

A few words from the vicarage ...



After the busyness of Holy Week, Easter, Bank Holidays and a Royal Wedding it is perhaps a little difficult for everyone to 'get back to normal' – whatever 'normal, may be! Still, 'normality' is what we must all try to achieve now, with the APCM behind us and new appointments made.

We look ahead with renewed vigour and some new faces [welcome to you all] as we work together in our shared mission of spreading the Good News to all within and beyond the church family and our community.

In the last day or so we have learned of the ultimate demise of Osama Bin Laden – coming almost 10 years after the atrocities of the 'Twin Towers' which he masterminded.

Whilst his death is viewed by many as a victory, it must be set against the huge and devastating impact this man has had upon the global community. This is a victory in which there is no real winner – all our lives changed when 9/11 took place and this death is unlikely to facilitate a swift or easy return to where we were before, if at all.

I fear the best we may hope for is that we will be able to move on; that the world will be a safer place; and that such acts of terrorism may be consigned to the annals of history – I hope and pray that these are not vain and futile aspirations and that we shall be able to turn the pages of

history to a more stable and secure chapter ... and perhaps to something more akin to 'normality'.

On the opposite side of the equation, now to something more cheerful: having mentioned the Royal Wedding, whether a royalist supporter or a republican, you cannot fail to have been impressed by the grandeur of the spectacle. Despite all the 'pomp and circumstance' – which was present in abundance – the whole occasion was one of huge celebration and a piece of history in the making. For this was more than the celebration of two young people getting married – joyous enough for that in itself – this was a nation coming together in full view of the world.

I saw one estimate that approximately one-third of the entire population of the world switched on to view the coverage – this must surely be regarded as a huge endorsement of a truly remarkable institution.

I would like to conclude by thanking everyone for their good wishes over Easter and to those who called in to the vicarage on Good Friday afternoon. As the sun shone and as we enjoyed our hot cross buns, we were able to experience our Saviour's journey in a spirit of true holiness as we made ready to greet the Risen Christ on Easter morning.

Christ is Risen, he is risen indeed – Allelujah!

Fr D.