

## John Anthony Cable 1934 to 2011

Our dear friend, Anthony Cable, died peacefully at Old Prebendal House, on 12<sup>th</sup> July. Anthony was a well loved member of our community and the Churches in the Shipton Benefice, where he served as a Lay Reader, from 1996 to 2006.

Anthony led worship, preached and took on a number of administrative tasks which he performed with great skill.

Anthony was born in Wembley, London in 1934, and spent his early years with his brother David and his parents and grandmother in Hatch End, Middlesex. At the outbreak of world war two, Anthony was sent to boarding school at Morte-hoe in Cornwall and later to Oundle School, Northamptonshire where he gained a scholarship to Cambridge to read Natural Science, deferred for two years for National Service. At Corpus Christi College, Anthony gained a BA honours, specialising in Chemical Engineering in his final year. Anthony was questioning his faith at this time, finally, after hearing Billy Graham preach, he decided to take the plunge and in his own words “put his trust in Jesus”. This was a defining moment and his faith became an important source of strength and hope throughout the trials that he experienced in life. Anthony made the decision to look for a job in Chemical Engineering rather than going into Church ministry, which took him to Teeside where he met Margaret Willis. They were married in 1960, setting up home in Grimsby, where



Anthony worked for Laporte Titanium Ltd and studied for admission to the Office of Reader in the Anglican Church, beginning his ministry in the villages around Grimsby. In 1969 Margaret, Anthony and their two daughters, Rachel and Ruth,

moved to Grangemouth in Scotland, where Anthony took a job with BP. There he carried on his ministry, becoming Superintendent of the Sunday School at St Michael's, Linlithgow, and an Elder of the Kirk Session. In 1977 he moved back to BP's London office, and worked there until he retired in 1989 at the age of 55.

Anthony, Margaret and Rachel were devastated when Ruth died in 1993 after a long illness. In 1996 they settled in Tothill, Shipton-under-Wychwood and quickly made friends at Milton Church where they worshipped. Anthony enjoyed practising his ministry with Revd Graham Canning and subsequent Vicars, and being part of a rural community. When Margaret died in 2005, Anthony bravely faced life without her. He and Rachel supported each other through the next few years, and with the help of good friends managed to make the best of the time they had together. In the last months of his life, his faith carried him through the difficulties of treatment and the final acceptance that time was short. Anthony will be remembered for his generosity, kindness and integrity, but above all his steadfast faith in God.

**Anne Hartley**