Festival of Remembrance at East Wickham

THE BISHOP of Woolwich (centre) joined Bexley civic leaders at the East Wickham and Welling War Memorial Trust annual Festival of Remembrance on Sunday 12 November at St Michael’s, East Wickham. The Festival remembers all killed in war, especially the 105 young men from East Wickham and Welling killed in the First World War. The names on the memorial are read each year by different community representatives. This year it was the turn of local service people. Bishop Christopher then gave the blessing and the Mayor of Bexley laid the wreath on behalf of the congregation of about 450 people. Music was provided by The Belvedere Concert Band and soloists and the festival ended with the congregation singing a medley of songs from both wars.

The Trust has agreed to give £40,000 to St Michaels’ C of E Primary School which will release £600,000 extension.

The preacher, the Dean of Nidaros, Norway, The Very Rev Knut Andresen (above), commented afterwards that the Porvoo agreement is important because Christian unity and Christian fellowship have to be visible. He went on to say that it “makes a union that has existed for many years visible. It has healed wounds and we can praise God together.”

He explained that his Cathedral was built by English artisans more than 800 years ago and this echoed one of the strands of his sermon that the English

Celebrating ten years of Porvoo

Not just material support...

When our inner London charity started 160 years ago, its chief work was reading the Bible to blind people and escorting them to church. Today the Metropolitan Society for the Blind provides a range of services to blind people, whatever their beliefs, but still follows the principle “man cannot live by bread alone”. Our Home Visiting service brings company and friendship, as well as material help, to elderly people living in the dark and often alone.

Our Annual Church Service for blind people is a link with our Christian roots and a reminder of the spiritual dynamic behind every charity.

We receive no government funding and rely heavily on voluntary contributions. Please give us your support!

Five year old gives mother away!

MATTHEW LAY – aged 5½ – gave away his mother Jocelyn on her marriage to Jonathan Spencer at All Saints, New Eltham where Jocelyn is a churchwarden. All Saints Vicar, Rev Dr Jean Wadsworth, asks “Five and a half – a record surely?”

Association for Pastoral Care in Mental Health

For nearly 20 years, the Morten branch of APCMH has run a one-to-one befriending scheme for people with mental health problems in the community. Each year they look for new volunteers and offer a free training course. The next one will run throughout February 2007. To find out more, phone Richard Allen on 020 8761 3968.

Hospital Ward Visiting

at Queen Mary’s Hospital Roehampton. Could this be a ministry for you? If so, the next 11-week training course (one afternoon a week begins in January. For more information, contact the Anglican Chaplain Domini Lucas 020 8487 6102 or e-mail chaplaincy@wqct.nhs.uk

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