

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Bradford on Avon



PARISH NEWS

APRIL 2007

web edition

DIRECTORY

Vicar

Canon Bill Matthews The Vicarage, 18A Woolley Street 864444
e-mail: vicar@brad-avon-ht.org.uk

Parish Deacon

Revd Angela Onions 27 Berryfield Road 309001

Retired Clergy

Ven John Burgess, Revd Alun Glyn-Jones,
Canon Peter Hardman, Ven Ian Stanes

Readers

Graham Dove

Dr Malcolm Walsh (retired)

Churchwardens

Joan Finch 40 Palaiuret Close 863878

Tony Haffenden 6 Folly Field 864412

Director of Music

Gareth Bennett 01380 728772

Pastoral Team

Alison Cook; Mike Fuller; Pat Kitchen; Sue Lavis; Revd Angela Onions;

Ministry of Healing

The Vicar; Mary Burge.

Times of Services

(Check Bulletins and notices)

Sundays

8 am Holy Communion
9.30 am Sung Eucharist (coffee after)
6 pm Evensong
Service of Prayer for Hope & Health
and Compline monthly)

Holy Communion

10 am Wednesdays

(weekdays)

8 am Fridays

Times of Meetings

Choir Practice 6.45 pm Church, Tuesdays
Sunday School 9.30 am Church Hall
Mothers' Union 7.30 pm Church Hall, (usually) 3rd Thursday
Bell Practice 7.30–9 pm 2nd and 4th Mondays

Parish Web-site

www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk

Diocese Web-site

www.salisbury.anglican.org

Weekly Bulletin

Notices to the Vicar not later than Wednesday for
the next Sunday.

Please let the Vicar know if someone needs visiting at home or in hospital

FROM THE VICAR

For me, one of the high spots of a wonderful parish holiday to Italy last year was an impromptu visit to Sansepolcro, to see Piero della Francesca's fresco of the Resurrection. As some of you will know, it is said to have been preserved, with the village, from shelling by British forces, because a British officer had read Aldous Huxley's description of it as 'the most important picture in the world'.

I wouldn't be qualified to comment on that. But I can say with conviction, as someone who has spent many hours in some of the world's great art galleries following his pet hobby of looking at Christian religious art, that it is for me the most impressive depiction of the Resurrection that I have seen. It radiates a sort of impersonal power and majesty, speaking to us of a Christ who is not miraculously restored to life, but the first representative of a new creation, a being infinitely beyond the earthly limitations of human personality, and both a sign of the victory that God had won in him on the cross and a pointer to what that victory can mean for each one of us.

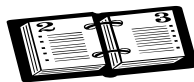
But the Resurrection is both the result and the vindication of that terrible death, in utter helplessness, characterised, according to Matthew and Mark, by a heartfelt cry of desolation. All that Jesus has to offer is his faithfulness to God and his kingdom, even when he feels abandoned, and his continuing love for sinful human beings, even when they are killing him.

If we are to have a faith that is true, both to the teaching of the Bible and of the church, we have to learn to cope with paradox. Jesus is both God and man. His death and apparent defeat is the true revelation of his glory, and in reality his victory. We have to accept what Paul calls 'the foolishness of God' and the truth that in Jesus, as in Paul, and as in us, his grace is made perfect in our weakness.

We can put the paradox in another way. We have to believe in a God of sufficient power and wisdom to be the cause of this staggeringly vast and complex universe, and at the same time able to relate totally to each of us. Yet we have also to believe that he has set bounds to his power to give us our freedom, and to leave us to exercise that freedom in bodies subject to accident, disease and death, and to the actions of others. Holy Week and Easter show us what Christmas does: the power and the vulnerability of love.

Bill Malles

DIARY FOR APRIL



1 SUNDAY		PALM SUNDAY	
	9.30 am	Palm Procession from Saxon Church and Sung Liturgy	
	11 am	Parochial Church Council	Church
	6 pm	Compline	
2-4 Mon - Wed	7.30 pm	Meditations on the Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion	Church
5 Thursday		MAUNDY THURSDAY	
	8 pm	Liturgy of the Last Supper	
	9 - 12 pm	Watch of Prayer	
6 Friday		GOOD FRIDAY	
	2 pm	Liturgy of the Last Hour	
	2 pm	Sunday School Workshop	Hall
7 Saturday		HOLY SATURDAY	
	9 am onwards	Decoration of Church	
	8 pm	Compline & Preparation for Easter Communion	
8 SUNDAY		EASTER DAY	
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist, Easter Ceremonies & Holy Baptism	
	6 pm	Evensong	
12 Thursday	7 pm	Mothers' Union - Visit to Ortons, Jewellers	Shop
15 SUNDAY		SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	9.30 am	Family Communion & Holy Baptism	
	11, 15 am	Holy Baptism	
	6 pm	Service of Prayer for Hope and Health	
22 SUNDAY		THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	6 pm	Sung Evensong	Church
29 SUNDAY		FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	11 am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Hall
	6 pm	Songs of Praise	Church

Parish News Copy Date for May is 15th April

'From the Registers' is on page 23

GROWING



Holy Trinity

Sunday School

LEARNING

Sunday School News for the Month

On Sunday 25th the Sunday-School children and Team wanted to show their appreciation to Celia by presenting her with a bouquet of flowers and a card made at Sunday School, for all the dedication and care that she has given to Sunday School over the years. They hope that she will enjoy her new rôle as sides-person.

The love she has given, came through as she shared God's love with the children. Telling Bible stories, singing songs at Nativities, Following the Cross at Easter, End-of-year Picnics and on many, many other occasions, Celia has always been there.



photo Alison Cook

Thank you Celia.

Alison, June, Karen, Sue, and the children

THANK-YOU TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

It certainly was a well kept secret- We all love secrets!! And what a BIG surprise I had on Sunday 25th February.

Thank you so much to you all.

I was quite overwhelmed and so delighted to see the children with their smiling faces and good wishes.

When Father Bill announced that Sunday School would be doing a presentation I thought, "How lovely, I'm glad I came this morning, I wonder what they are going to do?" And then I realised when you all looked at ME, it was going to be for me! Wow!... I was quite astounded!

What happy memories to treasure, along with all the others I have of my Sunday School days with you all. The flowers were just beautiful, and the card so colourful and thoughtfully made. I shall always be so grateful for the joy I have had from Sunday School, and for the enormous privilege of teaching such lovely children.

My hope and prayer is that Sunday School will continue to flourish, and be a happy place where children can learn of the wonderful love of Jesus, so that He will be their very best life-long friend, to trust and love.

With my love and thanks to you all again.



photo David Milne

From Celia Milne

Crossword solutions

Across: 8 Showers 9 Intro 10 Altar 11 Ephraim 12 Lent 14 Strength 17 Suzerain 19 Wrap 21 Warrior 22 Weave 24 Satis 25 Apostle
Down: 1 Israelis 2 Boot 3 Weary 4 Ascent 5 Fighter 6 Stranger 7 Loom 13 Nazareth 15 Happened 16 Traipse 18 Inroad 20 Swoop 21 Wash 23 Acts

PARISH PROFILE

Val Payne



photo David Milne

Val was born in Bath just a few weeks before the Bath blitz. Her father was a local magistrate and a chairman of the Bench who helped to raise money for the Gilbert Houses, used for people coming out of prison, and he was awarded the MBE for his part in this. Val was educated at the City of Bath Girls School and in 1960 went to St Mary's College Cheltenham to train as a primary school teacher.

After she qualified in 1963 she went to teach in St Saviour's Junior School in Bath. After her marriage in 1964 she continued teaching until her daughter Nicola was born in 1967. She thoroughly enjoyed her life at home with her baby and two years later she had a son Anthony. In her early years she helped in running a nursery. 1970 saw a move to Bradford on Avon followed by a divorce, when she found herself bringing up two small children on her own. Near neighbours and friends Joan and Gordon Finch were a great help and Val was able to help them with baby-sitting.

When Nicola and Anthony started school Val returned to teaching at Bradford on Avon County Junior School, later named Fitzmaurice Primary, and she remained there for 27 years. On her retirement in 2001 she was able to spend more time doing 'grand-mother's duties' with her five grand-children, something she really enjoys. Nicola and her husband with their three children — Zoe aged 13,

Jess 11, and Annabel 1 — live in Tamworth and are very active members of their church, doing youth work and running the church camp, and this has also involved Val. Anthony has his own computer business in Chippenham and is married with two sons, Matthew aged 16 and Lewis aged 9.

Since retirement Val volunteered to help at the Bradford on Avon Hospital, now sadly closed. She enjoys helping the Health Visitors at the post-natal crèche at the Youth Centre where she looks after babies aged between 2 weeks and 6 months. Another real interest is helping once a month at the Conservation Group run by Leo Wirtz, the Senior Countryside Ranger, in clearing areas in the Country Park. She feels this is a pay-back for the many happy hours spent walking her Jack Russell in the Park. In the group, apparently, she is known as 'Mrs Kipling' because she makes exceedingly good cakes!

Val also helps at the Thursday Club, serving lunches, washing up and enjoying the company of some 'lovely elderly ladies'. She also belongs to, supports, and enjoys the new Saxon club on Tuesdays and has also agreed to join in the brass cleaning rota for the church. I would guess there is not much spare time left but she does enjoy reading, listening to music and eating out, especially at the Thai Barn, and admits to being an 8 o'clocker who enjoys the peace of the 8am service. She says she has also appreciated her participation in several of the wonderful Parish Holidays organised so brilliantly by Chris Hodge.

Pat Kitchen

Saxon Club Programme April 2007

We meet in the Church Hall at 2 pm on Tuesdays.

You are very welcome to join us.

April 3 rd	Gill Winfield – Millennium Embroidery
April 10 th	No meeting
April 17 th	Ann Holland – Travels
April 24 th	Rev. Keith Crouch – Dorothy House

Easter Eggs and the Easter Bunny

Eggs are special. Because they embody new life they have long been represented as the ultimate symbols of renewal and resurrection, so it is not surprising that they have been associated with the Christian Easter and its attendant festivities. In mediæval times hard-boiled eggs, dyed in cochineal or beetroot juice were given to children to protect them from ill-health. On Easter Monday children would call from house to house begging for hard-boiled eggs, known as 'pace' or 'peace' eggs to be used in complicated egg-rolling or egg-tapping games. Names and flowers and leaf decorations were drawn on the eggs with a wax candle before they were dipped in the dye.



But what about the Easter Bunny? Rabbits were once reputed to lay eggs on Easter Sunday, but it is most likely that our Easter Bunny is descended from a mysterious egg-laying hare, the sacred moon-hare of Eostre, the Saxon dawn goddess. So when we munch our delicious Easter eggs we are unconsciously making a direct connection with the beliefs and Spring rites of our ancestors.

Pagan celebration of the miraculous return of light and life to the natural world foreshadowed our Christian Easter celebration of the invincible power of the resurrected Christ to overcome death and renew our lives in His spirit.

Margaret Harris

All Fool's Day

In years gone by, the rules surrounding April Fool were this: between midnight and noon on 1st April, everyone is 'fair game' to be made a fool of. It is the morning of the practical joke. But the aim is not just to discomfit the victim: he must be tricked into taking action himself, sent on a 'fool's errand'. And so children would be sent to the dairy for a pint of dove's milk, or to the bookseller for *The Life of Eve's Mother*. Practical jokes on a bigger scale were played: in 1860 a vast number of people received an official looking invitation to the Tower of London that read: 'Admit the Bearer and Friends to view the Annual Ceremony of Washing the White Lions.' Precisely the same trick had been played in 1698.

Then, on the stroke of noon, tradition decrees, April Fools is finished. If anyone attempts devilry thereafter, even while the clock is still striking, it recoils on his own head. A child would then race through the sing-song formula : 'April-Fool-Day's-past-and-gone-you're-the-fool-and-I-am-none!'

Source: Parish Pump

PASSIONTIDE AND HOLY WEEK

It is still uncertain when Christians first began to make an annual (as opposed to a weekly) memorial of the death and resurrection of Christ. This *Pasca* (a word derived indirectly from *pesach*, Hebrew 'Passover') was at first a night-long vigil, followed by the celebration of the Eucharist at cock-crow, and all the great themes of redemption were included within it – incarnation, suffering, death, resurrection, glorification. Over time the *Pasca* developed into the articulated structure of Holy Week and Easter. Through participation in the whole sequence of the service the Christian shares in Christ's own journey, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to the empty tomb on Easter morning. The procession with palms, which was already observed in Jerusalem in the fourth century, is accompanied by the reading or singing of the Passion narrative, in which the whole story of the week is anticipated. Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, 'commandment', because of the use of John 13:34 in the Antiphon) contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ's washing of his disciples' feet, the institution of the Eucharist, the perfection of Christ's loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane.

After keeping vigil ('Could you not watch with me one hour?'), Thursday passes into Good Friday with its two characteristic episodes. The veneration of the Cross is older, the sequence of meditations and music known as the Three Hours' Devotion was introduced into the Church of England in the nineteenth century. The first is now sometimes incorporated into the structure of the second. It is a widespread custom for there not to be a celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday, but for the consecrated bread and wine remaining from the Maundy Thursday Eucharist to be given in communion. The church remains stripped of all decoration. It continues bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without liturgy – there can be no adequate way of recalling the being dead of the Son of God other than silence and desolation. But within the silence there grows a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as the Easter vigil draws near.

The solemn season preserves some of the oldest texts still in current use, and rehearses the deepest and most fundamental Christian memories. At the same time, the service and ceremonies of Holy Week have, in the course of Christian history, been the occasion of, or have actively encouraged, hostility towards the Jews. The 'Ioudaioi' of St. John's Gospel have all too easily been identified with 'the Jews' as a whole, or more specifically those Jews who were neighbours of a Christian church. This, places a double responsibility on those who lead the keeping of Holy Week today to be faithful to the act of collective memory, but also to be sensitive to the ways in which an unreflecting use of traditional texts (like the Reproaches) can perpetuate a strain of Christian anti-Semitism.

Archbishop's Council, 2006.

THE EASTER LITURGY

According to ancient custom, there is no celebration of the Eucharist on Easter Eve. The orders of Morning and Evening Prayer offer adequate liturgical provision for the day. It is particularly important that Evening Prayer should be treated, by the style of its celebration, as belonging to the Eve, and not as the first service of Easter, anticipating the Easter liturgy itself.

From earliest times, Christians have gathered through the night of Easter to recall the story of God's saving work, from creation through to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. However, the Easter Liturgy is not merely a presentation of God's work. It is meant to be a real experience of new life for the worshipper, a passing from darkness to light which offers hope to all the faithful. It is therefore important that the preparation is prayerful and thorough.

The Easter Vigil marks the end of the emptiness of Holy Saturday and leads into the celebration of Christ's resurrection. The singing of the Exultet, the ancient hymn of triumph and rejoicing, links this night of our Christian redemption to the Passover night of Israel's redemption out of Egypt. Christian baptism is a participation in the death and resurrection of Christ, a dying to sin in order to be reborn in him, and the Easter Vigil was from early Christian times a preferred occasion for baptism. It is fittingly a time when those who are already Christians repeat with renewed commitment the promises of their own baptism, and strengthen their sense of incorporation into the royal and priestly ministry of the whole people of God. The Easter Gospel is proclaimed with all the joy and splendour that the Church can find.

The Easter Eucharist may follow immediately on the Vigil, or be deferred until Easter Day. All the resources of the church – music, flowers, bells, colours – are used to celebrate Christ's resurrection. The 'Alleluia', which has been silent throughout Lent, returns.

Now the queen of seasons bright,
With the day of splendour
With the royal feast of feasts,
Comes its joy to render.

(John of Damascus)

Archbishop's Council, 2006.



HOLY TRINITY MOTHERS' UNION

We had an excellent turnout of 21 members and 2 visitors for our March meeting, when we were welcoming Canon Peter Hardman to talk on 'Flowers of Faith'. Joy Stenning did the prayers, and I was able to report, following on from them, that I had heard from Harare via email, and knew that the leader of our link branch there, was O.K. She and her husband are living out of town at present as he is recovering from heart trouble. I'd also had a phone call earlier that evening from Joan Dering, as I'd emailed her to tell her we wouldn't go without Simnel cake when we do the posies for Mothering Sunday, as Joy made one this year! She was pleased her tradition would carry on, and said she'd be thinking about us, as we indeed will be thinking about her when we are doing them.

The Notices included lots of references to the Manchester Visit on the 22nd. Even those not involved in the hosting, etc., can pray for the visit. It has been well planned, so we hope it will go off well. The branch were reminded to save 5ps for Overseas, a big Diocesan project this year, when the Overseas Fund is being called on a lot to help in so many places.

Sunday, 18th March brings Beryl & John Cox to their 40th Wedding Anniversary, we had a signed card for them, but as I'd left it with someone last Sunday, it had been left in church, and it seemed as though half the congregation had signed it as well!

Handing over to Peter, he led us on a journey from Christmas to Trinity Sunday, with plants, or pictures of plants to depict each Festival. At Christmas, the Christmas Rose, Candlemas Bells (Snowdrops), and he still had some to show us! The Lenten Rose, (Hellebore), and the Passion Flower, showing us on the picture, the various marks of the Passion. The Resurrection Plant (Rose of Jericho, or Mary's Hand), which looks like a dried up ball, but when left in water, opens out to a mossy-looking plate. The Chinese Missionary Plant, which isn't commercially available, so can only be had as a gift, and I was the lucky recipient of the one Peter brought!

Aquilegia, named from the Latin for 'Dove', which the flowers resemble, and so a symbol of the Holy Spirit and Pentecost, and finally the Shamrock, resembling the Trinity.

It was a most interesting and illuminating talk, which we all thoroughly enjoyed, we wait, with interest, to see what his next one is going to be! We thanked both him and Frances, without whose nurturing there probably wouldn't be any plants, and who also provided her famous Irish Brack for our refreshments.

Our next meeting had to be brought forward to the 2nd Thursday, i.e. 12th April, because of the Greek trip, so please meet at Ortons, the Jewellers at 7pm.

Chris Hodge

Women's World Day of Prayer, 2007

On the first Friday in March, always the day for Women's World Day of Prayer, St. Thomas More was packed with over a hundred women, and a few men. The service this year was by the women of Paraguay, and entitled 'Under God's Tent'. Jonquil Burgess, Ann Peeks & Liz Harris had done a magnificent display of the flowers, plants and fruits of Paraguay, which was much admired as people came in. Jonquil, Ann & Kate Wiggins started the service under a length of cloth with a pole holding it up – depicting the tent, from where they described the geography and colours of the country, as they had shown it through the display. We learnt a few words of the language, enough to say 'God bless you' to our neighbours, and this was followed by prayers of Praise, Thanksgiving, & Confession, interspersed with worship songs, led by the choir from Holy Trinity and Christ Church ladies. Marion Harford played the organ, and Muriel had helped us to learn the songs. The Bible reading from Genesis 18 - Abraham and Sarah being told they would become parents, was brought alive for us by Sybil Mitchell, we really heard Sarah laughing! Some pupils from St. Laurence, and some young women from Bearfield Congregational became the Voices of the People of Paraguay, followed by a reading from Ephesians 4.

Our speaker was Jeanne Blowers from Hilperton, who asked us to talk to our neighbours for 2 minutes, and find out their names, the colour of their eyes, and their size in shoes. Much noise and laughter, but she showed us how we should communicate with people, and find out about their problems, etc. She asked us to go away, and label the flowers on the front of the programme with the names of people who have helped us through our spiritual lives. A most inspiring address. The collection taken, which goes to the work of the WWDP, amounted to nearly £160, the best one ever.

Next year the service will be at Christ Church, on Friday 8th March, provided by the women of Guyana, entitled 'God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding'. Shall we see you there?

Chris Hodge

Women's Day of Prayer in Australia

When I was away, I wanted to go to the Women's Day of Prayer service. I was in Bunbury, Western Australia, and I thought that the best place to find out where the service was being held would be in the Cathedral. Luckily it was open as a man was doing some maintenance. He said his wife would be at the service, along with other members of the congregation. I told him I was an MU member and he asked why I wasn't wearing my badge!

The service was held in the newly built Seventh Day Adventist Church, which had a large hall attached. Represented were the United, Seventh Day Adventist, Baptist, Anglican and Catholic Churches. After the service I met the Cathedral ladies — the Bishop's wife, the Dean's wife and the Area President of the MU among them. I enjoyed the service very much and I was also conscious that some eight hours later the same service would be taking place in Bradford on Avon.

Beryl Cox

STREET MARKET, WESTBURY GARDENS, SAT 7th JULY 2007

An early and gentle reminder for your diaries that our biggest annual fundraiser will take place in Westbury Gardens on Saturday 7th July. Since this is about the time of year that our thoughts may turn to Spring-cleaning and sorting out cupboards, please bear in mind that, starting **today**, if you would like anything collected and stored until July, then 'we can fix it'.

The same Church stalls as last year will be running again this year :-

- TOYS (to suit children of all ages)
- PLANTS (take cuttings now please)
- RAFFLE (assorted prizes required)
- BOTTLE TOMBOLA (300+ needed, please start collecting NOW)
- BOOKS (let someone else enjoy that good read, fiction or non-fiction)
- PANTRY (don't start baking yet though)
- BRIC-A-BRAC* (all your 'dust collectors' including CD's and records)
- SAXON CLUB (See Angela for needs)
- TEAS & REFRESHMENTS (see below)



The names of stallholders and contact numbers will appear in next month's Parish News, but the first point of contact this year is 862224.

Assistance with teas will be welcome (please see Ann Carter), and once again this year we seek the services of a 'Master of the Awnings' to help erect (and remove) the church stalls awnings on the day of the event. This is an important task and will require an organiser with a 'Meccano' sort of mind to oversee setting up of awnings for the various stalls.

* A quiet word about the bric-a-brac this year. Please ensure that your contributions are in reasonable condition, and are saleable items. Our customers at the Street Market are quite discerning, and at the close of business last year there remained quite a lot of unsold 'non-descript' bric-a-brac. So when Bill asks us for "quality bric-a-brac" contributions for fundraising, please make a conscious effort to leave the nondescript items for another collector.

We managed the grand total of £2,845 last year and, with everyone's continued support, we might even do better this year. Remember, stall-holders can collect and store your pre-loved items at any time.

David Rawstron

An occasion that moved me

The inauguration of General Synod, November 1985, Westminster Abbey. The service is a Eucharist.

A VISION OF THE INVISIBLE

This holy body, high and lifted up;
These particles of human love divine,
are here presented unto thee, O God.
Behold! our Saviour in the Bread and Wine.
One mystery of purpose here portrayed,
a living, moving being all thine own.
O Holy Spirit, Three-in-One, now flowing
with grace to catch the breath of things unknown.

Jonquil Burgess

CHRISTIAN AID

The secret to growth for poor communities — GOOD SOIL.

Twenty-two thousand churches. Churches passionate enough about God's, love for poor people to work together to put it into action.

See growth this Christian Aid week 13th - 19th May 2007.

Pray for change. Encourage for justice. Enthuse to go beyond church into community.

Christian Aid Week is more than a door-to-door collection. It is rooted in the life-giving soil of church action. It is a powerful witness, uniting hundreds of thousands of people from many denominations and networks in taking their faith beyond the church. It challenges millions more people throughout the UK and Ireland to take issues of love and justice seriously. Its actions provide seeds for growth that are multiplied many times over for poor communities.

- Seeds and tree-planting seminars in Senegal.
 - Disaster preparedness for vulnerable communities in El Salvador.
 - Water for remote villages in Afghanistan.
- And much more. These all add up to changed lives.

WHAT WILL OUR CHURCH ADD?

Jonquil Burgess, Christian Aid Representative for Holy Trinity

Photo from the Past: The Choir 1992

This photograph shows the 'Holy Trinity Music Group' before it became the 'Ladies' Choir' which, in turn, developed into the ladies section of the full choir as we know it today.

At one time there were more instrumentalists. Here, Jonathan Lees was our excellent clarinettist and Antony Matthews, who was also a choir member under Vernon Burchell, was our able violinist. We had previously lost Gabriel and Aaron Burchell, both violinists, who went as choristers



to Salisbury Cathedral, so hastening the day when the remaining young people also moved on and we became the 'Ladies' Choir'.

In the back row are Jenny Patience, Ann Holland, Pauline Lambie, Margaret Piper, and Beryl Cox. In the middle row are Kathleen Thompson, Margaret Dowling, Joan Godwin and Barbara Blakiston, and in the front row are Molly Wedge, Muriel Freeborn, Sally Sweet, Alice Moody, Win Sparrow and Bunty Johns.

Unfortunately, I haven't a photograph of the first days of the 'Music Group' which was started by our then Curate Christopher Moorsom, but I do remember that after an advertisement in Parish News for singers when I took over, only Win Sparrow came forward! She had a lovely alto voice, and soon others followed to join.

Muriel Freeborn

A Reader Running – the Final Frontier!

Having completed the Watford half-marathon on 4th February, Graham now faces the Bath Half on Sunday 25th March 2007, and the ultimate challenge of the full marathon at Taunton on Sunday 1st April 2007.

We wish him luck, but remind him to get good running shoes because, as is well known, Marathon runners with bad footwear suffer the agony of defeat!

Interfaith and the Shariah Law

Recently over sixty adults and children of all faiths met at the Civic Hall in Trowbridge to listen to a talk by Imam Ilyas Ismail, who divides his time at mosques between Bristol, Gloucester and Trowbridge. Interestingly, there were almost as many Muslims present as people of other faiths.



We were told that all aspects of a Muslim's life are governed by Shariah Law which comes from a combination of sources including the Holy Qur'an, the Hadith (sayings and conduct of the prophet Muhammed) and fatwas – the rulings of Islamic scholars.

It needs a special kind of skill to explain such a complex subject to a mixed group and the subsequent questions from Muslims and Christians demonstrated a deep concern over such matters as terrorism when interpreted by extremists of any religion, showing a need for clearer explanation.

Afterwards refreshments were served and the opportunity to meet and discuss was appreciated by some who said they had learned and understood more by talking to each other, an optimistic note to end on although there is much more to learn, and we thank Farzana Saker for her efforts to bring together all People of the Book and others.

Ann Holland

Interfaith Group Meeting.

The power of God to heal: or is it mind over matter?

An open discussion led by Keith Simpson on Tuesday 17th April at 7.00pm at the Christian Science Church, 5 Ash Walk, Warminster. BA12 8PY.

Cake Recipe Solutions

In the order shown in the list of ingredients on page 22, the required constituents are flour, butter, sugar, raisins, figs, almonds, honey, spice, milk, eggs, and salt.

Shoe Box Update

I often wonder about our shoe boxes, and try to picture the children, still treasuring the gifts they were given.

Especially when I feel a bit shivery and decide to turn up the central heating! I think of the children, perhaps glad of their warm hats and gloves to keep out some of the cold this winter.

It was good to receive a letter from Simon Barrington, the Executive Director of Samaritan's Purse. This letter was sent to us, and to almost 4,000 other Churches too. I will put it up on the notice board in Church for you to read if you wish.

Simon writes:

In 2006, thousands of individuals filled shoe boxes with gifts for needy children. The number of donated boxes added up to a staggering **1.24 million** shoe boxes from people like you across the UK. This is an incredible achievement that impacts children in 12 countries throughout Eastern Europe and Africa. Thanks to YOU a child's life somewhere has been affected, all because of a simple act of love wrapped up in a shoe box.

We were thrilled that almost 4,000 churches participated this year and we want to thank you for being one of them. **The support that Operation Christmas Child receives from Churches like yours is very important to us.**

One of our distributions in December took place at a rubbish dump in Serbia. The mother in one of the families told the team that she had nothing but raw potatoes to feed her family for breakfast. The family lives underneath a bridge and they are not used to kindness. When her daughter opened the shoe box and found lovely clean toys, she was dumbfounded. The mother told the team that she simply could not understand why anyone from the U.K. would care enough to bother about them.

Thanks to our supporters, Samaritan's Purse is able to work to help provide hope to children all year round, not just at Christmas. Our programmes focus on working with vulnerable children in almost one hundred countries across the world, providing food, shelter, clean water, education, vocational training, and alleviation of disease.

One of these countries is Liberia. Here we are helping children recover from a civil war that saw their lives, their families, as well as their country, torn apart.



As part of this commitment, Samaritan's Purse has established safe homes to provide basic daily and medical/ psychological support, and skills programmes to help them learn new skills and trades. We are hoping to raise as much money as possible to fund projects in Liberia. Please consider supporting this work.

Thank you for your continued support, your prayers, your boxes, your gifts and your love for the children we serve together. Together we can make an even bigger difference — in Jesus's name.

If you are able to visit the website www.samaritanspurse.uk.com you will find a marvellous presentation with pictures of some of the children receiving their shoe boxes, also lots of other information of the vital work of Samaritan's Purse around the world.

If you can help in any way, perhaps by knitting for the shoe boxes, hats, scarves gloves/mitts are always needed — joining my amazing team of knitters, please contact me I would love to hear from you.

Celia Milne, 01225 864341

Music at Salisbury: Pipe Up!

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS - LAUNCH EVENT

The Diocese of Salisbury and the Salisbury Cathedral Outreach Team are organising *Pipe Up!*, a special day in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday 27th October aimed at encouraging young musicians to learn the organ. Both Cathedral organists, David Halls and Daniel Cook will be present to support the event. They will be playing duets and solo items on the Cathedral 'Father Willis' organ and a large electronic organ provided by Copeman Hart which will also feature in a 'battle of the organs' in an entertaining public concert at the end of the day.

Children from primary schools across the region will be invited to come and play the organs and listen to demonstrations. There will also be fairground organs, barrel organs, paper organs and competitions. Video screens will be used for the audience to see the players close up and music will be provided for a 'silent movie'.

Children and parents will be able to attend group workshops at suitable venues with qualified teachers on exciting instruments. Sherborne Abbey and School, Wimborne Minster, Bryanston School, Milton Abbey School, St. Mary's Dorchester, Swanage Parish Church and Farley Church have agreed to host workshops. The Diocese of Salisbury, supported financially by The Tindall Trust are wanting to invest in the future generation of church organists and wish to encourage and support young musicians who want to learn the organ.

For further details, contact the Salisbury Diocesan Music Advisor:

Robert Fielding, fieldings4@btopenworld.com, 01722 741154

More Musical Memories

Ann's excellent article last month made me think of the favourite pieces that would go with me to a desert island. As a 10-year old going to grammar school, I declined to go in the Welsh class, knowing I'd face my mother's wrath when I got home, but I did learn some Welsh, mostly hymns from my Welsh chapel days. However, I still find the Welsh National anthem very stirring, and always sing it with Katherine Jenkins before an international!

I had to have piano lessons as a child, but was never terribly interested, as my music teacher chose such awful things for me to play, and I hated the exams I had to take! However, I chose to do Music for my Welsh Joint Education Committee exams, and was allowed to choose my pieces. My choice of Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata, and a waltz by Coleridge Taylor were right for me, and got me a Credit, so the Beethoven has always been a great favourite. I had a record of it, played by Solomon, in which I knew he played a wrong note!

The War March of the Priests from Mendelssohn's 'Athelie' became a favourite in my late teens, and I wanted it played at our wedding, for me to walk into church (some would think it very appropriate, I know!). However, the organist didn't know it, and wouldn't play it, and played Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring instead. It sounded like a hurdy-gurdy, and I've never been fond of it since.

Gerald, I found, had not been brought up in a musical household, so knew little about music. However, with constant playing of records, he did start to recognise things other than the Barcarolle from The Tales of Hoffman, and eventually he decided he loved The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Verdi's 'Nabucco'. On a visit to Paris, we toured the beautiful Opera House, where there was a magnificent display of costumes, and going up the stairs into the auditorium, the music that greeted us was that chorus. It's been a joyful memory ever since.

Having sung a good many major works with the Bradford Choral Society, I think my most favourite work is the Verdi Requiem, which we sang as the first major concert in the new Wiltshire Music Centre, to a packed house, the only time we ever filled it! We also sang it several times in the Albert Hall under the baton of Sir David Willcocks, which was really thrilling. Gerald sang with us for a short time, and we both enjoy Fauré's Requiem and the Cantique De Jean Racine.

I can't complete the list without hymns: so many favourites, but one in particular 'How Great Thou Art'. I shall always remember Marion Phillips being taken to an Aled Jones concert on Clifton Downs, a little while before she died. Her daughter had written to Aled to ask him to sing it for Marion, and Marion's joy, not only in the hymn, but in the fact that he dedicated it to her, was lovely to see.

My mother and father both had lovely voices, I've always said I was behind

the door when good voices were given out, but Oh, I have enjoyed singing, as many of my old guides would testify. We had some great camp-fires, and I think those evenings in camp became a very special time for me, and I hoped, for them. It didn't do much for my voice, which, when I started serious singing, needed a lot of training to lose the harshness. I will always be grateful to Muriel Freeborn for her help in that. My last choice of music is for a short anthem, always heard at Fitzmaurice Grammar School Speech Days 'Lead Me, Lord', part of which I have sung as a solo in Holy Trinity, (fame at 70+!), when my husband didn't even recognise me!

Chris Hodge

A Good Read

'I can't wait to tell you about this book I've been reading!' How often have you heard that? This month I have chosen a very special book but I hope that many of you will feel enthusiastic enough to write about your choices in the months to come.



I have been reading *Blood and Sand* by Frank Gardner, the BBC Security Correspondent. It was published in 2006, the paperback edition appearing early this year. BBC World Affairs Editor, John Simpson, writes a glowing Foreword.

Many people will have seen Frank sitting in his wheelchair talking to George Alagiah and Natasha Kaplinsky on the six o'clock BBC news programme. Against all odds he survived an attack which killed his friend and cameraman when covering a news story in Saudi Arabia in June 2004. Frank was left for dead and now is partly paralysed.

As a young man he was inspired by the explorer Wilfred Thesiger and became a fluent Arabist with a degree in Arabic and Islamic studies.

His accounts of spine-chilling incidents are told with realism and often humour but it is his amazing lack of bitterness and total love of the people he meets that is striking.

This book covers the last twenty five years of Middle Eastern turmoil but it is not all violence and bombs. The early chapters cover Frank's introduction to living with the Bedouin in the deserts of Arabia, learning Arabic in the back-streets of Cairo, and riding through Sudan on the roof of a train!

Frank's story is clearly and honestly told, capturing his determination to survive at all costs.

Ann Holland

Anselm (1033 – 1109)

Anselm is a good saint to remember next time someone asks you to prove that there is a God. His brilliant and original Proslogion, written 1077-8, sets out the 'ontological' proof for God's existence. Nearly ten centuries later, it is still studied by theological students as one of the great philosophical 'proofs' of God's existence.

Anselm was born at Aosta, the son of a spendthrift Lombard nobleman, whom Anselm detested. In time he decided to become a Benedictine monk, and joined Lanfranc's famous monastery at Bec (ca 1060). He became Prior, then Abbot. He was loved by his monks, appreciated for his sensitivity and intuitiveness. He remained friends also with Lanfranc, who had gone on to be Archbishop of Canterbury. After his death, Anselm reluctantly agreed to accept the job.

Archbishops did not have press offices in those days, but Anselm made his views on Church-versus-King known all the same, and they did not please the King. William Rufus exiled him in 1097 and King Henry I exiled him in 1103. Anselm was utterly committed to what he saw as the cause of God and the Church, and had no time for temporal politics. Peace between archbishop and monarch was not achieved until 1106.

Anselm spent the rest of his life in England. His theological stance of 'Faith seeking understanding' and 'the mind at faith's service' were the keys to his life and teaching.

Source: Parish Pump



Does this look weird?

Believe it or not, you can read it...

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wlohe.

Curhcwdenasrh

A blood-red moon: March 1988:

Thoughts on seeing a red moon low over Bath, from the top of Ashton Hill above Corston, on the way to a Womens' World Day of Prayer Service. Also Venus and Jupiter were close together in the sky.

THE BLOOD-RED MOON

O, the wonder of it!
The awesome wonder!
But why red, Lord?
See, there it hangs low over Bath
Like some enormous beach ball,
Deep, dusky red.
Our round world, Lord,
Is that red too?
Red with blood.
Torments of a violent planet earth
Where jealousies and hates go circling round.
O, blood-red moon,
Your silent presence
Helps to spin
My thoughts into a contemplation
Of the searing pain disfiguring
This precious orb.
And yet, and yet, O Lord,
Like some bright star,
Your Cross calls
Sinners home to you in love.
Blood shed, and outstretched arms
 Embracing all.
 Jonquil Burgess



The blood-red moon during the eclipse of March 3rd, 2007, seen through the co-editor's telescope.

A Biblical Cake for Easter

Results not guaranteed unless the Authorized Version of the Bible is used!

Vicky Codrington contributed this recipe to the original Holy Trinity Church cook book (1983).

Ingredients:

340g (12oz)	Kings I ch 4 v 22
170g (6oz)	Judges ch 5 v 25
170g (6oz)	Jeremiah ch 6 v 20
225g (8oz)	Samuel I ch 30 v 12
170g (6oz)	Nahum ch 3 v 12
55g (2oz)	Numbers I ch 17 v 8
2 tablespoons	Samuel I ch 14 v 25
½ teaspoon	Chronicles II ch 9 v 9
1 cup	Judges ch 4 v 19
3	Luke ch 11 v 12
1 pinch	Genesis ch 19 v 26

Method:

Beat Judges 5 and Jeremiah together till white. Add sifted Kings and beaten Luke alternately.

Chop Samuel, Nahum and Numbers and add all other ingredients.

Place in a lined, greased cake tin and bake in a slow to moderate oven for about 2 hours.

for prayer in april

We pray:

- to enter more deeply into the meaning of Christ's sacrificial love revealed on the Cross
- to show that love towards God and towards all that we meet
- to live our lives in the power of Christ's Resurrection
- for all the suffering people of Africa, and especially for those caught up in the troubles of Zimbabwe and Darfur
- for the life of our parish as another Annual Church meeting approaches

BISHOP STEPHEN AT HOLY TRINITY

We look forward very much to having Bishop Stephen as our president and preacher at our Sung Eucharist on Sunday, 6th May.

Don't break 'em

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments," answered the lady politely.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

11.3 Jasmine Ruby Purnell

6.3 Edna Sutcliffe

15.3 Ena Beatrice Dunbar

16.3 Kenneth George Cleverly

Funerals

26.2 Joan Ward

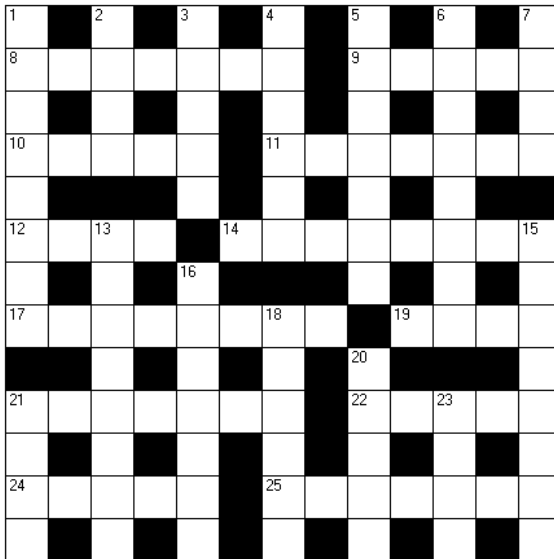
Quick Crossword

Clues across

- 8 Rainy spells common at this time (7)
- 9 Opening passage of a piece of music (5)
- 10 Moses built one in Exodus ch. 17 (5)
- 11 Second son of Joseph and Asenath in Genesis ch. 41 (7)
- 12 Period of fasting usually ending in April (4)
- 14 ..will stir up his _____ and courage (Dan 11.25) (8)
- 17 Feudal overlord (8)
- 19 Envelop, as Jesus was enveloped in Luke ch. 2 (4)
- 21 Better a patient man than this, says Proverbs ch. 16 (7)
- 22 Make cloth on a 7 down (5)
- 24 Name of Miss Havisham's house in Great Expectations(5)
- 25 Person sent to preach the gospel (7)

Clues down

- 1 Present inhabitants of the Promised Land (8)
- 2 ..every warrior's ____ used in battle (Isa 9.5) (4)
- 3 Tired (5)
- 4 ..from a point facing the _____ (Neh 3.19) (6)
- 5 Benaiah, in 2 Samuel ch. 23, was a valiant one (7)
- 6 Sheep will never follow one, according to John ch. 10 (8)
- 7 Cloth-making machine in Judges ch. 16 (4)
- 13 Home town of Jesus (8)
- 15 Occurred (8)
- 16 Trudge (7)
- 18 Incursion (6)
- 20 Dive down like the eagle in Jeremiah ch. 49 (5)
- 21 ..he will ____ his garments in wine (Gen 49.11) (4)
- 23 Fifth book of the NT (4)



Solutions on page 4

Source: Parish Pump

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - OFFICERS

Canon Bill Matthews (Chairman)	Tony Haffenden (Churchwarden)
Joan Finch (Churchwarden & V/C)	Jeremy Lavis (Hon. Secretary)
Dr Malcolm Walsh (Hon. Treasurer)	Revd Angela Onions (ex officio)
Pat Astill vacancy	Graham Baldock
Janet Brown	Karen Bowen-Nielsen
Bob Cherry	Michelle Carter
Trevor Ford	Mary Ford
June Harrison	Bryan Harris
Cecilia Hynes-Higman	Ann Holland (Publicity Officer)
John Woods	Anne Willis

STANDING/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Vicar; Churchwardens; Secretary; Treasurer.

CHURCHWARDENS EMERITI

Norman Hanney, Jeremy Lavis, Mike Fuller, Anne Carter

FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Patron: Dr Alex Moulton
Secretary: *vacancy*
Committee:

Ex officio:

Chairman: Bob Cherry
Treasurer: John Woods
Anne Carter; Bryan Harris; Jeremy Lavis;
Revd Angela Onions; Mike Smith
Canon Bill Matthews; Joan Finch; Tony Haffenden

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BRADFORD GROUP MINISTRY

This comprises the three benefices of Holy Trinity, Christ Church with Westwood and Wingfield, and Monkton Farleigh, South Wraxall and Winsley. The clergy meet regularly for prayer and shared planning, and there is an informal Group Council consisting of the licensed clergy and churchwardens, with Readers. The Group was established in 1975.

OTHER OFFICERS & ORGANISERS

PCC Secretary	Jeremy Lavis	863600
PCC Treasurer	Dr Malcolm Walsh	862702
Bellringers	Phil Gaisford	863538
Bookstall	Revd Angela Onions	309001
Brass Cleaning	Chris Hodge	863543
Brownies	Jennifer Hazell	863860
Choir	Gareth Bennett	01380 728772
Church Stewards	David Milne	864341
Church Hall Bookings	Anne Carter	862146
		or 07981 742361
Coffee on Sunday	George and Ivy Hurst	868795
Display Co-ordinator	Revd Angela Onions	309001
Electoral Roll Officer	Pat Irving	862903
Flowers	Jonquil Burgess	868905
Guides	Judith Holland	866215
Midsummer Market	David Rawstron	862224
Mothers' Union	Chris Hodge	863543
MU Prayer Circle	Chris Hodge	863543
Publicity Officer	Ann Holland	862731
Servers	Mary Ford	868587
Sidesman's Rota	Joan Finch	863878
Stewardship Secretary	Brian Netley	866121
Sunday School	Karen Bowen-Nielsen	07732 786440
Vergers	Peter Wills	867593

Parish Representatives on other organisations:

Bradford Group Council:	The Churchwardens
Children's Society:	Anne Carter
Christian Aid:	Jonquil Burgess
Deanery Synod:	Bob Cherry; June Harrison, Revd. Angela Onions; Dr Malcolm Walsh; John Woods; Anne Willis (Deanery Information Officer)
Churches Together:	David Rawstron

*Cover picture from a drawing by Frances Taylor.
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