

# **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

Bradford on Avon



## **PARISH NEWS**

### **SEPTEMBER 2008**

web edition

# DIRECTORY

## Vicar

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

## Parish Deacon

Rev Angela Onions      27 Berryfield Road      309001

## Retired Clergy

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

## Licensed Lay Ministers

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

;

## 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      6.30 pm      Church, Tuesdays  
Sunday School      9.30 am      Church Hall  
Mothers' Union      7.30 pm      Church Hall, (usually) 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
Bell Practice      7.30–9 pm      2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays

Parish Web-site      [www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk](http://www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk)

Diocese Web-site      [www.salisbury.anglican.org](http://www.salisbury.anglican.org)

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

## FROM THE VICAR

As I was vesting in the Sacristy this morning, my eye fell on the Church Service Notice for the following week. It referred to 'Monica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo'. I could imagine all the feminists rising up in wrath! And it can certainly be a difficult notion — the idea that our sole importance is our relationship to someone else.

I have every sympathy with those people (it's usually been women in the past but that's changing), who find themselves defined as 'the ..... of' someone in a public position in life. These days we demand to be known as people in our own right, with our particular abilities and talents, and our distinctive contribution to make. But it's also true that people in public positions, whether small or great, are themselves defined by their rôles, find it hard to be seen as persons in their own right, and often have views and attitudes projected onto them which are very far from the truth (ask any priest!).

However, there's another side to it. A rôle, and the 'given' set of relationships and expectations that go with it, are much more an opportunity than a straitjacket. You may find it impossible to meet people's expectations, but you are *given* opportunities of service without having to seek them out and win them. And those opportunities, and the trust that goes with them, are a great privilege both for those exercising those rôles and those who find themselves 'related' to them.

Monica, of course, isn't just remembered as the mother of one of the leading teachers of the Western Church. She isn't simply shown as 'proud mum' looking wonderingly on at the son to whom she has given birth. Instead it is the case that her influence, her own faith, her example, were vital elements in Augustine's own conversion.

We are given an even more important instance of this in a month when we have celebrated the chief festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We do not think of her as simply the biological source of her Son's existence. We also celebrate the love, care and nurture that she gave him and the impact that her life must have had upon his.

So, as we think of these two people who are remembered in their different degrees for having been someone else's mother, we remember what a significant thing that is in its own right. And we also remember that we are to a large extent defined by our relationships, both in family and in community, and by the contribution we make in those relationships.

*Bill Malles*

# DIARY FOR MONTH



3 Wednesday	10 am	Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome	
<b>7 SUNDAY</b>		<b>TRINITY 16</b>	
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
	3 pm	Spiritual Stroll	
	6 pm	Compline	
13 Saturday	9 am	Sponsored Ride & Stride	
<b>14 SUNDAY</b>		<b>HOLY CROSS DAY/TRINITY 17</b>	
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
	6 pm	Evensong	<i>Christ Church</i>
17 Wednesday	10 am	Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen	
18 Thursday	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion	<i>Church / Hall</i>
19 Friday	1 pm	St Laurence School Foundation Day Service	<i>Church</i>
<b>21 SUNDAY</b>		<b>MATTHEW, APOSTLE &amp; EVANGELIST</b>	
	9.30 am	Solemn Eucharist	
	6 pm	Taizé Service with Prayer for Hope & Health	
24 Wednesday	7 pm	Holy Communion	<i>St Mary Tory</i>
	7.35 pm	Parochial Church Council	
<b>28 SUNDAY</b>		<b>HARVEST</b>	
	9.30 am	Family Communion	
	6 pm	Sung Evensong	

*Holy Communion at 8 am each Sunday  
Copy Date for October is 14th September*

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### **Baptism**

20.7 Lucy Amelia Greig  
27.7 Alfred George Staddon  
3.8 Ruby Elizabeth Wheeler

### **Marriage**

9.8 Robert David Norris  
& Hannah Frances Goodwin

### **Funeral**

28.7 Eric Percy Jones

### **Burial of Ashes**

23.8 Patrick H Purdon

## **HOLY TRINITY MOTHERS' UNION**

We were given an idea by Manchester people during their visit in March that our Women's Refuge at Beckingsale House, Salisbury, would appreciate having washing-up bowls filled with all the essentials of kitchen life to give to each woman leaving there to go into her own accommodation. Our members were extremely generous, and filled not one, but two bowls with the required necessities. Our Action and Outreach representative, Pam Willcox from Upper Studley, took the second of the bowls to Salisbury in July, where it was gratefully received, as the first one had been. She also took two sheep, knitted by Mary Ford, for the Isle of Wight Holiday run by the MU for disadvantaged families. The team running it this year wanted each child to go away with a sheep of its own.

On 19<sup>th</sup> July, to end our programme before the 'summer' break, we went to the Cliffe Hotel in Limply Stoke. There were sixteen members and six friends – it should have been more, but sickness and other things prevented four others from coming. Assembling in the lounge for a pre-dinner drink, the in-house guests were warned that it was going to be a noisy party! Martin had given us a superb deal of a three-course dinner followed by coffee and petits fours for £14.50, and we really did enjoy it! We'd had a choice of 3 of each starters, main courses, and desserts, and everyone was replete before we got back to the lounge for coffee! Not that this stopped anyone from tucking in to the lovely petits fours! I had to remind everyone at 10.15 that it was past my bedtime, and time we all went home!

For the last 6 days in July, our diocese is prayed for by the MU around the world, which was why the MU was in the Intercessions on the last Sunday in July. I only asked Peter Wills to mention the dioceses: Bendigo & Gippsland in Australia; Nakuru in Kenya; and 6 dioceses in Sudan – Bor, Kadugli & the Nuba Mountains, Khartoum, Mundri, Rumbek & Wau; and the MU workers in these dioceses, but in addition he also prayed for Mary Sumner, our founder. We were all delighted that he had gone to so much trouble. On the 31<sup>st</sup> we held our Wave of Prayer – a 15-minute slot when we hold a short service in church and hear more about each of the diocesan links. Sixteen members turned up, with apologies from 2 more, so we were able to sing the hymns with gusto. We always overrun our slot, but all agreed it had been very worthwhile to take the time to realise what a Worldwide organisation the MU is, and how proud we are to be part of it.

We don't have a meeting in August, but there will be a committee meeting to discuss a programme for next year, amongst other things.

Chris Hodge

# Holy Trinity Junior Church

GROWING



LEARNING

## ALL CHANGE – A NEW START FOR OUR CHILDREN

A change in the season (autumn is upon us), a change in the weather (for the better we hope!) and a change for our children; the Sunday School is changing into –

### JUNIOR CHURCH

It will meet once a month on **the first Sunday** in the **Church Hall** from 9.30-10.30am with a mixture of worship, songs, art, crafts, stories and much more besides. All children and young people of three and over will be welcome. Alison, June and Sue will be on hand to organise proceedings and we hope everyone will spread the word. We begin on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.

Another change flowing from this is that the **FAMILY COMMUNION** will now be on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** of each month except in September (Harvest) and March (Mothering Sunday) when it will be on the fourth Sunday. Again we hope to see our Junior Church children (with their families!) joining us for this. Fliers and leaflets about this are being sent to all families whose children have been baptized since 2000 and some will be available in church but we hope members of the congregation will tell anyone they know who have children over 3 years of age.

Children are an important and equal part of our family (remember the children's charter?) and we want to do all we can to encourage them to grow in the faith. Please support this new venture in any way you can.

Ian Stanes

## THE SHOEBOX

We usually start to think about the children's shoeboxes at the end of the summer, when our children have returned to school. I thought you may be interested to hear a bit more about this wonderful organisation, and what is happening all year round at our Distribution Point, which is the Melksham Warehouse.

This 'Operation Christmas Child' warehouse on the Bowerhill Industrial Estate is open all year round. Here, a little 'army' of enthusiastic volunteers can usually be found, accepting and sorting donations, and meeting on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for Craft Days, where amazing ideas are put together. Useful and fun things are made for the shoeboxes, whilst enjoying each other's company and making new friends.

This large warehouse was necessary to cope with the amazing number of shoeboxes now brought to this collection point to be checked and, if necessary, 'topped up', before despatch on enormous lorries which are returning to Eastern Europe and beyond.

Shoeboxes come to this point from schools, businesses, churches and individuals over a very large area, so you can imagine how busy it all becomes to check and despatch these when they all start to arrive (over 40,000 last year). The logistics of it are quite amazing, but efficiently carried out by many enthusiastic volunteers.

On the first Saturday of every month a Coffee Morning is held to help raise funds to pay for the rent of this warehouse. When I arrived for

the coffee morning with a friend yesterday, we were

enthusiastically greeted as usual. There was a hum of chatter. It was good to see friends again and catch up on all the latest 'happenings' and new ideas.

We were helped with the donations we had brought of knitted blankets, and other items which I had collected from my busy knitting team. The table was displayed with delicious home-made cakes, biscuits *etc.* to purchase. There were beautifully made crafts and homemade cards. My friend was really happy to purchase a lovely wedding card. We enjoyed our coffee with a large slice of delicious homemade fruit cake while we chatted.

All are welcome to these coffee mornings, which are always very popular and vital to help with expensive costs for the hire of the warehouse.

We learnt that a lorry had been filled for the second year running with school supplies for Liberia. It was packed with various much needed items, including many unwanted bicycles which had been carefully serviced at the warehouse. All these were kind donations from companies and individuals, and will be received with much joy by children and their teachers in this very needy corner of our world.

Unwanted manual sewing machines are always very welcome. These are also serviced at the warehouse and, along with blankets and other large items, are then sent to Central/Eastern Europe and Africa.



At the end of September we shall start again, covering, and filling shoe boxes. For many years now everyone at Holy Trinity has been most supportive and enabled us to send well over 100 shoeboxes each year to very needy children. We are hoping for your continued support to enable us to do this again soon.

There will be leaflets available (please take one) near the door in Church, which explain exactly how to cover and fill your shoebox.

If you are unable to 'fill a box', please could you help with donations for us to fill boxes. Here is what we will need:

- **Stationery/School Supplies:** notebooks, paper, pencils, pens, pencil sharpeners, rubbers, crayons.
- **Toilet/Hygiene Items:** toothbrushes, toothpaste, flannels, wrapped soap, hairbrushes, hair accessories for girls, combs for boys.
- **Small Toys:** teddies, dolls, cars or trucks, tennis balls
- **Wrapped Sweets:** small tubes or packets of wrapped sweets, (not chocolate.)

There will be a box by the door in Church for your kind donations.

Many kind folks have been supplying me with their empty shoeboxes all year, so we shall be off to an excellent start as our garage and loft are now quite full! I also have quite a 'mountain' of knitted items, scarves, hats, gloves, and mitts, to help to keep those shivering children warm during their harsh winters.

All such a wonderful effort for which we, and certainly the children, will be most grateful.

There is a colourful Calendar for 2009 with lovely pictures each month showing the children with their shoeboxes — a lovely fundraising idea. You will see one of these calendars displayed in the children's corner in Church. Please have a look and consider ordering one to help with costs. If you would like to order one, please see me, or ring me soon, as there is a limited supply.

Thank you for your continued support for the children. These shoeboxes bring a little joy to a child's Christmas, for which they are so grateful, bringing a little hope to their harsh and cold world and enabling us to share God's love.

If you would like any more information, or have any questions, please see me in Church, or contact me on 01225 864341

Celia Milne

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

## TRINITY COLLECTORS 3

So, after 26 years in Australia I had returned home and was looking forward to all the English delights which I had not seen or enjoyed since the late 50s when I went to sea. It was rather like being that small boy in a sweet shop with a shilling to spend!

Before long my small childhood collection and my knowledge of Dinky Toys started to expand through visits to local collectors' auctions where I learned to be quite successful, and by reading the 'Collectors Gazette' amongst other dedicated collectors' publications. It was in the Gazette that I followed up an advert inserted by an amiable Scotsman named Alan White, from whom I bought quite a number of Dinky Toys for

my 'new' collection. These purchases did much to replace the post-war models that had been stolen from my parents' home. As time went by I upgraded some models when I found one in

better condition, or in some cases I bought a whole 'Lot' of toys at an auction (notably at Aldridges of Bath\*) and, after sorting out the one or two that I needed for my collection I had to dispose of the remainder. Alan White to the rescue, and on a commission basis he sold my surplus models to his

world-wide list of prospective buyers. I quickly learned that, as with most things, once the supply of Dinky Toys had come to an end in Liverpool in 1979, the demand had been increasing and, in fact, still does to this day. Some of those nine and sixpenny Guy Vans I spoke of and pictured earlier were now changing hands for upwards of £2000 in pristine condition! A basic Dinky Toy in its all important yellow box – again in mint condition – will today fetch anything from £60 to £600 and there is an accepted scale which depreciates those models which are 'almost mint', 'very slightly chipped', 'slightly chipped', 'chipped', or 'poor' with further increments depending on whether

or not there is a box present, and the condition of that box. Very rare and mostly pre-war models are commonly fetching between £8,000 and £20,000 at the up-market auctions, but most ordinary collectors (like



me) base the bulk of their acquisitions on the 'almost mint' or 'very slightly chipped' quality. Ordinary collectors do have some 'mint and boxed' examples in their collections, but to buy only 'mint' examples would be financially impractical. Currently there is also a healthy market for reproduction

boxes of which I have several, and this is seen as better than having no box at all. The original box it came in represents at least 40% of a Dinky Toys' value!

I eventually retrieved my remaining childhood toys from storage and found a restorer who, for quite a modest fee, brought back to life my black and white hand-painted and other abused

models to their original colour and glory, adding tyres and sometimes wheels, as well as bumpers and radiators where necessary. It was very encouraging to see these little metal objects shining in their new liveries, and I felt honoured to have once more breathed into them the life that they had so briefly during the post war years. They are not worth very much, having been restored, but I hold on to the memory that these little toys were my playthings bought by my mother in the 40s and 50s and which I had pushed around the floor in our London home all those years ago – the epitome of nostalgia!

And then there was eBay! I had developed a penchant for collecting the very charming and highly detailed French Dinky Toys (see picture) after cherishing my French pen friend's gifts over many years, so I regularly signed into the French, as well as other European eBay sites and over time obtained quite a number of these models



which now occupy a very special place in my collection. Sadly, Alan White whom I had never actually met, but who had become a trusted ally and friend in the collecting world, died two years ago, and my box of 'spares' grew and grew to the point when I now also sell Dinky Toys on eBay. Between 1934 and 1979 there had been well over two

thousand different English Dinky Toys produced in Liverpool, and over 800 different French Dinky models produced in Bobigny. Add to these numbers the very large number of colour combinations available for each model, in addition to variations to accessories and box styles, and you can see that to collect every variation available would be all but impossible, and certainly a goal that I could never hope to achieve. The largest (and heaviest) of the Dinky Toy models is probably the 'Aveling-Barford Centaur' dump truck, and the smallest (discounting the 00 gauge railway figures) is the French Dinky Leskokart Midjet go-Kart which is only one and one eighth inches long! (see picture).

I still attend occasional Toy Fairs (the Shepton Mallet Toy Fair is huge!) and Collector's auctions, as well as browsing various eBay sites where I keep an eye open for any models that I haven't got — of which there are still plenty. I'm very

happy with my modest collection of Dinky Toys and I 'know' every one of them, its history and origin and — in the case of my St Michael's Jumble sale toys — the joyous recollection of those happy post war days in Mill Hill on the living room floor.

Before I complete this article, I have become aware that there are several Holy Trinity parishioners with their own private collections at home, ranging from stamps and coins to walking sticks and thimbles, works of art, books, records and a whole range of

collectables. If you enjoyed reading this, how about sharing your collecting experiences with others inside the covers of the Parish News? I'm certain that we'd all be most interested.

David Rawstron

**\*Aldridges Collectors Auctions** (off Lower Bristol Road, Bath) are well worth a visit, where one can browse through just about anything collectable whilst at the same time savouring that wonderful scent of our grand parents' attics, from where most of the stock would seem to originate.



## I am Autumn

I am autumn – rich with harvest fare.  
My orchards bend with pendants of pear  
Rose-pink apples and fat, juicy plums.  
I am a blaze of chrysanthemums.

I am the season that lies between  
The summers warm and winters keen,  
The mellow months of fruitfulness,  
The time for all good gifts to bless.

I am swirling mists and drenching dews,  
Woodlands scorched with fiery hues,  
Hot crimson, copper, amber and gold,  
Russet and Saffron – searing and bold,

Pumpkins, parsnips, swede and beet,  
Onions, leeks and sheaves of wheat,  
Melons, marrows and swollen gourds,  
Plump hazel nuts the squirrel hoards,

Michaelmas daisies in a purple haze,  
Squashes and elderberry sprays,  
Clusters of grapes that drape the vine,  
I am the last of the summer wine.

I am the migrating swallows in flight,  
Bramble borne berries - black as night,  
Glossy conkers cocooned in spiky leather,  
The mauvened moors of blooming  
heather.

I am the wild rose briars that drip  
With scattered sprigs of crimson hip,  
The naked hedgerows sharp with thorn  
That sloes and scarlet haws adorn.

My harvest moons are huge and round,  
Gold orbs that almost kiss the ground.  
I am the barley and sun ripe maize.  
I am hazy, Indian summer days.

Maggie Novotni –Warminster Writers'  
Circle



*Westonbirt Arboretum, October 2007.*

*Photo: Bryan Harris*

## **Bradford on Avon Festival 2008**

In the middle of this month Bradford on Avon is holding what is now its Annual Festival. This year the theme is 'The Elements.' The Arts Association's contribution is a show called :

### ***Elemental Tumult***

on the 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7-30pm in the Riverside Inn.

It is an Evening of Poetry with Jazz and Folk music. The poetry and prose are to be performed by our church members Sybil Mitchell and Peter Hardman, with John Salvat, Chairman of the Arts Association, and Megan Jones who also created the piece and brought the artists together. The music will be provided by '*Three Piece Suite*', a group which perform a unique blend of jazz, folk and classical music.

The evening promises to be both tumultuous and thoughtful, exciting and evocative.

Do come, it only costs £4.00 !!

[Tickets from the TIC.]

Sybil Mitchell



## **Sponsored Ride And Stride 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

### **Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust**

This year's Sponsored Ride and Stride, formerly known as the Great Cycle Ride will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

John Woods, Brian Wickham and Edward Shaw will be riding for Holy Trinity and will soon be

looking for sponsors. Please give them plenty of support.

George and Ivy Hurst have kindly agreed to organise refreshments for the riders and walkers who visit Holy Trinity and the Saxon Church.

Volunteers are required to church-sit and welcome the visitors for one- or two-hour slots from 9am to 5pm. If you would like to help, please give your names directly to George and Ivy.

Tony Haffenden

## WILTSHIRE BUTTERFLIES (AND MOTHS) – SEPT 2008

My apologies for not providing articles for the last two issues: this was due to an extended break in Scotland.

The summer weather has been rather poor for many species apart from a warm sunny period towards the end of July. The most commonly seen species have been the '**Cabbage Whites**' and **Peacocks** with the occasional **Red Admiral**, **Comma** and **Holly Blue**. Of **Small Tortoiseshells** and **Painted Ladies** I have seen neither and have received only a handful of sightings from other recorders in the county.

Evelyn Humphrey related seeing a beautiful white butterfly with black markings – 'far too attractive to be a common cabbage white'. In fact it was a female **Large White** and these common butterflies, when freshly emerged and observed at close quarters are quite beautiful.

Gordon Finch gave me a picture he took in his garden of a large, rather ugly caterpillar. This turns into a large, common moth – an **Elephant Hawk** moth with beautifully coloured pale pink and green wings. The caterpillars love fuchsia leaves and will quickly strip a plant of its leaves before moving on to the next. Malcolm Walsh sent me three pictures of moths – a **Garden Tiger** (its caterpillar is the 'woolly-bear' of my youth), and probably a **Southern Wainscot** and a **Dusky Thorn** (some are quite difficult to identify, being very similar to other species).

Compared with the 58 British butterfly species there are about 900 macromoths in Britain (that's the larger ones) and another 1,600 'micros', the smaller, often tiny ones that tend to be only of interest to the specialist. Most are only active at night and so their beauty is missed by most of us. The English names given to some are quite spectacular and descriptive of their appearance, for example, three common species that most people have probably never heard of, let alone seen, the **Red-necked Footman**, the **Shuttle-shaped Dart** and the **Setaceous Hebrew Character** to name but three.

We are now approaching the end of the butterfly season when numbers of species decrease. Exceptions are the **Speckled Wood** which can be seen



*The setaceous Hebrew character moth*

[www.somersetmothgroup.org.uk](http://www.somersetmothgroup.org.uk)

until late October in most years (they are frequent at present along hedgerows and byways) and those visiting garden flowers for nectar before entering hibernation — the Brimstone, Small Tortoiseshell (if you are lucky), Peacock, Comma and Red Admiral.

This is also the time when the 150 or so recorders around the county begin sending me their sightings for the year for the compilation of the Wiltshire Annual Butterfly Report. It is only then that the true status of the county's 45 species can be assessed and species targeted for conservation action where appropriate. Some are now so localised and vulnerable that they could easily become extinct in the county, and elsewhere in Britain, if their habitats (homes) are allowed to become unsuitable for them. Butterfly Conservation's aim is to ensure this does not happen.

©Mike Fuller  
Wiltshire Butterfly Recorder  
Vice-Chairman BC Wiltshire Branch

## The Congregation Replied

Down in the southern United States, there are many churches known as "answer back" churches. When the preacher says something, the congregation naturally replies.

One Sunday, a preacher was speaking on what it would take for the church to become better. He said "If this church is to become better, it must take up its bed, and walk." The congregation intoned "Let it walk, Preacher, let it walk."

Encouraged by their response, he went further. "If this church is going to become better, it will have to throw aside its hindrances and run!" The congregation chanted, "Let it run, preacher, let it run!"

Now really into his message, he declared: "If this church really wants to become great, it will have to take up its wings and fly!" "Let it fly, Preacher, let it fly!" the congregation shouted.

The Preacher then bellowed: "If this church is going to fly, it will cost money!"

Whereupon the congregation softly said: "Let it walk, Preacher, let it walk."

Source: Parish Pump

## Crossword solutions

**Across**  
1 Moab 3 Screamed 9 Unkempt 10 Tigh 11 Their 12 Stride 14 In tray 16 Effort 19 Grapes 21 Islam 24 Drama 25 Ishmael 26 Ointment 27 Used  
**Down**  
1 Mountain 2 Ankle 4 Cutest 5 Enter 6 Megiddo 7 Date 8 Smyrna 13 Stumbled  
15 Terrain 17 Flight 18 Assign 20 Psalm 22 Leaps 23 Iddo

## Get to know your soul!

Bradford on Avon will be the venue this autumn for a inspirational new course on spirituality and the world's religions. Developed by Dr William Bloom, the course is entitled '*The Soul's Journey: Travelling towards wholeness.*' It starts with the idea that all the world's religions have more in common with each other than differences. "In the modern world," says Dr Bloom, "people are suspicious of religions which claim to possess the one and only truth. This is disrespectful to other faiths and is often the cause of terrible conflicts. In fact for many people true religion begins with their individual experience of the wonder and beauty of nature and the universe."

Over ten evening classes, students will be encouraged to explore their own thoughts and feelings around the most important spiritual themes, such as:

- The difference between religion and spirituality
- the purpose of life
- new interpretations of God
- spirituality and healthcare
- ethics and right livelihood.

Each class is accompanied with quotations and examples from the world's major faiths.

Two teachers from different backgrounds will facilitate the course. Judith Holland and Chrissy Holmes have worked with William Bloom for a decade. His courses, including training for teaching the material, are often run in adult education centres. Judith Holland has lived and worked in multi-faith societies including the London Borough of Brent and Tanzania. She has recently retired from the education service and now teaches Tai Chi.

Chrissy Holmes has a background in the NHS. She is a Regional Training Officer for the National Federation of Spiritual Healers and trains healers in Bath. See her website (below) for further details.

Fees will be at a similar level to the local authority so concessions will be available appropriately.

Further information from Judith Holland, 01225 866215  
or email Chrissy *via* her website: <http://www.chrissyholmes.com/>

## Thank you

Can I say a big thank you for the prayers, cards, messages of good will and offers of help during my last hospitalisation. I think I can say that I am now back in good form and gaining more mobility every day. To be a member of Holy Trinity is indeed in itself a blessing for which I am eternally thankful.

Margaret Purves

## THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Seeing Bill's comments about St Laurence in the August magazine reminded me that St Laurence is the patron saint of Flayosc, the village in the Var where we have a house. Indeed, the infamous gridiron is pictured on the village's coat of arms.

Our village is one of the *villages perchés* (hilltop villages) of Provence where the church is the focal point at the top with the old streets winding round the hill to the bottom a bit like the formation of a snail shell. There are vestiges of the old walls of the village and the *portes Sarrazins*, the gateways in the walls built to keep out 'the Moors'. A distinctive feature of churches in the Var is that the church bell is housed on the top of the tower in an attractive open wrought iron cage. Each village has a different pattern of cage – one can even buy books about them.



Photo: Daphne Hancock

As well as having services, the church is a well-used venue for popular choral festivals and piano concerts. Apparently the priest wishes as many people would come to his services as attend the concerts!

Feast days are taken seriously in Provence. On Saturday at 6pm there is a mass in the church followed by a procession of the statue of St Laurence through the village to the main square accompanied by dancers and a band in traditional costume. A stage is erected in the square for musicians to play for dancing in the evening. Everyone, from toddlers to great-grandmas, dances until midnight or sits in the cafés meeting friends and having a drink. Despite the long festivities everyone, including the local teenagers, enjoy themselves, are well-behaved and no-one is obviously 'worse for wear'.

A local fair also visits the town and on Sundays there are *boules* competitions, dancing displays, and more dancing in the evening. The celebrations continue with the Mayor and town council hosting free drinks for everyone with nibbles made of croutons spread with local olive or anchovy paste at 11am on the Monday morning and further dancing in the evening.

Daphne Hancock

For more information and photos about Flayosc visit the village website at [www.ville-flayosc.fr](http://www.ville-flayosc.fr)

## NATURE DIARY 7

More extracts from my diary:

July 2008

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>:** A dunnock has decided it's a seed eater! It sits on top of the feeder and then spends ages trying to land on one of the perches; when successful it pecks ineffectually at the seeds. Last year a robin constantly visited the feeder and this year a baby robin has begun to do so.

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup>:** The garden is full of fluffy baby birds – delightful.

The swifts are still entering our neighbour's roof to feed their young. I have read that swifts collect material from the air – feathers, leaves, tissue-paper *etc.* – to build their nests. These migrants are the first to leave this country, usually in this area by the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, so the nestlings need to fledge soon.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>:** The verges are filled with poppies and great willow herb.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>:** Have finished reading *Crow Country* by Mark Cocker. The author tells of his 6 years of study of, and his passion for, rooks. It's a bird most of us are familiar with but know so little about. To read about their evening massing before roosting was a revelation. The more I learn about the natural world the more I realize how little I know.

Watched the hares racing at Silverstone!

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup>:** A profusion of bloody cranesbill in the verges.

Have realized that the trees lining part of the car park by Asda, in Trowbridge, are actually tulip trees (not magnolia, which is sometimes called by this name).

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>:** Took Chris to Corsham Court. The peacocks displayed constantly to all and sundry – only the peahens were not impressed! I have identified the amazing trees that are lining the drive as western catalpa. It is a tree native to central United States. The green leaves are huge and the white flowers are in clusters of ten.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>:** Went to Great Chalfield with Chris. Visited my favourite glass window in the small church. Nearly all the flowers, animals, birds and insects depicted are local to the area. Two swallows were flying around inside the church. I used to get worried for them, as they do this every year, 'till I realized that the bell tower is open to the elements. Lots of interesting border plants including (according to the notes there) – "Nicandra – which has bell shaped flowers, pale violet with paler throats – produced from July to September, but only open for a few hours each day."

On the way home saw meadow sweet and my favourite wild flower, lady's bedstraw.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>:** Have finished reading Gabrielle Hatfield's *Hatfields Herbal*. This is a modern herbal written in 2007. It is concerned with British native plants (or at least those that have been here since Roman times). Two major points are made:

A plant can be used to cure contradictory conditions, for example, to encourage or to stop bleeding. It all depends on what part of a plant is used. Each part of a plant can have a different effect; thus the roots, stem, leaves, flowers can all be used quite independently for a different outcome, as can the use of the whole plant.

Modern scientific research is proving over and over again that many plants contain antibiotics, anticoagulants and other medicinal substances. Folk medicine worked for a reason, moreover it is being discovered that plants such as the yew can be used in the treatment of cancer. We have so much to learn!

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>:** Have finished reading *Edward Lear's Birds* by Susan Hyman. Lear's paintings and lithographs of parrots are unsurpassed, being full of life and character. In lots of ways he was such a sad man, never realizing how very special he was. He is one of my heroes.

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup>:** Astonished to find tadpoles still in the pond – really thought they would all have 'frogged' by now!

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Jackie told me another mnemonic for the call of a wood pigeon – 'my FEET hurt BET-ty'. Lovely! There must be hundreds of variations around the country.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Saw meadow sweet and yellow loosestrife for sale at White Row Farm Shop (near Standerwick). Never before seen these native wild flowers for sale .

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>:** Brian saw a kingfisher near Barton Bridge at about 6.15am. He's been watching two grey wagtails, a single duckling and three cygnets over the last week.

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>:** Saw two young magpies bouncing on a bungalow rooftop. As their tails had not developed fully they looked like black and white over-inflated tennis balls!

Liz Netley

**Corrigendum:** In last month's Nature Diary, the Editor helpfully (and wrongly!) annotated Liz's reference to the flower clary as being *salvia sclarea*, otherwise known as clary sage. Liz points out that this was not what she saw, which was either meadow clary (*salvia pratensis*) or wild clary (*salvia verbenaca*). Sorry Liz.

Bryan

**Interfaith Group Meeting**  
**Peace One Day — the Role of Religion**

from 2pm on 21<sup>st</sup> September  
at Sheldon School, Hardenhuish Road, Chippenham,  
This is a family event, and there will be activities and refreshments.

## PCC Report

The PCC met on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. Among items discussed was the success of the latest Church Crawl, the amazing efforts put in by the new team for the Street Market, and the proposed implementation of a monthly Junior Church to replace the existing weekly Sunday School.

The budget report showed that the church had only just broken even in the first six months, thanks to a tax refund on our Gift Aid giving, the success of the Street Market, and planned giving being up by 6% from last year. The Standing Committee will continue to monitor the situation prior to the new Stewardship campaign beginning in October this year.

Plans for the redevelopment of the Sacristy were studied and a faculty application is being prepared so that work can begin shortly. David Rawstron gave a report from the latest Bradford Area Churches Together meeting and Malcolm Walsh outlined his plans for a pilgrimage activity to take part in early September.

Graham Dove  
PCC Secretary

The Health Centre, Bradford on Avon

### FLU CLINIC INFORMATION

Flu sessions will be held this year for our patients during  
8.30am -12.30pm, on the following dates:

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008  
And if required – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2008

**Please telephone 01225 865200 to make your  
appointment, from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008.**

For more information about our flu service  
and to find out whether you are eligible for a flu jab,  
please pick up our flu information leaflet available from  
reception after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008.

### Bradford Area Churches Together

The next BACT meeting is not until 1<sup>st</sup> September

## for prayer in september

We pray:

- For our new Junior Church
- For the Spiritual Stroll
- For our local farming community
- For our Harvest celebration

### **The Saxon Club**

The Saxon Club is a group of people who meet together every week on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in Holy Trinity Church Hall. It is purely a social club and is open to church and non-church members alike. We are a very relaxed and informal group and you will be assured of a warm and friendly welcome.

There is no obligation to come every week, but most members do! The Club began with ten members and now there are over thirty — we are still growing and there is room for all.

We usually have a speaker or activity each week and the programme for September is set out below. We are also planning a Coffee Morning and Mini Sale in November and a Christmas Lunch in December. Next year we hope to plan outings to places of interest etc.

Do come and give us a try. We have lots of fun and laughter. If you would like any more details, please contact Angela on 309001 or Beryl on 864270.

**BETTER STILL —JUST COME — ANY TUESDAY.**

### **Programme for September**

September 9th: Open meeting  
16th: Quilling — Bunty Johns  
23rd: Beetle Drive  
30th: Hospital Plans — John Cottle

# Quick Crossword The Bible version is the NIV.

## Clues across

- 1 Eglon was its king in Judges ch. 3 (4)
- 3 Cried out, like the betrothed girl in Deuteronomy ch. 22 (8)
- 9 ..let his hair be \_\_\_\_\_ (Lev 13.45) (7)
- 10 ..yet does not keep a \_\_\_\_\_ rein (Jas 1.26)
- 11 Belonging to them (5)
- 12 Pace (6)
- 14 Receptacle found on office desk (2,4)
- 16 ..to attain your goal by human \_\_\_\_\_ Gal 3.3) (6)
- 19 Nazirites must abstain from these fruits, says Numbers ch. 6 (6)
- 21 Muslim faith (5)
- 24 Play (5)
- 25 Son of Nethaniah in Jeremiah ch. 41 (7)
- 26 Job ch. 41 compares the sea to a pot of this (8)
- 27 Second hand (4)

## Clues down

- 1 eg Horeb in Exodus ch. 3 (8)
- 2 The finery in Isaiah ch. 3 includes chains for this body part (5)
- 4 Most pleasingly pretty (6)
- 5 Go in (5)
- 6 Ahaziah died here in 2 Kings ch. 9 (7)
- 7 One of the fruits of which a cake was made in 1 Chronicles ch. 16 (4)
- 8 Part of Revelation ch. 2 is addressed to the Church here (6)
- 13 Tripped, like the oxen in 2 Samuel ch. 6 (8)
- 15 The surface features of an area of land (7)
- 17 Series of stairs by which the portico was reached in Ezekiel ch. 40 (6)
- 18 ..\_\_\_\_\_ him a place with the unbelievers (Luke 12.46) (6)
- 20 Sacred song (5)
- 22 Jumps, like Elihu's heart in Job ch. 37 (5)
- 23 Zechariah was his descendant according to Ezra ch. 5 (4)

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23												
24						25						
26									27			

Solutions on page 13.

Source: Parish Pump

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - OFFICERS

Canon Bill Matthews (Chairman)  
Joan Finch (Churchwarden & VC)  
Jeremy Lavis (Hon. Treasurer)

Tony Haffenden (Churchwarden)  
Graham Dove (Hon. Secretary)  
Rev Angela Onions (ex officio)

Pat Astill

Dr Nick Nutt

Janet Brown

David Rawstron

Anne Carter

Edward Shaw

Bryan Harris

Malcolm Walsh

June Harrison

Anne Willis

Cecilia Hynes-Higman

John Woods

Peggy Leach

## STANDING/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Vicar; Churchwardens; Secretary; Treasurer, Bryan Harris

### CHURCHWARDENS EMERITI

Norman Hanney, Jeremy Lavis, Mike Fuller, Anne Carter

## FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Patron: Dr Alex Moulton

Chairman: Bob Cherry

Secretary: *vacancy*

Treasurer: John Woods

Committee:

Anne Carter; Bryan Harris; Jeremy Lavis;  
Rev Angela Onions; Mike Smith

Ex officio:

Canon Bill Matthews; Joan Finch; Tony Haffenden

### PARISH NEWS

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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	Graham Dove	868654
PCC Treasurer	Jeremy Lavis	863600
Bellringers	Phil Gaisford	863538
Bookstall	Rev 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	Rev Angela Onions	309001
Electoral Roll Officer	Pat Irving	862903
Flowers	Jonquil Burgess	868905
Guides	Judith Holland	866215
Mothers' Union	Chris Hodge	863543
MU Prayer Circle	Chris Hodge	863543
Publicity Officer	Ann Holland	862731
Servers	Mary Ford	863984
Sidesman Rota	Joan Finch	863878
Stewardship Secretary	Graham Dove	868654
Verger	Peter Wills	867593
Midsummer Market	John Cox (Community Stalls)	864270
	Colin Johnston (Church Stalls)	868132
	Stephanie Moorfoot (Communications)	863366

### Parish Representatives on other organisations:

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

*The cover picture is from a drawing by Frances Taylor.  
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