

Breakfast Club

The practice of holding Christian Breakfasts has really taken off around the Oxford Diocese and I'm very pleased to say that we have now set up our very own Christian breakfast club here in the Wychwoods, with a programme of speakers for 2009.

The idea is that a group of people get together at the Lamb Inn, Shipton, on the first Saturday of every month and enjoy a delicious full English or Continental breakfast. We will then listen to a guest speaker who will be talking on a particular subject of interest, which can be as diverse as what it's like to work as

a prison chaplain to the significance of Renaissance art. The talk is then followed by a question and answer session. All the topics have a Christian link but the breakfasts are by no means limited to just the church-going population, they promise to be lively and interesting to all-comers.

If you are interested in joining our breakfast club - for just a one-off or more regularly - please contact me for details on: 01993 830257. We're still looking for an original name for our Club, all appropriate suggestions considered!

Revd Wendy Callan

SWYCH to Cloth Bags

The Plastic Bag issue is certainly not new! We are always being told not to use plastic bags, but does it really make that much difference?

How Plastic Pollutes

We use on average 10 billion plastic bags a year, 167 per person. That is a lot of plastic! In fact it accounts for about 4.5% of plastic packaging used in the U.K. Plastic bags last indefinitely in landfill sites and when they do finally degrade they break down and release toxins into our soil and waterways. If incinerated, they can produce highly poisonous dioxins.

Around 100 billion tonnes of plastic floats around the world's oceans, killing marine turtles, fish, birds and whales. Bags make up a significant proportion. The production and disposal of five plastic bags creates about 1 kg of Carbon Dioxide. Using cloth bags is something we can do to help Climate Change without affecting our quality of life. A lot of shops and supermarkets give out

supposedly degradable bags now, but these are simply a plastic bag that is designed to break down faster. It still releases harmful toxins when it degrades. Bio-degradable bags are much better, but the process for making them is still hugely energy intensive.

Use a Cloth Bag

Lots of us use shopping bags for our bin liners, but as they are generally smaller than purpose-bought bin liners you would be putting less plastic into landfill by using a large bin liner. You really can make an impact. Keep cloth bags in your car, your handbag; the more you use them, the more you will remember to take them with you.

Jenna Saunders
www.swych.org.uk

Please note our film event has changed date and venue. **Wednesday April 1st** film showing and discussion *The Inconvenient Truth*, **8.00pm** at the **Wychwood School Hall**