

St. Andrew's

March — May 2010



Magazine of the English speaking church in Gothenburg

S
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Letter from the Chaplain

On the Sunday after Christmas, my brother and I visited the church we had attended as teenagers. When we moved to Cheadle Hulme, then a village within living memory but to all intents and purposes a suburb of Manchester, I was 11 and Robin was just 10. We left in 1966, when we were both undergraduates at Oxford and my parents and grandmother joined us there for my father's crash course of theological education – at the age of 56 he was regarded as too old to bother with learning Greek and sitting the General Ordination Examination, though I am sure he would have taken them both in his stride.

All Saints Church does not have a web site – “It’s one of those things we haven’t got round to yet,” the vicar told us afterwards – so we had to guess the time of the service. Thinking it would be either 10.30 or 11.00, and having got lost on the way, we arrived at 10.40 in the middle of the intercessions. Without the least hint of criticism, a woman got up and gave us hymn-books and service booklets. The family in front turned round and exchanged the peace with us, welcoming but not curious.

It was strange how familiar the church was, after more than 40 years. I must have spent many long psalms and sermons staring at the east window and the Mother’s Union banner for them to have been so fixed in my memory. Of course, there had been changes. The altar had been moved down, to between the pulpit and the lectern, to allow the priest to celebrate facing the congregation, and the general effect was to make the church seem smaller, friendlier and more informal. The choir, instead of sitting in the old choir stalls, were tucked away in the north-east corner of the nave.

Outside, it was cold and icy; inside, the warmth had woken a large red butterfly which



flew around the pews, closer to people’s faces than it might have been if fully awake. “It’s the Holy Spirit,” I whispered to my sister-in-law. The children in front of us were not so keen on the unexpected visitor, and tried to brush it away with their hands.

The next day, we visited a church from my sister-in-law’s teenage years, in the centre of Manchester. Known as the “hidden gem”, it was the first Roman Catholic church to be built in England after the Reformation. Architecturally it is much more interesting than All Saints, though the beauty was somewhat spoiled by a set of large and garish modern paintings. Although the church attracted a large congregation, there wasn’t the same feeling of friendliness, and few people exchanged the peace. The sermon was a long-winded rant about the evils of the world. It was the Feast of the Holy Innocents, and one of the preacher’s examples was a woman carrying twins who had had one of them aborted for no other reason than that she only wanted one baby. How would the surviving twin feel,

when he discovered this?

At this point, I switched off from the preacher's line of argument, and remembered the story of the Holy Innocents, and I wondered how Jesus would have felt, hearing the story of the babies who had been murdered because of him – as he himself would die on a cross, for the sake of others. Did he carry, throughout his life, not only the burden of the sins of the world, but, in particular, the deaths of those small children?

More from Barbara....

On the bookstall at the Uppsala Theology Festival, I picked up *The Inner-City of God* by John Pridmore, who was Rector of St John's Church in Hackney in East London for 11 years – just across the river Lea from Walthamstow where I used to live. The quotation on the back cover promised "this book will make you laugh but it will also make you cry." It did make me laugh – silently to avoid disturbing my roommate – and while it failed to make me cry, it made me glad that I am not, nor am ever likely to be, Rector of Hackney. In proud possession of a church built 200 years ago to seat 2000 – more to put the Nonconformists in their place than because the congregation was that large – and other properties in various stages of decomposition, and subject to church authorities who insisted on putting management before mission, more and more of his time was spent on matters other than what he had been ordained to do.

My life is easy compared to his, but even in a small church with a small congregation, there are still a lot of odd jobs that need doing. I am so grateful to the volunteers who do so much to help to keep the church a friendly, lively, worshipping community. At the moment, the Church Committee is compiling a "who does what?" book to keep tabs on all the jobs that need doing from time to time. Most of the information is in someone's head, or on a piece of

This is the dark side of the Christmas story, remembered only in two of our carols (the Coventry Carol, and "Unto us a boy is born") – and on those rare occasions when we find ourselves in church on the Feast of the Holy Innocents or other occasions when their story is read.

If we are to see the light shining in the darkness, we must first see the darkness.

Barbara Moss

paper in one of the many large files in my study. At least two previous attempts have been made to bring all the information together, and one very long account of who does what on Sunday mornings shows that many things have not changed in nearly 20 years. In some cases, even the same people are doing the jobs – not necessarily because they want to or because they are particularly good at them, but because someone has to.

Apart from who does what at the moment, I am sure there are lots of hidden gifts among the congregation and friends of St Andrew's. Not everyone can commit regular time, for example to help keep the church open on Friday afternoons. But there may be someone who drives into town, and could sometimes offer a lift to a neighbour who finds it difficult to get here on a Sunday. Or a computer enthusiast who does not want to take on running our web site but could create some Flash clips to make it more attractive. If anyone has mastered the art of burning palm crosses to make the ash for Ash Wednesday (or rather, the following Sunday), I'd love to hear from you, as this is something I struggle with every year. At least it's easier than making crosses from palm fronds, which I always forgot how to do from one year to the next; we have a good supply of ready-made ones, for which I am duly thankful.

Who's Who at St. Andrew's

Chaplain

Barbara Moss

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Kristina Ayoade 031 - 49 28 44

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Moragh Randall 0738-913 203

Ladies' Evening Group

Ann Gustafsson 031 - 16 17 43

Gisela Bamard 031 - 14 71 01

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 giro account 42 15 63 - 8 or directly to Gisela Bamard or one of the Churchwardens.

Services: March – May

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 *Lay Assistants and Intercessors who are not able to attend, please arrange an exchange or replacement and notify Barbara or Alan.*

MARCH 5, *World Day of Prayer*
12.00 Service at Frälsningsarmén, Allégatan

MARCH 7, *Lent 3*
LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard
I: Gisela Barnard

MARCH 14, *Mothering Sunday*
11.00 Family Communion
LA: Alan Taylor, Jeanette Munro
I: Gillian Thylander

MARCH 21, *Lent 5*
11.00 **LA:** Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor
I: Kristina Ayoade
18.00 *The Way of the Cross* in words, music
and silence followed by a time of prayer

MARCH 28, *Palm Sunday*
11.00 Family Communion
LA: Ann Gustafsson, Göran Molin
I: Cecilia Klevedal

APRIL 1, *Maundy Thursday*
16.00 *Ecumenical Korsvandring from Götaplatsen*
19.00 Eucharist with Prayer Vigil until 21.00
(to be confirmed)

APRIL 2, *Good Friday*
11.00 *The Way of the Cross*

APRIL 4, *Easter Day*
11.00 Family Communion
LA: Alan Taylor, Jeanette Munro
I: Ann Gustafsson

APRIL 11, *Easter 2*
Sermon by Alan Taylor
LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson
I: Alan Taylor

APRIL 18, *Easter 3*
11.00 **LA:** Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard
I: Gillian Thylander
18.00 Evensong followed by a time of prayer

APRIL 25, *Easter 4*
LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson
I: Gisela Barnard
followed by the Church Annual Meeting

MAY 2, *Easter 5*
11.00 Holy Communion
11.00 International Family Service

MAY 9, *Easter 6*
LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor
I: Kristina Ayoade

MAY 16, *Easter 7*
11.00 **LA:** Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard
I: Cecilia Klevedal
18.00 *'To be a pilgrim'- pilgrimage in*
words, music and pictures

MAY 23, *Pentecost*
LA: Ann Gustafsson, Göran Molin
I: Alan Taylor

MAY 30, *Trinity Sunday*
LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson
I: Kristina Ayoade

JUNE 6, *Trinity 1*
Swedish National Day
LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor
I: Gillian Thylander

Chaplaincy notes



The Church Committee meets with Bishop Geoffrey



The Confirmation of Fiona, Linda and Noriko

A Special St Andrew's Day

St Andrew's Day 2009 was a little different. For the first time in several years, we were actually able to celebrate it only one day away from the correct date of 30 November. Secondly, Bishop Geoffrey paid us a visit that weekend, and therefore, thirdly, we were able to present three candidates for Confirmation. Bishop Geoffrey's programme included a home-made Julbord with the Church Committee, Even-song at Haga church with the University chaplains, dinner with Bishop Carl Axel, and the purchase of two Swedish Advent candlesticks to adorn the Bishop's Palace in Worth, Sussex.

Barbara Moss



Fiona, Linda and Noriko with Bishop Geoffrey after the Confirmation



St Andrew's Lunch well under way



Bishop Geoffrey at the lunch

Carols at St Andrews

Despite my worries in November, our old friends turned up trumps and joined the choir for carol practices and enabled us to sing merrily from the choir gallery for the two usual carol services. Our nightingale Emma set the mood as usual by singing the first verse of *Once in Royal* and was joined by Therese on her flute for the lovely descant. We learned a Basque carol – *The Angel Gabriel* – for one of our solo pieces and the other was a fifteenth-century carol to music by Peter Warlock. Leif Sunesson accompanied by Peter Hansen on the piano rounded off the service movingly with *On Bethlehem Down*, also with music by Warlock. It was very gratifying to be told by a member of the Anglo-Swedish Society that the service on the Sunday was “the best ever”! I would like to add that we had some very good readers this year as well.

As usual, collections were made during the service, and we are pleased to announce that 9.150 kr was collected and divided equally

between the Caminul Felix Children's Village in Romania and church funds.

Carols round the crib

The highlight of this peaceful Friday afternoon service in the midst of Christmas shopping was Jeanette's children playing some of the carols on their cellos. Much appreciated by our visitors. A lot more people attended this year and were treated to coffee and chocolate cake afterwards!

Gillian



January pilgrim walk



Walking on water is easy - when it's frozen and covered in snow.
Taken by Eva Greer on Stora Delsjön.

First communion for Magdalena



Magdalena and her mother Jeanette with Barbara

Other Events

Midweek Mass at St Andrew's in English and Swedish, Wednesdays kl 19.30: March 10 and 24. April and May dates to be confirmed.

Pilgrimage Walks: Saturdays March 20 (Björkö), April 17 (Västerlanda), Thursday May 13 (Angered), Check web site for details or contact Barbara.

Concerts: Fridays kl 12.15 - dates to be confirmed.

Göteborg Art Sounds: late Friday 7 May at midnight and Sunday 9 May kl 16.00.

Memorial Service for Tojas Nalongo

On Sunday 14th February a Memorial Service was held at St Andrew's Church to honour the memory of Beatrice Nakato's mother, Tojas Nalongo. She had died a few weeks ago in Uganda. It was good to see so many of Beatrice's Ugandan friends who had joined her and who we used to know and love as members of St. Andrew's Church.



Beatrice with all her friends and a photograph of her mother.



Beatrice at the memorial corner

Church bazaar 2010

Saturday 29 may

Gisela has just bought 7 kilos of Seville oranges (Pomerans)!

She will clean and cut them in half and juice them today (Feb 18) in preparation for marmalade-making!



The Ladies Evening Group is having a planning meeting on Thurs. March 4, at 5 p.m. at Ann's, Wadmansgatan. 12.

Do get involved in preparations from the start as it would be wonderful to have a team of ready and willing helpers with energy and ideas in the next three months!



A sample of what will be on sale at the Bazaar

LOTS OF IDEAS PLEASE!

With pictures of enthusiastic and hopeful would-be boat-owners freshly on our minds, and other signs of a yet another spring and summer ahead, it is high time for members and friends of St. Andrew's to think of ways of supporting our ANNUAL LOTTERY!

This event, which has occurred for the past twenty years now, is, like our popular bazaar in May, a vital source of income for the church. Last year we made 30,000 kr before the costs of paper, printing and the license were deducted.

All members of the church committee are requested to find at least three prizes each, and I am pleased to acknowledge regular contributions from non-committee members as well. Anyone with a friend who owns or runs a hotel, a restaurant or shop could try and see whether the promise of an advertisement in our magazine might encourage them to offer us a gift token. I try to think of some new donors every year – last year it was ColorLine and Tjolöholm. One year I got a prize from Malmö Aviation, and one of church members had a trip to London City airport. I think dinner for two at a restaurant is a lovely prize. New restaurants and coffee shops are opening up all the time and are anxious to spread the news. And it is always possible to simply go out and buy a nice vase, or a tablecloth or even a doll and offer it as a prize!

Getting enough good prizes to be able to start the lottery is just the beginning however. A proper list of prizes for approval by the "kontrollant" has to be prepared before the tickets can be printed. Luckily we have our own computer program for that these days and do not have to rely on outsiders for help. The next task is to find enough people to sell the tickets, given that we are actually allowed to sell to double the value of the total prize

money. We have never succeeded in doing that, unfortunately.

To those people who hate approaching people to buy lottery tickets, I would say that Swedes never seem to mind buying one or two, because even one can be the lucky one. Believe it or not, some people actually ask "When's the lottery?" You just have to give them a chance to see what a lovely assortment of prizes we have to offer. If the boat fair is anything to go by, people might be more ready to spend this year even when it comes to poor neighbours.

Some church members regularly buy one "book" themselves and that's acceptable, of course. They often do well out of it actually! Our most reliable and conscientious salespeople usually get rid of at least five "books" each, and our best seller last year reached the magnificent total of SEVEN simply by going round her neighbourhood and explaining why St. Andrew's needs their support.

SO OVER TO YOU DEAR PEOPLE!

Gillian Thylander



Confirmations

Sunday 29th November 2009

FIONA OTTO

LINDA AYAA

NORIKO SHINJO

were confirmed by the Rt Revd Geoffrey Rowell, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe

Our church mascot Luke



This is Luke Jonathan Holmes, our church mascot. He was born 30th May 2009 to Emma and Martin and is a joy to us all. His mum brings him to choir practice and the church service whenever possible and he makes his own kind of music.

First Communion

Sunday 3rd January 2010

MAGDALENA PETERSSON

Wedding

Sunday 14th February 2010

JASON THOMAS RUSSELL and

ANNA LENA MARIE TRANBERG

Churches working together

We often hear about religious conflicts between different religions and between various branches of one religion. It is therefore encouraging to find examples of Churches working together, both at the national and local levels. This article describes a few recent examples of cooperation.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark joins the Porvoo Communion of Churches

The Porvoo Communion of Churches is a practical collaboration between Anglican and Lutheran churches in the Nordic countries, the United Kingdom, Ireland and the Baltic countries. The Nordic countries have been members from the start in 1996, but so far Denmark has had only observer status. Revd Jonathan LLoyd, Chaplain of St Alban's Anglican Church in Copenhagen writes that the formal joining will take place in October 2010.

Paul Verner Skærved, Chairman of the Danish Council on International Relations says:

"As observers we have received a lot of input into our church and we have been inspired on practical church questions such as diaconal work, mission, inter-religious dialogue and much more, so it was also a logical step for the Council to take the decision to become a full member of the Porvoo Fellowship. We know that the Anglican churches have wanted the Danish church in the fellowship, since they feel a close link to us historically and ecclesiastically. Denmark can also contribute with an informal, democratic culture and structure and a long tradition of practical social work in the church. The contributions of the individual churches and the practical fellowship are among the cornerstones of the Porvoo collaboration. Among the aims of the

fellowship are to "share a common life of mission and service, to pray for and with each other and to share resources."

(07.01.2010 Council on International Relations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark)

Sharing premises

One practical result of the Porvoo Agreement is that it is easier for our churches to share premises. A recent example is the Swedish Church in Athens, which has moved from Piraeus and now holds services in the Anglican Church in Athens. On the other hand there is an Anglican Chapel in the Swedish Consulate General in Istanbul!

Sharing work and helping others

At the grass roots level we have St Andrew's sharing in the project of sending help to the needy in Latvia, joining in the project organised by five parishes in Halland: Slöinge, Årstad, Asige Abild, and Eftra, by collecting clothes for those who need them in cold winter weather.

St Andrew's and the Swedish Church in Gothenburg

An important form of sharing between the Anglican Church and the Swedish Church is exemplified by Revd Barbara Moss, who acts as St Andrew's Priest-in-Charge and as University Chaplain serving English language students and researchers at Gothenburg University and Chalmers University of Technology. Many postgraduate students take part in relatively short courses and/or Master's courses. This means that they are not in Sweden for long and therefore do not learn Swedish. These Masters courses are usually held in English. In this way students can attend regular church services, take part in pilgrimages, attend Taize services and attend

special events, such as the Pancake Party prior to the beginning of Lent.

A recent example of ecumenical co-operation in Gothenburg is that Revd Barbara Moss assisted at Midnight Mass at the Cathedral and that she takes part in the annual ecumenical services held there. Members of the English speaking congregations of Smyrna Church and Fiskebäcks Missionskyrkan attended the St Andrew's service in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Other examples of ecumenical activities are cooperation with the Swedish Church and Stadsmission in care and help for prostitutes, visits and discussions with Swedish high school students, and joint pilgrimages.

On the practical side, St. Andrew's, not having any meeting-place but the church itself, has received generous help from our sister parish Haga, which has allowed us to use their parish rooms for the fortnightly meetings of the Ladies Guild and, even more importantly, our annual St. Andrew's Day dinner. We hope that the Auction of Time, Talents and Treasures will also be held there every year.

Another example of practical aid, is that St. Andrew's is allowed to use the Swedish Church web-site as a framework for the St Andrew's website, which means that we have a reliable server back-up and a stable web presence.

It is fortunate that we are able to offer something valuable in return, a fine venue for concerts and lectures. We also collaborate with the Swedish Church and the Gothenburg Book Fair in an annual cultural lecture given in St Andrew's church.

In a world which sometimes seems to be made up of many divisions and groups, it feels good to see that we can collaborate and join together in our religious service and worship.

Nancy Fjällbrant

Photos of our beautiful church after the roof work



Clothes Collection for Latvia

Sunday 28th February

Many people in Latvia are experiencing great problems in their daily lives – due to the current severe economic problems. Groups that are particularly vulnerable are pensioners and children. St Andrew's Church is therefore organising a collection of clothes to be sent to Latvia after church on Sunday 28th February. Please bring contributions.

The clothes will be taken to the *Help to Latvia program*, organised by the Swedish Church congregations of Slöinge, Årstad, Asige, Abild and Efra, in Halland. These five

parishes started work for Latvia in the 1990s, collecting clothes and articles needed. They run a second-hand shop in Slöinge – in which all proceeds are used for the *Help Program* in which articles are packed and taken to the Latvian parish in Värme using a local long-hall lorry and trailer. Clergy and Swedish *Hjälp till Lettland* workers accompany the delivery and help with the distribution to a school, a home for the elderly and a hospital. Each autumn a Fashion Show is held, with accompanying lotteries and sales. All proceeds go directly to the help program – to cover transport costs etc.

Nancy Fjällbrant



The Fashion Show

A Prayer for the Environment

Your creative love, O God, brought forth our world,

Once a garden where humans could taste and see the goodness of the earth.

But our eyes have been blinded to the beauty of creation,

To the knowledge that it is a Gift, one given so all humans may live and flourish.

Our indifference changes the world;

Even mighty glaciers weep now.

Our disregard for our sisters and brothers threaten the very skies above us.

Our passivity begins to choke us, and the excess of our lifestyles block out the sun.

Call us to renewal, to stewardship;

Call us to solidarity to the earth and all its creatures.

Give us new vision to see the fragile beauty that remains to us;

Give us new spiritual energy to become active in loving the world through our daily life;

Give us new voices to speak out the environmental solidarity.

Bless us again with the gift

of being a joyful community;

Bless us with a love of your Creation

and we will glimpse your Eden once again

Diocesan Environment Officer; Brian Morgan

After Cop 15

With delegates from 192 nations, clamouring for their rights or defending their views, you might say that there was a lot of hot air released at the Climate Summit last December. We could hardly escape the pictures on our TV screens of vehement African delegates claiming compensation for years of colonial exploitation, the pitiful Maldivian islanders demanding help against the rising sea level threatening their homes, all the young families among the demonstrating environmentalists out on the streets, the desperate organisational difficulties faced by the Danish hosts, and the delegates struggling to reach an agreement night after night.

Did COP15 achieve anything then? No legally binding decisions were reached but a collective commitment was made by developed countries to provide new and additional resources approaching USD 30 billion for the period 2010-2012 to address the needs of developing countries, particularly the most vulnerable ones, those least developed, developing island states and Africa. "In the context of meaningful mitigation actions, transparency on implementation, developed countries commit to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion a year by 2020". Look up the UN document COPENHAGEN ACCORD 2009 on the Net!

Honouring the above-mentioned commitments will not be an easy matter, of course. Trying to reach international agreements on trade and tariffs is bad enough. Delays are being caused by sceptics and people with vested interests. We have been hearing a lot lately about "Climate Gate", accusations about erroneous scientific facts

and so-called "environmentalist hype".

The present record cold winter in Scandinavia and parts of North America (but not Vancouver), and some professor's claim that the ice cap in the Arctic is now expanding again may lead some to believe that all this talk of global warming is nonsense. We must not forget, however, that temporary extreme weather conditions in certain areas are not the same as climate change on a worldwide scale.

So carry on the good work of establishing a green life-style!!

Gillian

On Sunday 12 December, St Andrew's, together with many other churches over Europe, rang our bells 350 times, 350 parts per million being the target concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.



Janes shop has now opened at Nordenskiöldsgatan 30 (nearest tramstop Olivedalsgatan).

For more information, please call her on 0708 558650 or e-mail: info@janesplace.se to join the mailing list. There is a 10% discount to all members of the English church, just quote "St. Andrews offer" when ordering. The 10% discount will then be donated to the church.

Helping the birds in winter

This year we are enjoying a cold winter. Snow has covered the ground for over a month. In the countryside it sparkles in the sunshine. The birds that have stayed in Sweden have great difficulty in obtaining food, so it is good to help them by providing titbits. The small birds such as Blue Tits and Great Tits and the Nut-hatches like fat and suet. They like the "talgbollar" or suet balls that you can buy at the grocer's. If you buy a coconut and cut it in half and hang these halves in a tree you will have many small visitors. Sunflower seeds are popular with many birds, and so are oats and corn.

This winter we have seen many Bramblings (Bergfinkar). Their favourite food are beech nuts and this year the beech trees had huge amounts of nuts, so the finches stayed on into January and were then caught out by the cold weather. In the bird count, on the last weekend in January, Bramblings were the most frequent birds reported in Halland, replacing the Great Tits who usually top the list. Other birds that are numerous this year are thrushes, including Blackbirds and flocks of Fieldfares which may include Redwing Thrushes. These birds love apples and other fruit. We have a little Robin who comes daily for his daily meals and a large Pheasant who squawks as he flies into the garden.

The large birds of prey are finding it difficult to obtain food – because the snow has a crust of ice, so the Owls cannot get through to the mice etc. We have enjoyed watching two Golden Eagles, together with Ravens, Crows and Magpies feeding on meat left on the ground for them. It is fascinating to see the large birds coming in to land and the smaller birds moving aside. Eagles and red kites regularly fly over the river Ätran when searching for food.

In Mölndal we have seen three tough little Dippers feeding in the stream at Grevedammet. They actually can swim under the water going upstream. Waxwings have not been so common in Gothenburg this year, because there has been a good supply of rowan berries throughout northern Sweden, but we have seen two large flocks in Eklanda in Mölndal and flying over the Hovås golf club. They love all kinds of fruit, and there are reports of them getting "drunk" on fermented rowan berries!

Other unusual winter birds are two Cranes "Tranor" which have chosen to stay in the Falkenberg area, where they are being supported by a kind farmer who feeds them surplus food. A variety of birds are also fed in Slottsskogen. In January we saw 72 different species of birds in western Sweden.

Tore and Nancy Fjällbrant



Blue tit



Golden eagle

Dickson relatives visit St Andrew's

Every year the Dicksons have their annual family gathering and this time it was in September and in connection with that, Christina Dickson asked, if they could come and have a look in St. Andrew's Church. Gillian Thylander and Cecilia Klevedal opened the church on Monday 21st September at 11.00 and welcomed a group of eight people. The visitors were Ian and Jan Fowler from Salisbury, England, Sally Vaughan (elder sister of Jan Fowler), Christina Dickson, Christopher Rawlinson and Mrs. Torborg Ashton. Christina Dickson gave a picture of the Dickson family tree as a gift to St. Andrew's and showed us that Sally and Jan's mother was Blanche Innes Dickson who was the daughter of Axel J. Austin Dickson and Norah Scrope Hutchinson. Christina Dickson is the grandchild of Axel and Nancy Dickson. You can have a look on the family tree number 2:1:3. The visitors were invited to sit in the Dickson family pew and Gillian Thylander read a passage from John Ashton's book *Lives and livelihoods in little London* – Warne Förlag. On pages 113-114 is a description of the laying of the foundation

stone of the church by Robert Dickson on 19th June, 1855, his 74th Birthday. He died the year after as you can see on the plaque in church. If you would like to buy the book, it is available from Mrs Ashton. Cecilia Klevedal had presented the visitors with one 150th Jubilee booklet each and read loud about *A small, but beautiful, temple*. Gillian and Cecilia took the visitors to the front and explained about the stained glass windows, pulpit, altar, lectern, poor box, prayer corner and the icon of St. Brigitta. Further we took them to the back of church and showed them our new altar frontal which is purple. While Gillian Thylander played two beautifully pieces on the church organ *Through all the changing scenes of life* and *Be still for the presence of the Lord*, Cecilia Klevedal brought out coffee, sandwiches and apple cake to the table in the back. The visitors enjoyed their guided tour, asked questions and kindly signed their names in the guestbook of St. Andrew's.

They were really happy with their visit and appreciated it much. At 12.30 they went with us for a look in the church garden before saying farewell.

Cecilia Klevedal



Remembering your Spirit



A little glimpse of Heaven

I had been blessed once again by spending New Year's Eve surrounded by wonderful friends. I stood on the landing stage watching all the boats cruising up and down Göta älv and the hundreds of people by the water and up on the heights, as far as the eye could see.

The air turned electric with excitement and expectation as the boats hooted their sirens, saluting the New Year. Rockets of all shapes and sizes shot up into the air, and our heads spun like tops as we did not want to miss any of the spectacular display of colours, floating down and covering us like umbrellas and reflected in the waters all around us. It was magical.

In former years, I had been one of those

people who thought that the firework display was a waste of money, but this year I had a revelation. Here were so many people spending money not simply for their own pleasure but to share their joy with others. I was overcome by a wonderful feeling of happiness, which stayed with me for a long time. And whenever I think back to that night, I feel grateful to all those generous people who contributed to giving me a little glimpse of Heaven.

Ann Gustafsson

**Nothing happens twice;
We just happen to get
caught up in a similar
situation**

- Suzanne K. Langer

This day will not be like the one yesterday. And it won't be like the one tomorrow. Each day is different and full of promise – we may find a new friend and/or learn something exciting from a teacher or out of a book. Certain things that we'll do today will seem familiar, in the same way as when you play a game for the second, third or tenth time. But the game is still new each time, because the players move their pieces on the board in different ways. The exciting thing about this day is that it is full of surprises. Nothing of what we do, nothing of what we say will be repeated in exactly the same way, and this is a reminder that we are all unique.

LOTTERY 2009 – IN AID OF THE ROOF

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has kindly donated prizes for this year's lottery and to the people who are busy selling the tickets. Some say that it is easier to sell the tickets this year as the prizes are so good. Well there's quite a lot of work behind that, on the part of church committee members and friends, and we hope that everyone will buy at least one ticket so as to take part in the fun on Sunday, June 14th, the day of the draw.

The following organisations or shops have given us their support:

BoConcept
Bok-och-Biblioteks mässan
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Folkteatern
Govindas Vegetarian Restaurant, Karl Johansg.
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Stena Line
St. George Pub
Thai Wok Sweden
Tjolöholms Slott
The Book Corner
The English Shop
The Gothenburg Drama Group
Västra Hälsokost

In addition, some members of the congregation have donated new books.

The Anglo-Swedish Society Program
is now on-line: www.angloswedish.se

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

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)

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