

THIRD ORDER



news

Issue 52

July 2014

Feedback from Provincial Chapter Ely, 13th – 14th June 2014

This is my penultimate Chapter, before I end my six years as Link Tertiary for the Central and Eastern England Cluster in October, so I have been asked to make this report to you through TON as a sort of swan song.

Peter Dixon having been welcomed as our new Provincial Novice Guardian in March, was with us, in post this Chapter, and already has his shoulder to the wheel. There have been several personnel changes recently, and more to come in October, which raised the issues of personal discernment after three years in post, adequate handover time from the previous office holder, and turnout at Elections to Office. The discernment and handover is of great importance for Local Group Convenors and Area Team Office holders, and voting turnout for Area Ministers, as well as for Chapter members. We all matter in all decisions made for the Order, and hopefully people would feel more comfortable taking on roles if they had some time (three months?) in tandem with their predecessor.

(Coffee Time)

As Averil Swanton mentioned in her in the last TON report, Area Teams and Clusters are being asked to look at their boundaries in terms of geography, local affinities, numbers of Tertiaries with in Areas (are we too small or too big to meet the needs of members?). Do our Areas



create a place of belonging, of being an Area Community? Link Tertiaries Jeremy Plummer from Manchester and Hazel Sharp from the West Country will be seeking your views, and will welcome the results of your local consultations.



We re-visited the area of what are the marks of Profession of Tertiaries, and this perhaps bears repeating. The four non-negotiable points as stated by Ken Norian, our Minister General are Annual Report, following of review of ones Rule, leading to renewal of our Pledge; daily saying of Community Obedience, and making a contribution of both ourselves and our money to our Order. Neither of these needs to be vast, but significant to us as individuals. Growing from this is the notion that our Reports are more than nominal, are a review of our journey, and should be returned by the A.F.G with any meaningful comment, so we have bricks to build with. Some Areas are having 'Preparation Days' for reporting and renewal – is this a useful tool for others?

Other key points in brief are:

Peter Dixon building on Philippa Bird's work in reviewing our initial formation.

Area Teams are asked to note that after two years of non-renewal, AFG's are asked to engage Tertiaries on their future vocation.

The Provincial Treasurer John Reynolds is reviewing with Areas donations to TSSF, no invasion of privacy, but is everyone making

some contribution, however large or small. He has also reviewed our reserves, which are reasonable, and without in any way jeopardising our solvency, as laid down by the Charity Commission, a grant of £10,000 has been made to Paul Alexander's film project 'Life of St Francis' being filmed at Hilfield.

There was an article on the last *Little Portion* asking for ideas for the next General Chapter. In responses received so far, there seem to be two strands emerging, firstly



T.S.S.F.'s mission in the contemporary context, and secondly a Convocation of Local Group Representatives to enable 'bottom up' decisions. What do you think? Some kind volunteers have already come forward, hopefully enough to form a Steering Group of one member per Cluster

As you can see, a busy agenda, but with time built in for worship and prayer, seasoned with some fun, and shared laughter, and our predictions for the World Cup (well some of us anyway).



Pax et Bonum - Jackie Alexander

Provincial Officers - call for Nominations

Chris Petrie is standing down as **Provincial Communications Coordinator** after 3 years, at the end of the February 2015 Chapter. A formal call for nominations has been sent to all Areas.

John Reynolds is standing down as **Provincial Treasurer** after 3 years, at the end of the June 2015 Chapter. A formal call for nominations has been sent to all Areas. John will deal with the financial year 2014-15 but hopes to have a successor in post to take on the next financial year, from 1 June 2015. This means there can be a useful period of overlap and mutual assistance.

If you are interested and have not received the details, ask your Area Team or email ***returningofficer@tssf.org.uk*** to ask for further information. Please do consider seriously if you could offer your time and talents to the Order in either of these roles.

If necessary, voting papers will be issued with TON 53 in November.

Please feel free to contact the current office-holders (or any member of Chapter) if you have questions.

Link Tertiary Elections

Carole Selby has been elected as **Link Tertiary for Central and Eastern England**. Jackie Alexander will hand over to Carole at the end of October 2014 Chapter. There was no voting as there was only the one nomination. Area Officers in the Cluster have been sent Carole's election address as an introduction of her to the Areas involved.

There was an unfruitful call for nominations for **Link Tertiary for South West England**. A repeat call has been issued to the Wessex, Blackmore Vale, Devon, Cornwall and Somerset Areas, with a closing date of Thursday 7 August (so that a vote, if necessary, can be concluded before October Chapter).

We also say **farewell to Roger Marks** as **Editor of TON**, with thanks for his service over at least 6 years in the Communications Team.

Chris Petrie

Silent Retreat Abbey House, Glastonbury 2014 - "Reviewing and Renewing"

Preparing for Francistide with Br Samuel
Wed 17 Sep (4pm) - Fri 19 Sep (after lunch)
Cost per person £126.00+conductor's expenses.

Deposit: £30.00

Please make cheques payable to:

Mrs J Bromfield and send to:-

Jess Bromfield

Glovington House, Long Sutton

Langport, Somerset TA10 9HT

(For receipt please enclose sae)

**TSSF Retreats at the Old Parsonage,
Freeland**

Friday, 10 – Monday, 13 October

Silent retreat

Conductor: Brother Sam, SSF

Cost: £145 inclusive of conductor's expenses

Friday, 6th – Monday, 9th March 2015

Silent retreat: theme to be decided

Conductor: Sister Sue, OSC

Cost: £145 including conductor's expenses

Monday, 8th – Thursday, 11th June 2015

Silent retreat: Swedish Spirituality

Conductor: Revd Dr Hugh White

Cost: £135 including conductor's expenses

Bookings: Lesley Sutton, 12 Hill Top Road,
Oxford, OX4 1PB. T: 01865 248847

E: oxfordretreat@yahoo.co.uk

Arranged by Beds and Herts Area

6 - 8 October 2014 (Mon 4pm – Wed 2pm)

Silent Retreat

Location: Pleshey (Chelmsford Diocesan
House of Retreat)

Conductor: Canon Graham Newton TSSF

Cost: £142 + conductor's expenses (nearly
all single rooms and mostly non-ensuite)

Contact: Nigel Bridger, T: 01438 715449

E: n.bridger@btinternet.com

Arranged by Mersey Valley Area.

20 - 23 Oct, 2014 Silent Retreat

Venue Monastery of Our Lady of Hynning,
Near Carnforth, Lancs.

Conductor Br Anselm SSF Theme to be
decided

Cost £130 plus conductors expenses; £20
non returnable deposit needed with booking.

(cheques payable to Rev F Shaw please)

Contact: (to book and for more details)

Rev Felicity Shaw, 99 Pennine Road,

Horwich, Bolton. BL6 7HW

T: 01204 696851

E: rev.fmshaw@btinternet.com

Chelmsford Retreat House, Pleshey

17 – 19 October 2014 (5pm Fri – 2pm Sun)

Silent Retreat, Conductor: Sister Chris CSF

Cost £148 (includes all conductor's
expenses). Please send cheque for £20
deposit made out to

'TSSF East London and South Essex'

to Maria Fox, 101 Hadleigh Road, Leigh-on-
Sea, Essex SS9 2LY (no receipts unless
requested)

Thurs 15 - Sun 18 January 2015

Flexible Retreat for Younger Tertiaries

on the theme of Franciscan Community
Old Parsonage, Freeland

Contact Rachel Holdforth

E: rkh26@cantab.net

T: 07849853273) **or**

Carys Underdown

E: rcu20@cantab.net

for more details and to book.

Come for all or part of the time (e.g.

Thursday - Saturday, Friday-Sunday or for
the day).

Younger Tertiaries are any member of the
Order (Postulant, Novice or Professed) up
to approximately mid-forties in age. The age
range is flexible.

Enquirers and aspirants will be welcome on
Saturday 17th January.

Please contact Rachel for further details.

Are you trained in mediation?

We're all human, and in any community
conflicts and complaints can arise. The
Chapter Handbook suggests mediation can
be a way forward when it's needed in the
Order. Mediation takes skill, and so we are
looking for Tertiaries who would be willing to
join a pool of people with relevant
experience. Chances are you won't be
needed, but in the event that you are, you
would be doing a valuable service. Please
get in touch if you think you could help, with
some information about your experience
and qualifications. Thanks.

Paul Bodenham

T: 01949 861516 E: formation@tssf.org.uk

Financial assistance for retreats

Are you finding it financially demanding to
go on Retreat? If so, you should apply to the
KNOX DICK FUND. This Fund is used to
help Tertiaries of modest means keep their
Rule of Life by helping with the costs of
going on retreat. Please write or send an
email to: Rachel Cornish,
36 Highfield Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7BZ
E: knoxdick@tssf.org.uk

**East Midlands and Yorkshire Cluster Day
Saturday, 13 September 2014**

St Mary's Centre in Sheffield
Theme: Following Jesus in the way of St Francis: Ongoing transformation.
Keynote Speakers: Averil Swanton and Brother Damian
Contact Link Tertiary Jan Davies,
E: janofreegarth@live.co.uk

Future Chapter Dates

2014 17-19 October

2015 19-21 February

12-13 June

16-18 October

2016 11-13 February

16-18 June

14-16 October

Election of the following Novices to Profession was ratified by Chapter, with prayer (8)

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| May Salter | Herts and Beds |
| Ann Maw | East Anglia |
| Kay Palmer | East Anglia |
| Evelyn Cambray | Wyevever |
| Daniel Berry | Avon |
| Alan Moore | Severn |
| David Depledge | Blackmore Vale |
| Nigel Thomas | Blackmore Vale |

Who to send things to:

Changes in address, telephone number, e-mail address, TSSF Office held

Mollie Kingham, Membership Secretary,
12 Buckingham Gardens, West Molesey,
KT8 1TH.
T: 020 8979 8053 E: memsec@tssf.org.uk
Copy to Chris Petrie, E: comms@tssf.org.uk

Information for Little Portion

Verena Tschudin, Editor, Little Portion
26 Cathcart Road, London SW10 9NN
T: 020 7351 1263.
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Eltham, London, SE9 5PE
T: 0208 850 0189
E: ton@tssf.org.uk

All other matters to do with communication

Chris Petrie, Provincial Communications
Coordinator, 55 Briardene Crescent,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4RX
T: 0191 2855131 E: comms@tssf.org.uk

Contributions, TSSF expense claims and letters about finance

John Reynolds, Provincial Treasurer,
The Friary, Hilfield, Dorchester, DT72 7BE
T: 01300 342312 E: treasurer@tssf.org.uk

Enquirers interested in joining the Order

Peter Dixon, Provincial Novice Guardian
Dove House, 4 New Road,
Uttoxeter ST14 7DB
T: 01889 569722
E: novguard@tssf.org.uk

All other enquiries about the Order

Averil E Swanton, Minister Provincial
11 The Grange, Fleming Way
Exeter, EX2 4SB.
T: 01392 430355
E: ministertssf@tssf.org.uk

Disability Advisor Team (alternative formats, access, support)

Margaret Armstrong, Cridlands Barn,
Brompton Ralph, Taunton, TA4 2RU
T: 01984 623918
E: disabilityadvisor@tssf.org.uk

Third Order Resource Material

Third Order Distribution,
The Old Parsonage, 168 Wroslyn Road,
Freeland, Witney, OX29 8AQ.
E: distribution@tssf.org.uk

Much material is available on the TSSF website and can be downloaded. Paper copies are kept at Third Order Distribution where you may send your requests and make arrangements for payment.

All opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and contributors and not necessarily those of the European Province of the Third Order, Society of Saint Francis.

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