

Wychwood News

Welcome to Reverend Wendy

Well, after about five weeks in the Benefice I'm beginning to feel my way around. I moved into the vicarage in March and, assisted by my eldest daughter, set about redecorating and making the house feel like home. By the time I was inducted on April 6th I was beginning to feel quite restless and ready to get to grips with the challenge of a new post.

At present, one of the biggest challenges lies in trying to remember so many new names. Getting to know as many of you as possible is something I'm looking forward to, but I hope you will be patient with me if I forget your name or get it wrong! Since I'm learning about you, I thought you might also like to know a little bit about me.

I came here after completing a four year curacy with the Bicester Team Ministry. The team in Bicester are responsible for the big mother church in Bicester town and the two rural parishes of Launton and Bucknell. Prior to entering holy orders, I worked for the Oxford University Press as a promotions controller in the English Language Teaching department.

I have three daughters (only one residing with me at the moment); Carmen, Jasmine and Lydia. Carmen is a film-maker, Lydia is studying drama and philosophy at university and Jasmine is set to enter drama school in September. We also have two cats - Imogen



and Oscar who love it here. Oscar spends a lot of his time patrolling his 'estate' and warning off trespassers of the feline variety. They are both fascinated by a pair of cock pheasants and a pair of deer who frequent the garden from time to time, but they are both far too intelligent to take on anything quite that large!

I grew up in a tiny village in South Oxfordshire and although I have spent much of my adult life in town, my preference is for village life, and this feels almost like a homecoming. My hobbies are folk music and dance, and I'm passionate about morris dancing (I dance for Ducklington Morris). Much of my free time is spent touring with my side to folk festivals or other regular engagements. We are already booked for a couple of village events this year, so if you see your vicar sporting top hat, ribbons and bells don't be too surprised. We are hoping to learn the steps of a traditional dance associated with this area called 'Idbury Hill'.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at various local events. I hope these few words will give you some idea of me, as a person. In the next edition of the magazine I will share with you, in depth, my thoughts and visions for the future of the Churches within our communities.

Reverend Wendy



Celebrating 90

A party was held in April to celebrate George Longhurst's 90th birthday. George and two other long term Sipton residents will be featured in the next issue of The Wychwood but, for now, from all of us 'Happy Birthday George!'