

Welcoming the Witts to the Wychwoods Rev'd Up and Raring to Go

Normal life on a Saturday afternoon in Milton was disturbed when a crowd of people descended on the Baptist church on November 6th for the ordination and induction of John Witts as Pastor. The church had to be re-arranged with



every bit of space utilised as John and wife Ali's friends and family from Cheltenham, Reading, London and Leicester, joined with regulars from the Wychwoods to celebrate their arrival.

Followed by Tea, Coffee and Cake

Rev'd Declan Flanagan of Rural Ministries, who has had a close working relationship with the church for a number of years, and was instrumental in John's appointment, conducted the acts of ordination and induction. Dr Paul Woodbridge of Oak Hill Theological College and Rev'd Steve Scrivener of John's home church in Reading gave the readings and address.

Oh, and as you'll find is our custom - the service was followed by tea, coffee and cake!

Rural life will be a welcome change for John and Ali who between them have lived in a number of city and suburban locations, most recently in north London. However, with a love of the countryside, they are thrilled to have been called to

minister here in the Wychwoods, and look forward to getting stuck into village life.

Builders

Following the celebration on Saturday, John led his first family service where we looked at Jesus' teaching on the wise and

foolish builders. 'Building' has been the focal point recently, since we've just undertaken quite a bit of maintenance on the church manse prior to John and Ali's moving in. We now look forward to seeing how God will use John to help build up the church.

No-one's Perfect...

Of course nobody's perfect, and John's choice of football team certainly reveals one of his flaws - but then again someone has to support West Ham! Seriously though, it's great to welcome such a young and enthusiastic couple and their family to the fellowship.

So why not come and join us in getting to know John and the family better. You'd be welcome any Sunday (services start at 10.30am), and they will often be found at our cafe on a Friday morning (9.30-12 noon). Or you can simply pop by the church to say 'Hi.'

Now the formalities are over it's on with the job, for which John is now all 'Rev'd up and raring to go!

Alan Pepper, Church Secretary