

Lent Groups: The adult education group has been busy planning these, but there are still some details of other groups to follow – watch this space! A separate sheet gives details of the wide variety of groups on offer this year – please ask the welcomers if you didn't get a copy last week.

Batty about Bats! Olive Branch meeting on 14 February at St Thomas's House at 8pm. Lorraine Blakey will give a talk on being an Authorized Bat Warden. Not to be missed. New members welcome. Contact Dorothy Crookes 329541

The flower arrangers are hosting the coffee morning on Sat Feb 16th. The money raised will be used for the flowers at Easter. Look forward to seeing you there!

Women's World Day of Prayer 2008: This year the service has been compiled by the women of Guyana and will be held here at St Thomas's on Friday 7th March at 2.30pm. All (men, women and children) are invited to attend this ecumenical service. We need a group to help lead the singing. If you (or anyone you know) would be willing to help with this please speak, as soon as possible, to either John Dempster or Margaret Kynaston (412 770)

Lent Appeal for 2008. The PCC has agreed to donate our Lent Appeal giving to the locally based charity Hope and Homes for Children. This is an international children's charity working to secure a family and a future for vulnerable children. In just 12 years they have helped to secure the lives and livelihoods of more than 15,000 orphaned and abandoned children throughout Central and Eastern Europe and Africa.. They have developed from building orphanages to closing them, and now move children into caring family homes. They reunite child refugees with relatives after war or conflict, support desperate young mothers who may otherwise abandon their babies, and provide a vital lifeline for families of AIDS orphans headed by frail grandparents or children. Central to all their work is the belief that, above all else, a child needs the love and care of a family and the security of a home to enjoy their childhood and in order to have the best chance to fulfil their potential. *Boxes for your donations have been ordered. They will be available in church next week, or phone the parish office if you'd like one.*

St Thomas's Burns Supper Committee thanks everyone for their support in whatever role, in making the Burns Supper a social as well as a fund-raising success. Without your generous support it could not happen. The Committee are therefore pleased to announce that after paying all costs and expenses the total sum raised is £1600.00, which will be divided between both charities, The Salisbury Women's Refuge and The Maternity Unit at SDH. Publicity is always helpful for the charities and us so the Chairman of Salisbury District Council will formally present the cheques, accompanied by some committee members, to representatives from the charities in the presence of the Press. (All seamen NB, not the press-gang.) On a separate note, if anyone managed to take a photograph at the supper may we have a print of the same for the archives?

The Communication Committee would like to create an annual magazine for the church full of ideas, news, interviews, events, views and photos of a year in the life of our church and our work in the community. Please think about what you would like to read about and send any ideas or contributions to Fi Green at simonfi@ntlworld.com. We can't promise to include everything, but all ideas will be seriously considered.

Please come and Spring Clean the Church. Do your Lenten Penance by helping to spring clean on **Saturday 1st March 10am – 12** Bring dusters, brushes, long-handled feather dusters etc. and get St. Thomas's really clean for Easter. *There will be no bookstall that day.*

Sing-a-long-a-Joseph (Joseph & the amazing technicolour dreamcoat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber) Saturday 29th March 7.30pm at the Cathedral. Everyone can join in and if you wear a multi-coloured coat you can enter the fancy dress competition! A fun evening! Ten or more people = group booking (£13.50 each - with reserved seats) Names and money to the Kynastons by Sunday 24th Feb.