I:** Ann Gustafsson

**JUNE 29,** *Peter and Paul*

**LA:** Sheila Andersson, Ann Gustafsson

**I:** Cecilia Klevedal

**JULY 6,** *7th after Trinity*

*11.00 Family Communion*

**LA:** Alan Taylor, Gisela Barnard

**I:** Gillian Thylander

**JULY 13,** *8th after Trinity*

**LA:** Göran Molin, Alan Taylor

**I:** Barbara Moss

*17.00 Open-air bilingual service, Slottskogen*

**JULY 20,** *9th after Trinity*

*11.00 Family Service (Alan Taylor)*

**JULY 27,** *10th after Trinity*

*Celebrant and Preacher, Lars van der Heeg*

**LA:** Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

**I:** Diana Walters

**AUGUST 3,** *11th after Trinity*

*11.00 Family Communion*

**LA:** Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

**I:** Ann Gustafsson

**AUGUST 10,** *12th after Trinity*

**LA:** Sheila Andersson, Göran Molin

**I:** Diana Walters

**AUGUST 17,** *13th after Trinity*

**LA:** Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

**I:** Sheila Andersson

**AUGUST 24,** *Bartholomew*

**LA:** Göran Molin, Gisela Barnard

**I:** Cecilia Klevedal

**AUGUST 31,** *15th after Trinity*

**LA:** Ann Gustafsson, Sheila Andersson

**I:** Gillian Thylander

**SEPTEMBER 7,** *16th after Trinity*

*11.00 Harvest Family Communion*

**LA:** Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

**I:** Children

**SEPTEMBER 14,** *Holy Cross Day*

**LA:** Sheila Andersson, Ann Gustafsson

**I:** Ann Gustafsson

# Chaplaincy Notes

## God's wisdom gives a better insight

*- The earth looks after its own interests and we need to consider that we cannot continue to harness it unrestrainedly as we wish. The earth, the creation, is of great value in itself and not only for us to use for our own selfish purposes, said Maria Jansdotter Samuelsson, lecturer at the University of Karlstad, in her talk.*

The conference and national Annual General Meeting of the Ecumenical Women's Group was held on 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April in Linköping. Our hostesses were the Ecumenical Women's Group of Linköping. I went as a representative of the English Church.

On Friday evening Maria Jansdotter Samuelsson gave a rewarding lecture about ecology, feminism, theology, divinity and in which way these are connected. She talked about why the environmental issue is of such interest for women. Why is the environment a theological question? It was followed by a lively discussion by the women.

The evening ended with an environmental liturgy on the theme of water. The ribbons on the photo symbolize water. All participants worked in small groups, each responsible for



one of the nine parts of the service.

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April were the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the National Ecumenical Women's Group and a workshop about peace and non-violence. The Ecumenical Women's Group of Linköping had arranged an enjoyable party in the evening. Sunday morning started with a two-hour bible reflection based on this year's theme of the World Day of Prayer 2008: *Gods wisdom gives better insight* ( Guds visshet ger ny insikt). We were discussing Sophia (Wisdom), depicted as a woman in the Book of Proverbs. She is proud, determined, angry, creative, life-giving and heartening. Is this unusual or typical of women? The conference ended with a beautiful service in Linköpings Domkyrka. The choir walked in procession singing "We are marching in the light of God" in English. This conference was really worth attending. The Ecumenical Women's Group in Göteborg have been asked to host the National Annual General Meeting in 2009.

*Cecilia Klevedal*

## Gardening Group

The garden group is not a closed group so anyone in the congregation is welcome to help in the garden this season. During the summer we will try to meet twice a month. If you like to help in the garden you are very welcome to participate and to contact me. You do not need to have a lot of experience because we all help each other. The gardening group is not only work, it is also an opportunity to meet and socialise and to have fun. I am looking forward to a nice gardening season together with you and I hope to see as many as possible in the church garden.

*Cecilia Klevedal*



## Funerals

3 April 2008

BIRGITTA HOPKINS, 9/11/45 – 14/3/08,  
cremated after a service in St Andrew's Church

19 May 2008

JOHN ROWLAND ASHTON, 18/10/17 – 28/4/08,  
cremated after a service in St Andrew's Church

## Baptisms

9 March 2008 – THOMAS HENRY KYBURZ

1 June 2008 – VICTORIA WINBLADH-STOIAN

6 June 2008 – CHARLES GABRIEL VITHAL



Keith and Gisela Barnard are blessed on their Golden Wedding anniversary

## Around the Church



The new purple altar frontal and chasuble donated by the Ericsson family and Ladies Guild



Commissioning of the reelected churchwardens, Sheila Andersson and Ann Gustafsson



Fancy dress parade at the Bazaar

# In Memory of John Ashton

John Rowland Ashton M.B.E., born in Manchester on October 18th 1917, died after a short illness on 28th April aged 90. John came to Sweden in 1950 to marry Torborg and, as many of us do, stayed on. He felt at ease with the Swedish way of life, as indeed many of us do, and was lucky enough to find a rewarding employment teaching English, as a freelance and working with the British Institute.

John soon discovered that there was a need for school text books in the teaching of English language, and in cooperation with Yngve Olsson wrote "Hands Up", which was used in most schools in the late fifties. John also wrote in 1957 "Out and About" another successful English Language text book. The name Ashton was well known and John was sought after for lectures and presentations.

Always a leading light in the British Community, he was an active member of the English Church, St Andrew's; a member of the English School Board; and Chairman of the British Club. He commanded an area of expertise, including many contacts which were of great assistance to the various Consul Generals and incumbent Chaplains. He was appointed M.B.E. (Member of the British Empire) in 1979.

Just a few years ago Torborg and John decided to sell their house and move into a flat. Initially John, in his late eighties, did not welcome the move, but although active, he knew his gardening days, cutting grass, and driving his immaculate Rover car were over. As soon as the move was completed and he had order on his papers and computer, he was happy, relaxed and the most active e-mailer around. Torborg and his family gave him a wonderful ninetieth birthday party in their beautiful new flat.

John had outlived most of his contemporaries, and those who were closest to him, outside of his

family, were those who were fellow members on a few of the British Organisations in Gothenburg, namely The British Factory, St Andrew's Church and the British Club. However, his main interest was always the English language. During his time, in addition to the books already mentioned, John wrote numerous papers on the History of the Factory and the English Church. He prepared many lectures on related subjects and delivered them, the last one being at St Andrew's last year to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the church.

Some five years ago John had published a book that had taken him nearly ten years to write, "Lives and Livelihoods in Little London" a well written history of the many "Brits" who, in different ways, helped make Gothenburg the commercial capital it is today.

John wrote and rewrote the Statutes of many of the British organisations including St Andrew's Church, the English School. The British Club, and The British Factory on at least three occasions. The changes were not always appreciated, but John always proved his argument and in most cases won the day. His last "Victory" was in changing the leading Stat-





ute of the British Factory, reinstating the name “The British Poor Box”, making certain that an important part of seventeenth century history is kept alive. This amendment was completed at the last committee meeting John attended, just a few weeks before his death. He wasn't well at that meeting and on the way home said he was tired, and confirmed his intention to resign from the committee at the AGM on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

So John worked right up until the end—always attentive to detail, ask any Secretary, a mine of historical facts related to the Gothenburg scene, and an irreplaceable source of information.

We in the British Community will miss John Ashton and his expertise, for the rest of our lives.

Our condolences and sympathy to Torborg and the family.

*Alan J. White.*

## Liberty is a precious thing!

*A few personal memories of John Ashton by Gillian Thylander.*

I must have met John in the early sixties, but my first clear memory of him was at a meeting of the British Club when I was trying to arouse interest in a Saturday morning group called The Little London Club, which had a wide range of activities for pre-teenage children. He got everyone to clap, to my embarrassment!

John was a great one for encouraging us all though. “You've done wonders with the choir,” he always used to say. I still have a list of modern carols he gave me that he had heard on the BBC, hoping that we would diverge from the Bethlehem Carol Sheet no doubt. I did not know until the other day that John had to sing “The King of Love my shepherd is” when auditioning for the choir of Manchester cathedral, but I do know he used to joke about one hymn chosen for his wedding with Torborg - to make him feel at home, namely “Lead kindly light amid the encircling gloom”!

He was involved in several theme services that I remember quite well. One was about the environment, for which he lent us material on the Yanomamo Indians, whose habitat was being threatened by the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. Then there was the Human Rights Service, which he and the Revd Graeme Hancocks set up. We still observe a modernised version of Peace and Justice Sunday on or close to December 10<sup>th</sup> every year.

This brings me to the title of this article. A

group of persons interested in doing something for human rights got together at the beginning of 1987 when Revd Richard James was our chaplain. We became Amnesty Group 343, on March 11<sup>th</sup>, but it was not until November we got properly organised with John as chairman and Lisbeth Di Felice as secretary. We were allocated our first case, a prisoner of conscience in South Korea, in January 1988. Our greatest team effort came in October, when we set up an exhibition at *Stadsbiblioteket* entitled “Liberty is a precious thing”. John produced reams of quotations on the subject (still available on file), and one evening was devoted entirely to readings by lecturers from the English Department at Gothenburg University, including David Wright.

Needless to say, further information on Group 343 would take up the whole of this magazine, but I would like to remind the congregation of the flowering cherry tree that was planted in the church garden in May 1991 in memory of the Disappeared in Chile and elsewhere, during an outdoor service at which Diana Hall played Beethoven's Ode to Joy on her viola. The Chile group still likes to gather here now and then, and others come privately to lay a wreath or light a candle.

In my copy of *Lives and livelihoods in Little London*, John wrote “To Gillian— thanks for a long friendship”. The same to you, John!

## Two feet in three countries

As I sit and write this it feels like only yesterday I arrived in Sweden - to live. In fact, it was June 1995. Exactly 13 years ago. I remember so clearly the sensation of feeling very much at home and at the same time totally foreign.

I was born and raised in Seattle, Washington. My father's parents came to the USA from Sweden (you'll have gathered that from my surname) and my mother's parents were from Germany. Although my father was born in Chicago, he could only speak Swedish until he started school. A story that was typical of many children of immigrants. My mother was also born in Chicago, but was raised speaking English. My parents got married after they had each moved to Seattle and started their own careers. My father was an engineer at Boeing and my mother a teacher in the Seattle public school system. Eventually my sister and I arrived and were raised in what would become our family home for over 40 years. My father's connection to Sweden was very strong, so we quite naturally observed all the traditional Swedish customs. We even belonged to the Swedish Club! Almost all our friends were from a Swedish or Norwegian background. My family worshipped at our local Presbyterian church. The congregation was quite liberal for the time. (Today there are 15 retired ministers in the congregation!) There was a fantastic youth group and I got involved right from the start. We managed to somehow get an outstanding Christian education and at the same time have lots of fun! I was confirmed at Newport Presbyterian Church and made quite a few life long friends. I would never have survived my teenage years without the love and support of my church. It was at about this time that several of us started attending the service of Compline on Sunday nights (evening prayer sung by a male choir) at St. Mark's Cathedral in

Seattle. This was my first introduction to the Anglican Church. I was immediately drawn to the church and tried to attend Compline as often as possible. Hundreds of students attended the service (and still do!) I loved the contrast of the ancient musical traditions and the young, laid back atmosphere of the congregation.

As a young adult my "wild side" kicked in hard and fast. I discovered in my early years at college that I much preferred the party scene to school and left college after 3 years. I always managed to keep a good job and had a great apartment in downtown Seattle. After a very boring year of working 9 to 5 as an air freight forwarder, I noticed that Pan Am was hiring Flight Attendants. It was time for a change in my life, so I went along to an interview. Pan Am hired me in 1985 and moved me to New York City. I thrived on the fast pace of city living and of course seeing the entire world was not so bad either! The following year I had an opportunity to transfer to our base in London. Naturally, I jumped at the chance. By 1991 Pan Am had gone bankrupt and I was one of the fortunate people to be taken on by United Airlines when they purchased the London operation. It was during my years of living in the UK that I slowly became reacquainted with the Anglican Church. Through a series of coincidences, I began to worship occasionally at Southwark Cathedral in south London. Many "life moments" (Lockerbie and my father's death, to name but two) brought me to Southwark, and continue to do so to this day. Eventually, the "fun factor" of living in London wore off. By 1994 I had met David Perrin and we were living together. David had travelled to Sweden before we met and thoroughly enjoyed his experiences. I had visited Sweden seemingly hundreds of times over the years to visit my extended family. David and I desperately needed a

change and decided to try Göteborg. We found the dream flat in Haga and David got the first job he applied for. We sold our flat in London and in my mother's words; the rest was done "on a wing and a prayer".

At first I was eager to attend services in the Swedish church. Having grown up in a Nordic community, I thought I would simply slot into Svenska Kyrkan. Alas, the churches I visited had empty pews. The clergy and others I met were friendly and welcoming, but still it felt like everything had had the wind knocked out of it.

Eventually, I decided to try St. Andrews. At that time Michael Cocks was the priest in charge. I liked him at once. In 1996, over the course of many weeks and months, I gradually became a "regular" at St. Andrew's. The reconnection to the Anglican Church was just what I needed. At first it was as simple as assisting with coffee on Sundays. I then joined the Wednesday Bible study group, which was interesting and encouraged me to participate on a deeper level. At some point I started as a Lay Assistant, which absolutely terrified me at first! Of course in time I grew more confident and learned to love my service commitment to St. Andrew's. After Michael Cocks retired, John Askey became our priest in charge. John brought a different style of worship to St. Andrew's and he too encouraged me to "dig my heels in and get involved". I enjoyed several years as Chaplains Warden and got involved on the Worship Committee. Sadly, my work life changed radically and I no longer had the free time I once enjoyed. Little by little I needed to let go of my many commitments at St. Andrew's. I actually miss serving at the altar and yes, even the monthly Church Committee Meetings! I'm still flying for United Airlines out of London Heathrow, but working more hours than I would like. In general, I work every other

weekend, which over the years has given me the chance to worship regularly at several different churches.



Grace Cathedral in San Francisco is one of my favourite places to attend Sunday services. Washington National Cathedral is also pretty spectacular. And what an organ!! Over the past few years I have spent more and more time in Seattle and have actually started to get involved at St. Mark's again. On a sad note, my mother died suddenly in January of this year. David and I

were both with her in the days leading up to her death and were each holding her hands as she died. The clergy, staff and congregation at St. Mark's could not have been kinder. The love and support from St. Andrews simply poured in from every direction as well. I hope I can one day return all the generosity that has been given to me over the course of my life. The god of my understanding has shown me endless love and mercy. And the god I believe in works through people. You, who have taken the time to read this, I just love how the church connects us all. Most of us would NEVER have known each other if it was not for the church - all our various languages, cultures and traditions. Diversity is where it's at for me these days. I pray the future brings us each closer - so that we can see the similarities and not the differences. The US and the UK have made great progress with diversity and I hope that we can learn from their experiences. For now, I'm learning to love being connected to so many congregations. Of course I miss you all terribly when I am away. But I do know from the bottom of my heart that we are all together in spirit. So long as we're in each others thoughts and prayers, we'll all continue to be connected in Christ.

God bless, *Ric Johansson*

# The Diocesan Synod

*12-16 May 2008 — Cologne*

In our relations with people each of us needs to remember three things - first, that each person is a mystery, even within a marriage; secondly, that each person needs a model to follow; thirdly, each person needs to feel that they belong. Such was told to Bishop Geoffrey on a post-consecration course for bishops on inter-personal relations. But what came into his mind on hearing this was a picture of the Trinity.

This reflection was part of the Bishop's Presidential Address when we started, and synod ended with a celebratory dinner at which it was clear how reluctantly all will part from Mark Oakley\*. Also at the dinner, the Netherlands contingent contributed a 'prize-giving', with categories such as the chaplain whose girth had expanded most over the year. Rupert Moreton won a prize for asking the most questions.

The serious part of the synod comprised several main areas. The bishop was instructed to set up a new Strategic Review Group to negotiate with the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners, and others, over the status of the diocese within the Province of Canterbury. The aim is to tap further into C. of E. resources to help set up 'free standing' archdeacons and a second suffragan bishop. This in turn would encourage a 'pro-active' rather than a purely 're-active', and currently overworked, diocesan hierarchy.

On the environment Brian Morgan presented a detailed report on the energy footprint of the diocese based on returns from a majority of chaplaincies. On social and cultural change and the church's mission Dr John Drane presented a challenging paper. He pictured a church which in some respects may still reflect an agricultural age. Pews, for example, are so

arranged for worship because in a stable agricultural society everyone already knows each other and there is no need to build community. Since that time, and ever more quickly, we have passed through an industrial age, an IT age, and are moving into an age of abundance and automation, a 'conceptual' age of personal insecurity, fear, distrust of institutions, and hedonism. The question being asked is 'What comes next?' For such a society, the church needs to present its message of Hope. How does it offer it? In what ways does it need to adapt? If the church continues to see itself as a hammer, then it will tend to see every problem as a nail, when perhaps what it needs to be is a screw-driver.

On the financial side Mr. Shaun Farrell of the C. of E. Pensions Board had some very depressing things to say to clergy who intend to serve over the longer term in our diocese. Bishop Geoffrey is aware that further action is needed in this area. Both the clergy and the laity again addressed the question of the training of ordinands for non-stipendiary ministry. It was decided that chaplaincies sponsoring candidates still be asked to contribute to their training to avoid a general increase in Common Fund contributions.

Synod was again held in a context of worship, and Canon Sagovsky of Westminster Abbey led our Bible studies in Genesis on God's blessings, which were given not only to Abraham, but also to Sarah, a woman, and Hagar, a woman and a slave, and their offspring. He was arguing for an inclusive church, and generosity towards Jews and Moslems.

*Geoffrey Phillips*

*\*Mark has resigned as our Archdeacon as of the end of August. He is returning to England for family reasons. BM*

## May the road rise to meet you

On Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> “Kat”, who has endeared herself to us over the past five or six years with her cheerful and wholehearted participation in the life of the church, played our organ splendidly for the last time, with a full choir singing some favourite hymns and ending up with a piece by Bach, which brought out all the wonderful tones of our Marcussen organ. After the service she was called to the front, and was thanked by Gisela on behalf of the whole congregation and presented with a gift – a red heart enclosed in a glass pendant on a silver chain. Barbara blessed her and hugged her. We then went into the garden for refreshments, for which Kat herself had baked. What a girl!

I include this excerpt from the choir report for the AGM this year in token of my appreciation.

“We are also very grateful to Katharina Bartsch, who I think you will agree has raised our

standard of singing thanks to her expertise. We have really done well thanks to her enthusiasm and I mention especially our contribution to the annual ecumenical service in the German church, where our children joined in too, the celebration Eucharist for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November and the best-ever carol services in December. Her own group, the St George Singers, entertained us royally, but unfortunately for the last time, at the celebration lunch. Thanks to this group and another temporary constellation formed in the New Year we have been able to attend two lovely services of Evensong (October 14<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>) this past year)

Good luck over in Geordie country “Kat” and we hope your studies go well. We know you won’t forget us and have already promised to join us for Christmas carols.

*Gillian*

## Give honour where Honour is due

The Church Committee recommends all members of the congregation and friends to read the following press release on internet about the prestigious prize awarded to NKMR – Nordic Committee for the Human Rights of the Family, the chairman of which is Ruby Harrold-Claesson B.L., a well-known member of our church family. Well done Ruby – we think you’re great!

[http://www.nkmr.org/english/give\\_honour\\_where\\_honour\\_is\\_due.htm](http://www.nkmr.org/english/give_honour_where_honour_is_due.htm)

*Gillian Thylander*



Members of St. Andrew’s community are invited to apply for membership of the British Club.

Membership is open to all British and Commonwealth citizens and spouses of citizens and others with strong British connections.



[www.britishclub.se](http://www.britishclub.se)

Membership benefits include an active social programme, generous travel concessions as well as a lively quarterly magazine.

The annual fee per family is 100.00 SEK. Anyone interested should contact Gisela Barnard (031 147101) or Monica Edholm (031 293040)

*Our great thanks are due to the following for donations to this years Lottery:*

BoConcept;  
Bok & Bibliotek i Norden;  
Folkteatern;  
Josephssons;  
Govindas;  
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