

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Bradford on Avon



PARISH NEWS

DECEMBER 2008

web edition

DIRECTORY

Vicar

Canon Bill Matthews

The Vicarage, 18A Woolley Street
864444

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Retired Clergy

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

Licensed Lay Ministers

Graham Dove

Dr Malcolm Walsh (retired)

Churchwardens

Joan Finch 40 Palairet Close 863878

Tony Haffenden 6 Folly Field 864412

Parish Administrator

Graham Dove secretary@brad-avon-ht.org 868654

Director of Music

Gareth Bennett 01380 728772

Times of Services

(Check Bulletins and notices or Church web site)

Sundays 8 am Holy Communion
9.30 am Sung Eucharist (coffee after)
6 pm Evensong, Compline etc

Holy Communion 10 am Wednesdays
(weekdays) 8 am Fridays

Times of Meetings

Choir Practice 6.30 pm Church, Tuesdays
Junior Church 9.30 am Church Hall (1st Sunday of the month)
Mothers' Union 7.30 pm Church Hall, (usually) 3rd Thursday
Bell Practice 7.30–9 pm 2nd and 4th Mondays

Holy Trinity Web-site www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk
Diocese Web-site www.salisbury.anglican.org

Weekly Bulletin Notices to the Parish Administrator not later than Sunday for the following Sunday.

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

FROM THE VICAR

As I've been thinking about this Christmas letter, I've had a line running through my mind, 'Infinite riches in a little room'. Having cudgelled my memory for a while, I had to look it up, and found it as a reference to precious jewels in Marlowe's play, 'The Jew of Malta'.

But, taken out of its context, it sums up for me what we think about at the Christmas season. We are reminded of the way in which the infinite riches of God's love became encapsulated in a human life. This life has had a profound effect on human history, and, for us Christians, is at the heart of our shared history and of our personal story as well.

Prophets of doom are around in abundance at the moment. Experts are vying with each other to produce gloomier pictures of the global financial crisis, and of the consequences of it for the 'real economy' which the vast majority of us inhabit. Nobody can doubt that things are very difficult and are likely to get worse before they improve again.

Of course, the whole thing has a profoundly dampening effect on the spirits of all of us. So many of our comfortable assumptions have been called into question; so many apparently trustworthy institutions have been found wanting. Quite apart from the effects we may have genuinely experienced, we find ourselves caught up in a collective depression.

This is not the time for Christians simply to put on bright smiles and to pretend that the crisis isn't really happening. But it is a time for us to shift our focus to what our faith has to offer us. At Christmas we renew our sense of the unchanging love of God, supporting us in our trials, giving deeper meaning to our joys, and helping us to set the transient problems of our present day in the context of his eternal purposes for us.

To return to my quotation, 'infinite riches in a little room' is not only a summary of what we believe about Jesus, but also, in our own little lives, of what we believe about ourselves as well. The divine life and love was revealed to us in him so that it could also live in us. That is our true treasure at all times.

A very happy and blessed Christmas to you all.

Bill Matthews

DIARY FOR DECEMBER



7 SUNDAY

9.30 am
4 pm
6 pm

ADVENT 2

Sung Eucharist
Dorothy House *Tree of Light* Service
Compline

12 Friday

7.30 pm

Concert by Bradford Choral Society

Church

14 SUNDAY

9.30 am
6 pm

ADVENT 3

Sung Eucharist
Evensong

Christ Church

15 Monday

7 pm

St Laurence School Carol Service

18 Thursday

10.30 am

Fitzmaurice School Carol Service

7.30 pm

Mothers' Union
Readings & Music for Christmas, with
sherry & mince pies

Church Hall

7.30 pm

'Messiah' - Bath Philharmonic

Church

21 SUNDAY

9.30 am
6 pm

ADVENT 4

Christmas Tableau, Holy Baptism &
Family Communion
Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

24 WEDNESDAY

3 pm
11.15 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

Crib & Christingle Service
Midnight Mass

25 THURSDAY

8 am
10 am

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion
Family Communion

28 SUNDAY

10 am

CHRISTMAS I

Holy Communion with Readings & Carols
No other services today

From the Registers is on page 4

Holy Communion is usually at 8 am each Sunday (not 28th)

Copy Date for January is 7th December

HOLY TRINITY MOTHERS' UNION

Our monthly meeting for November was one week earlier than usual because of the scheduled filming of the life of Charles Darwin. Our speaker was John Salvat from the Coffee Shop and the topic was 'The Seven Year Hitch'. Most of us had no idea what to expect but knew not to confuse it with the Marilyn Monroe film, 'The Seven Year Itch'. It was the story of how he bought a derelict stone cottage in Gloucestershire, taking him seven years to complete the renovations so that it was habitable. John was working in London at the time and travelling to Gloucestershire at weekends and holidays in his Mini car. However, during this work his Mini gave up and he had to hitch or arrange lifts. With just a small amount of help, all the work was done by him. He got to know the villagers very well as the cottage was opposite a public house frequented by most of the villagers for one reason or another!

How entertaining it was and it left us believing that anything was achievable. Also at this meeting we welcomed a new joining member, Pam Edwards, whom I know personally and am sure will be a great support to our Branch.

The Coffee Morning at Mary Dawson's on Friday, 31st October, raised the excellent sum of £133 which has been sent to our Overseas Fund. Thank you to Mary and husband, Len, for hosting this event in their home and making it so successful.

Please remember to bring to our next meeting your payment for the meal at the Cliffe Hotel in the New Year. Kindly let Beryl have your Overseas Boxes as soon as possible in order that the money can be allocated before the end of the year.

The Christingle preparations are at Mary Ford's, 25, Downavon, at 3.20pm on Wednesday, 10th December.

Our next meeting returns to the third Thursday of the month, 18th December, when we shall be having 'Readings and Music for Christmas', followed by sherry and mince pies. Do try to make this meeting as it will be a nice relaxation before the very busy last minute activities celebrating Christmas.

Marlene Haffenden



They're changing guard at St James's Palace: the MU have now taken over. Pat Kitchen taking her turn at sentry duty during a recent visit to the Chapel Royal.
photo Marlene Haffenden

The Editors would like to thank all contributors to Parish News for their interesting and well-written contributions. Keep them coming! Our thanks, too, to our dedicated production and distribution teams. We offer to you, and to all our readers, our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Ann and Bryan

Junior Church News

We would like to welcome two new members to our Junior Church, Tristyn and Elin Lee, who joined us this week as we prepared our contribution to Remembrance Day which is now on the notice board in church. I hope everyone will take a look at the poppies and the poem that was read out during our Sunday morning session as we remembered all the people who lost their lives. The poem is printed on page 6.

We also started to plan our Nativity presentation and we sang along while Muriel played some carols on the piano. It does seem a little early but we now have only 5 weeks to prepare! We hope to make this just as special as it usually is.

Alison, June and Sue

GROWING



LEARNING

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

2.11 Elijah Thomas Brewer

Holy Matrimony

1.11 James Roger Holmes
& Rebecca Martha Human

Funerals

22.10 Philip James (Jim) Hallett

24.10 Patricia Ann Hawkins

11.11 Cecil Charles Reginald Chalke

14.11 Barbara Joan Moore

Why wear a Poppy?

"Please wear a Poppy", the lady said,
And held one forth, but I shook my head,
Then I stopped and watched as she
offered them there,
And her face was old and lined with care;
But beneath the scars the years had made
There remained a smile that refused to
fade.

A boy came whistling down the street.
Bouncing along on care-free feet.
His smile was full of joy and fun,
"Lady" said he, "may I have one?"
When she'd pinned it on, he turned to
say:
"Why do we wear a Poppy to-day?"

The lady smiled in her wistful way
And answered: "This is Remembrance
Day",
"And the Poppy there is a symbol for
The gallant men who died in the war".
"And because they did, you and I are free
That's why we wear a Poppy you see".

I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair and big blue eyes.
"He loved to play and jump and shout.
Free as a bird, he would race about.
As the years went by, he learned and
grew,
And became a man — as you will, too".

"He was fine and strong, with a boyish
smile.
But he'd seemed with us such a little
while
When war broke out and he went away.
I still remember his face that day.
When he smiled at me and said good-
bye.
I'll be back soon, Mum, so please don't
cry"



But the war went on and he had to stay,
And all I could do was wait and pray.
"His letters told of the awful fight
(I can see it still in my dreams at night)
With the tanks and guns and the cruel
barbed wire,
And the mines and bullets, the bombs
and the fire".
"Till at last, at last, the war was won —
And that's why we wear a Poppy, son".

The small boy turned as if to go.
Then said: "Thanks, lady I'm glad to
know.
"That sure did sound like an awful fight.
But your son — did he come back
alright?"
A tear rolled down each faded cheek;
She shook her head, but didn't speak.

I slunk away in a sort of shame.
And if you were me, you'd have done the
same;
For our thanks, in giving, is oft delayed,
Though our freedom was bought — and
thousands paid;
And so, when we see a Poppy worn,
Let us reflect on the burden borne
By those who gave their very all
When asked to answer their country's call
That we at home in peace might live.
Then wear a Poppy! Remember — and
give!

Don Crawford

PRIDE AND GUILT

A summary of the Address at the Town Remembrance Service

The Vicar spoke of the wreath-laying which would shortly take place, and the way in which the many different organisations of our community were identifying themselves with this act of remembrance. This year there would be an additional personal link. In the Great War, Sergeant John Claude Raine of the Wiltshire Regiment had died in Iraq, and been buried at Basra. His nephew was going to lay a wreath in his memory. Our forces were still stationed there today and members of our community had served there. This story underlined the long time-span which we were remembering.

In the recent American presidential election, the economy and the war in Iraq had been major concerns. Politics, economics and conflict were closely interlinked. The perspective of history allowed us to take a view of the rightness of old conflicts. Looking back at them, we were very aware of the way in which the failure to deal with political and economic problems could all too easily lead to war, and the sacrifices it entailed.



Part of the parade passing over the footbridge from church to the wreath-laying ceremony in Westbury Gardens.

Photo kindly supplied by Glenn Phillips of the Wiltshire Times

The Vicar pointed to the way in which politics and economics (and national pride) had been important factors leading to the Great War, and how failures in these areas in the post-war settlement had produced a situation in Germany which had allowed the poisons of Hitler and fascism to flourish.

He referred to the current situation in Iraq, and the problem faced by those who were opposed to the war. The problem was of expressing disapproval of the war without appearing disloyal to members of the armed forces making courageous sacrifices on our

behalf. People had in fact felt inhibited in voicing criticism for precisely that reason.

He stated that the alternative between criticism and loyalty was a false one. If we found ourselves in a burning building, set on fire through our own carelessness, we would be no less grateful for the courage of the Fire Service because we had been endangered by our own folly.

We all felt a mixture of pride and guilt at the way in which so many young people were having to cope with dangers and to make split-second decisions in situations outside the experience of most of us. But this must not prevent us from taking a clear view of the morality and prudence of national conflicts, and of the political and economic decisions which preceded them, and from making our views heard.

The Editors are grateful to Bill Matthews for this summary of his address.

THANK YOU ANGELA...

They joyfully talked and sweetly did sing
In praise of an Angel(a) and her ministering...

Freely adapted without permission from a traditional carol



No prizes for guessing which is the real Angela, and which the Chris Hodge replica.



After the Eucharist on All Saints' Sunday, there was one of those occasions, frequent and famous at Holy Trinity, when cake and wine were consumed to celebrate an important event. Not a baptism, not a Golden Wedding, but the 'retirement' (and the parentheses are deliberate!) of a much loved Holy Trinity figure. Yes, Angela has joined the ranks of the Bradford on Avon College of Retired Clergy, becoming the first woman, and also the first Deacon, to be admitted to that august band (or gang!).

The Vicar expressed the sentiments of us all in thanking Angela for all she had done (pointedly including all she was still going to do!) for Holy Trinity, John Burgess welcomed her to the aforementioned college, and Tony Haffenden made a presentation on behalf of the Holy Trinity community. The main present was a laser-engraved Crystal – Angel and Children. We also gave her a mug with a lid – The Gardening Angel – with an Angel on the side prepared to carry out various gardening tasks and suitably attired in green wellies, the main purpose of which was to conceal the £300 which had been contributed by the members of Holy Trinity Church.

Bryan Harris

* **Appreciation** *
* May I thank you all most humbly for the wonderful All Saints' *
* Sunday I had. I was totally overwhelmed by your generosity in *
* the gifts you gave me. I haven't decided yet what to do with *
* the money, but I will probably spend it on something for the *
* garden which will be a lasting reminder of our lovely church *
* and people. *
* Contrary to rumours which have reached my ears, I am still *
* around (!) and am certainly not moving from Bradford nor *
* indeed to another church. My time can now be spent in the *
* parish with no more having to go backwards and forwards to *
* Salisbury for meetings, services and so on. I shall also enjoy *
* being one of the 'gang' of retired clergy. *
* God bless you and again thank you all. *
* Angela. *

Church Stewards

It is hoped to open the Church over the Christmas Holiday period. It is proposed that we open between Saturday 27th December and Friday 1st January.

A list for volunteers will be at the crossing from the start of December so if you are able to help please add your name to the list.

Thank you
David Milne

ADVENT

The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning coming or arrival and so Advent is often said to be a time of waiting for the arrival of Christmas and the coming of Jesus to earth as a baby in Bethlehem.

Advent is a penitential season, a time for self-assessment and for confession of failures. It is a time when people resolve to do better in the future — 'to put things right for when Jesus comes', or as it was once more formally expressed: 'to prepare themselves worthily to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world'.

Because of its penitential nature, weddings were not celebrated during this season. Many churches still do not have flowers on their altars during Advent, while priests and ministers wear purple vestments, symbolising humility and penitence.

While there may be no flowers in church during Advent, it is likely there will be an Advent wreath, as there is in our church of Holy Trinity. It has its origins in pre-Christian Germany when people made wreaths of evergreen and lit fires as a sign of hope for the coming spring and longer hours of daylight. Christians preserved the custom and, by the sixteenth century, Advent wreaths were to be found in both Catholic and Lutheran homes. It was only in the middle of the twentieth century that they became a common feature in churches.

Traditionally, four candles (one for each Sunday) are set in a ring with a fifth candle at its centre. Three of the four outer candles are purple (the liturgical colour for Advent) while the other is pink or rose coloured. On Advent Sunday, one purple candle is lit, as a prayer is said. On the second



Sunday, two purple ones are lit. Then on the third Sunday, the pink candle is lit as well as the first two purple ones. The reason for this Sunday's candle being pink stems from the fact that the Roman Catholic mass for this day is more cheerful in tone than on the other Advent Sundays, asking congregations to rejoice that "The Lord is now nigh and close at hand". On this day the Mass used to begin with the Latin words *Gaudete in Domino* (Rejoice in the Lord). As a result it became known as Gaudete Sunday, and remains a day when some churches use pink rather than purple vestments, and flowers are permitted on altars to reflect the mood of joy.

The final purple candle is lit on the fourth Sunday, while the white candle (representing Christ, the Light of the World) is lit on Christmas Day. This sequence emphasises the message of the Advent wreath: as Christmas, with the coming of Jesus, gets nearer and nearer, the greater is the light in the darkness of winter. Out of darkness comes light.

The Christian year follows the life of Jesus starting with Advent and so Advent Sunday can consequently be said to be the Church's New Year.

Angela

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoe Boxes 2008



THANK YOU to everyone who has responded, and in so many ways, to help the 'Christmas Child' Shoe Box appeal again this year.

Thank you for beautifully filled boxes, items given which have enabled us to complete even **more boxes**, amazing knitting, and donations for travel costs.

To date our shoebox total is 107! These will soon be packed into very large boxes by willing helpers at the Melksham warehouse (our local collection and distribution point) before being loaded onto enormous lorries. Then they will be amongst the first to be on their long journey to some of the neediest children in the world.

As I write this, there is plenty of time if you are still filling your box or would like to do one. We shall be happy to receive your gifts up to the end of the 1st week in December, either in Church or at home, and they will be taken to the warehouse when we go.

The boxes will be opened with such joy by the children. It's hard for us to imagine but so many of our boxes will arrive at state-run Children's Homes where the children have little hope. Some of them are there because their parents are so very poor and unable to feed them. Heartbreakingly they think the Home will care for them better! So when the children receive our boxes they have just a little joy to think that someone, somewhere, cares.

So thank you for all the useful, delightful things you pack into these special little boxes which bring some smiles and hope for a child's Christmas, making all our efforts so very worthwhile. Surely this is what Christmas is all about.

Please ring me on 01225 864341 if you would like any more information, or have any queries.

With an enormous thank-you once again on behalf of the children.

Celia Milne

Crossword solutions

Across:

8, Their garments. 9, Pit. 10, Spiritist. 11, Range. 13, End than. 16, Scented. 19, Began. 22, Repayment. 24, Ewe. 25, Such knowledge.

Down:

1, Stupor. 2, Beaten. 3, Prospect. 4, Famine. 5, Omri. 6, Enrich. 7, Eshton. 12, Arc. 14, Do battle. 15, Asa. 16, Stress. 17, Expect. 18, Die for. 20, Greedy. 21, Needed. 23, Yoke.

Parish 2008 Christmas Card Distribution

A reminder (as if it were needed!) that Christmas is fast approaching and we plan once again to distribute 3000 Christmas cards throughout the parish. This involves the services of 50 helpers and Jenny and I will be assembling the 'packs' for distribution in mid-December. A card is delivered to every home in the parish plus packs to local hotels, guesthouses, the library and the tourist information office. There will also be some in church for those of you who live outside the parish or who wish to give to friends or neighbours.

It is not the most popular of tasks at a particularly busy time of the year but it is an important aspect of our outreach in the town. I hope you share my view that it is worthwhile and probably responsible for many of the 'new faces' apparent at our services over the Christmas period.

Grateful thanks to everyone, for a job well done in previous years, especially those of you who have taken on a 'little extra'.

Your assistance and continued support is much appreciated.

Mike Fuller

Christian Aid at Christmastime

All over the world, poverty and injustice are tearing families apart. At Christmas time, when many of us are lucky enough to spend the festive season with our families, we should spare a thought for families who are often forcibly separated — parents from children, brothers from sisters, partners from each other — as a result of natural or man-made disasters. Christian Aid seeks our help in bringing some of these families together, and asks for our generosity at Christmas.

As usual, after the deduction of expenses, collections from the four services at Holy Trinity on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be given to the general work of Christian Aid. Please give what you can to make the Church's donation really count, and if you can't get to church, send your donation to:

Christian Aid,
PO Box 100,
London SE1 7RT

Bradford Area Churches Together



The latest meeting of Bradford Churches together was held in the Quaker Meeting Room on 10th November. It was attended by 14 delegates from local churches and Christian organisations, and presided over by the Chairman, Ambrose Stickney, from St Thomas More church. Also present at the meeting were Kirsten Ottley from Robin Hood Ministries in Bradford.

The Chairman's report was brief and was largely concerned with the return of Judith Hammond from Palestine as part of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme, monitoring human rights issues. She will return in February and St Margaret's Hall has been booked for Friday 27th February, 2009, when Judith will give a detailed and illustrated presentation – a large audience is expected.

Other items on the agenda covered :-

Pentecost 2009: arrangements are progressing well for the procession and ecumenical service in Westbury gardens on the weekend of 30th May. The procession will proceed from Church Street, through the narrow box section in Market Street, thence over the town bridge to the gardens. Police are to be notified. Gareth will conduct the assembled choir, and BACT will provide the hymn sheet for all to use. Zion Baptist church will not be able to attend, but will support the event financially.

Homeless week: it was confirmed that a service for Homelessness will be held at Holy Trinity on Sunday 8th February at 6pm. In contrast a date for the service for Christian Unity has

not yet been set, but it may well take place at Winsley between Jan 18th & 25th.

Lent Courses: these will be organised by BACT again next year, using a weekly York course lasting 5 weeks and entitled 'Faith, Hope and Love'. Leader booklets are being purchased, and sign-up details will appear at our church shortly.

West Wilts Show 2009, 23rd – 25th July 2009: BACT wishes to associate itself with another established organisation for this event, and would encourage other Christian groups to do the same, all under the one banner. It was stated that Robin Hood Ministries and/or Bearfield Church may provide such a presence at the show, and it was envisaged that a prayer service may be offered with a quiet area for reflection. An area for children's activities and free tea and coffee may also be offered. Other ideas including a 'prayer tree' where names could be attached as 'leaves', and face painting were discussed. BACT will contact Trowbridge Churches Together to enquire about their plans.

Taizé: Bearfield Church announced that a Taizé service had recently been held, with a good degree of interest and success. Meditative songs were taught by a professional and it was proposed to hold a similar service and reflective time four times a year. We were advised that Bearfield will soon be undergoing refurbishment and that their under-11 'five-a-side' football team were looking for challenges from other churches!

Martin Skinner: the new minister at the Bradford United Church introduced himself to the meeting. He will contact Trowbridge Churches Together to enquire about their plans for the West Wilts Show, as well as contacting St Katherine's at Holt as we have not heard from them for some time.

Bradford on Avon Credit Union: is now running in the lower room of the Church Hall in Church Street on Thursday mornings from 10-12am. Details of this service, which is staffed by Holy Trinity volunteers, were provided and interested people invited to drop in and discuss their needs.

Winsley Church: is to be refurbished next summer and funding is currently in progress. A Youth Alpha Course is currently running with great success.

Faithworks: The Debt Advisory Centre is now to be set up at the United Church and will commence in January. Running costs of up to £2,500 a year are envisaged and volunteers are being sought to assist in running this service, together with your prayers.

Christmas Service Times: are to be published for all Bradford churches in the Wiltshire Times and in the free local papers. Holy Trinity will pay their share of the advertising cost. It was suggested that if these times were published in newspapers, cards and information from individual churches would not be necessary.

Wiltshire Churches Together: to which BACT subscribes, is seeking a new leader, following the resignation of a newly appointed leader in Salisbury. It was thought that the leader should be more mid-Wiltshire based in order to access all member groups.

Rome 2009: The Chairman floated the idea of a BACT-organised trip to Rome and Assisi for one week in October next year. Such a trip would include flights, transfers and accommodation *etc.* for about £700. It was requested that some facts and figures be sent out with the minutes of the meeting when published.

The next BACT meeting will be on Monday January 12th at 7.30pm. Unfortunately I shall still be away at that time, so would look forward to hearing from a volunteer who would like to represent Holy Trinity at the January meeting.

David Rawstron

**BRADFORD AREA
CHURCHES TOGETHER**

***advent carols
By candlelight***

**Holy Trinity Church
Sunday, 30th November
6 pm**



WILTSHIRE BUTTERFLIES – DECEMBER 2008

I'm sure you do not need me to remind you that the summer weather of 2008 was very poor – generally cool and wet, and not at all conducive to sun-loving creatures like as butterflies. Many were much reduced in abundance following the poor season of 2007 and many butterfly recorders have indicated that 2008 was the worst season they can remember for many years.

One species, the **Chalkhill Blue**, a lover of chalk grass downland has suffered severely over the last two years. For example, at Clearbury Down, south of Salisbury, it used to occur each year in literally 1000s and yet this year only a handful were seen by three independent observers.

There were some exceptions such as the **Holly Blue** in the spring, the **Speckled Wood** in the autumn and the two 'cabbage whites' which were commonly seen in many areas. Most brassica plants in gardens and allotments suffered considerably as a result of the abundance of hungry caterpillars. Most other species were scarce, especially, once again, the 'garden' butterflies that normally visit the buddleia bushes for nectar – the **Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Comma**.

However the Small Tortoiseshell was more frequently seen in September, when it is thought immigrants arrived from France to swell the indigenous population.

Of the three, usually common immigrants from the near Continent, only one **Clouded Yellow** has been reported so far and only a handful of **Painted Ladies** (I saw only one all season). However, **Red Admirals** were commonly seen in September and October, usually visiting ivy blossom.

Ann Holland sent me a delightful picture of a comma butterfly that she photographed near Leeds in September. This would have been unheard of this far north 20 years ago but it is one of several species that have extended their range

northwards in recent years, even into southern Scotland. Butterflies are now recognised by the Government, as 'indicator species' because of their ability to act rapidly to climate change. They are one of several tools used to monitor environment condition (biodiversity) and the effects of global warming.

So another disappointing year for many butterfly species (and butterfly observers). If 2009 turns out to be another cool, wet season, some rare, local, colonial species could be reduced to extinction levels in their small, fragmented habitats. Other, more widespread species will no doubt recover as conditions improve and their numbers will increase.



Comma butterfly spotted in Temple Newsam Park, West Yorkshire, by Ann Holland.

Thank you to those of you who have 'discussed' butterflies with me during the year and any records will always be most welcome.

Mike Fuller
Wiltshire Butterfly Recorder
Vice-Chairman BC Wiltshire Branch

SAINTS CORNER

December 6th — St Nicholas

Father Christmas seems to be as old as Europe. Once he was Woden, lashing his reindeer through the darkness of northern midwinter. Then he encountered the Church and She transformed him into a saint, the much-loved Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (in south-west Turkey) in the fourth century. St Nicholas became the patron saint of children, and was given 6th December as his day.

Since the 6th century St Nicholas has been venerated in both East and West, though virtually nothing is known of his life. Some believe he may have been one of the fathers at the Council of Nicaea (325), imprisoned during the Emperor Diocletian's persecution.

According to legend, Nicholas was an extremely generous man. He revived three schoolboys murdered by an innkeeper in a tub of pickles. He rescued three young women from prostitution by giving their poverty-stricken father three bags of gold (hence the use of three gold balls as the pawnbroker's signs.)

Over the centuries many, including children, sailors, unmarried girls, pawnbrokers and moneylenders have claimed him as their patron.

Perhaps it was on account of St Nicholas's generosity that in recent

centuries children began to write little notes sometime before 6th December, to tell him about the toys they specially wanted. These notes were then left on the windowsill at night, or else on a ledge in the chimney.

But St Nicholas's Day chanced to lie in the magnetic field of a much more potent festival, and after a while his activities were moved towards Christmas. Then, in Bavaria, the children still left their notes on the window sill, but they addressed them to Liebes Christkind — Krishinkle, as they knew him — and the saint's part in the matter was simply to deliver the letters in heaven.

The most popular result of the cult of St Nicholas has been the institution of Santa Claus. He is based on Nicholas's patronage of children and the custom in the Low Countries of giving presents on his feast. Santa Claus has reached his zenith in America, where the Dutch Protestants of New Amsterdam (New York) united to it Nordic folklore legends of a magician who both punished naughty children and rewarded good ones with presents.

Source: Parish Pump

Wild boar and Santons — Autumn and Christmas in the Var

In October at our house in Flayosc the leaves were turning colour. The giant leaves of the Chinese mulberry, which provides welcome shade in the summer, were turning lime green before dropping, the beautiful persimmon tree was full of orange fruit amongst red-gold leaves, and hazelnuts had fallen onto our lawn from the tree in our neighbours' garden. Unfortunately we find the fruit of the persimmon not as attractive to eat as it looks – rather like a flavourless tomato.

We had to check with the Mairie (town hall) that it was permissible to have a bonfire. Bonfires are prohibited, except between certain dates in the winter months, because with the parched, dry landscape there is a serious risk of fire. In the summer we have seen the dramatic sight of fleets of special planes scooping up water from Lac St Croix to fight forest fires.

Care must also be taken when you go out for walks at weekends in the autumn. We came across a man in camouflage gear and hunting rifle warning us to stay clear of a particular path. We then looked across fields to see a group of

hunters attempting to drive out a wild boar. Hunting is very much part of the way of life in our area after the wine crop has been harvested. Hunting boar is the way many local farmers and workers like to spend their weekends, the meets naturally involving lots of camaraderie, especially after a kill when they all celebrate that evening. The previous owner of our house was a keen hunter and had a magnificent boar's head



Persimmons and autumn leaves
photo: Malcolm Hancock

mounted on the chimneybreast.

Wild boar *pâté* and *daube* (stew) appear on the menus of local restaurants – delicious, and not as strong a taste as one might expect. All sorts of interesting local mushrooms are for sale at the greengrocers and you sometimes see people out with baskets in the woods looking for them. In France you can take any mushroom you find to the local pharmacy for identification to make sure you are not poisoned.

On All Souls' Day the French traditionally place white chrysanthemums on their family graves. If you wish to give a French friend a present of a pot plant, it is

advisable not to make it a chrysanthemum, which is associated with death. Remembrance Day on 11th November is always a national



A Nativity Santon

holiday and this year, as it fell on a Tuesday, the French were pleased to have the opportunity to *faire le pont* – make a bridge. When a national holiday falls on a Tuesday or Thursday some French like to take an extra day off work on the day before or after to extend their weekend.

A Christmas tradition is to have a nativity scene with *santons*. These are beautifully modelled clay figures of not only Mary, Joseph and the Christ child but also characters dressed in local costume. The making of santons is regarded as an artistic skill and people collect figures, perhaps made by one particular craftsman and add to their collections year by year.

Many of the first *santon*-makers even modelled their *santons* on actual people in their village. These were treasured by the local families as part of their family heirlooms. In the past, many villagers would take their personal *santons* in the effigy of one of the family's members and place it in the nativity scene in the local church. In such a way, the entire village's population was represented by the *santons* of its individual inhabitants.

The word *santon* comes from the Provençal *santoun* or 'little saint'. They became popular during the French Revolution when the churches were closed and the larger, traditional nativity scenes in churches prohibited. Smaller figurines began appearing in homes, and quickly gained popularity. They represent an idealized vision of eighteenth century Provence and most *santons* are portrayed as elderly people in activities, professions or trades that have long since disappeared. Much research is done to ensure that they are historically accurate. One common figure is a shepherd facing the Mistral wind holding his hat, with his cloak blowing. In the month leading up to Christmas, there are traditional *santon* fairs all over Provence.

Daphne Hancock

Father Christmas

Of course, I had expected that by the age of seven it was inevitable for my son to begin to have serious thoughts about Father Christmas. Sure enough, one day he said, "Mum, I know something about Father Christmas, the Easter Bunny, and the Tooth Fairy."

Taking a deep breath, I asked him, "And what is that?"

He replied, "They're all nocturnal."

THINGS HAPPEN FOR A REASON...

The brand new pastor and his wife, newly assigned to their first ministry to reopen a church in suburban Brooklyn, arrived in early October excited about their opportunities. Their church was very run down and needed much work, but they set a goal to have everything done in time to have their first service on Christmas Eve.

They worked hard, repairing pews, plastering walls, painting, *etc.*, and on December 18th were ahead of schedule and just about finished. On December 19th a driving rainstorm hit the area and lasted for two days. On the 21st, the pastor went over to the church. His heart sank when he saw that the roof had leaked, causing a large area of plaster about 20 feet by 8 feet to fall off the front wall of the sanctuary just behind the pulpit, beginning about head high.

The pastor cleaned up the mess on the floor, and not knowing what else to do but postpone the Christmas Eve service, headed home. On the way he noticed that a local business was having a flea-market sale for charity so he stopped to look. One of the items was a beautiful, handmade, ivory coloured, crocheted tablecloth with exquisite work, fine colours and a cross embroidered right in the centre. It was just the right size to cover up the hole in the front wall. He bought it and headed back to the church.

By this time it had started to snow. An older woman running from the opposite direction was trying to catch the bus, but she missed it. The pastor invited her to wait in the warm church for the next bus 45 minutes later. She sat in a pew and

paid no attention to the pastor while he got a ladder, hangers, *etc.*, to put up the tablecloth as a wall tapestry. The pastor could hardly believe how beautiful it looked and it covered up the entire problem area.

Then he noticed the woman walking down the centre aisle. Her face was like a sheet. "Pastor," she asked, "where did you get that tablecloth?" The pastor explained. The woman asked him to check the lower right corner to see if the initials, EBG were crocheted into it there. They were. These were the woman's own initials and she had made this tablecloth 35 years before, in Austria.

The woman could hardly believe it as the pastor told how he had just acquired the tablecloth. The woman explained that before the war she and her husband were well-to-do people in Austria. When the Nazis came, she was forced to leave. Her husband was going to follow her the next week, but he was captured and sent to prison and she never saw her husband or her home again.

The pastor wanted to give her the tablecloth, but she made the pastor keep it for the church. The pastor insisted on driving her home, that was the least he could do. She lived on the other side of Staten Island and was only in Brooklyn for the day to do a house-cleaning job.

What a wonderful service they had on Christmas Eve. The church was almost full. The music and the spirit were great. At the end of the service, the pastor and his wife greeted everyone at the door and many said that they would return.

One older man, whom the pastor recognized from the neighbourhood, continued to sit in one of the pews and stare, and the pastor wondered why he wasn't leaving.

The man asked him where he had got the tablecloth on the front wall because it was identical to one that his wife had made years ago when they lived in Austria before the war. How could there be two tablecloths so much alike?

He told the pastor how the Nazis came, how he forced his wife to flee for her own safety, and how he was supposed to follow her but he was arrested and put in a prison. He never saw his wife or his home again all the 35 years in between.

The pastor asked him if he would allow him to take him for a little ride. They drove to Staten Island to the same house where the pastor had taken the woman three days earlier.

He helped the man climb the three flights of stairs to the woman's apartment, knocked on the door, and then watched the greatest Christmas reunion he could ever imagine.

This is a true story told by Pastor Rob Reid. Who says God does not work in mysterious ways?

Supplied by Margaret Purves

PCC REPORT

The PCC met on Wednesday 12th November. Among items discussed was the granting of the faculty for the work to be done in the Sacristy, the recommendation of Mrs C Hynes-Higman as St Laurence School Governor (to replace Canon Bill Matthews), and preparations for Christmas.

The Churchwardens and the Vicar reported on the unsatisfactory working of the new sound system and the actions that were being taken to rectify the problem, including a proposal to move the control panel to allow more people to be trained in operating it.

The budget report showed that there was still a deficit in the church's accounts but the non-payment of the final instalment of share may mean the accounts balance at the end of the year. The PCC again mandated the Treasurer not to pay the final share instalment this year. The Stewardship Secretary said the recent campaign had led to a small increase in planned giving so far.

Graham Dove
PCC Secretary

NATURE DIARY 10

More extracts from my diary:

October 2008

Wednesday 1st: (Still in the Lake District)

My great weakness in natural history is knowledge of trees. I think I've now cracked the identification of the alder – having found the wee cone-like fruits, which stay on all winter, and seeing the catkins. I had got rather puzzled by finding both until I got a 'Trees Sticker Book' published by Usborne. I know it's really for children but I've found it really helpful and having just visited, today, Rydal Mount (the home of Wordsworth) I can say with confidence "The child is the father of the man" – or in this case "woman".

Thursday 2nd: Brian returned from his early-morning walk with news of the rarer grey partridge, cormorants, mixed rafts of mallards and coots and grey wagtails.

After all the rain we have had the water level has risen in Lake Windermere and the little pier is now covered.

Went to Blea Tarn. Brian had read that the path around it was suitable for buggies and wheelchairs. Huh! The person who had written this guide has obviously never tried it – and it thundered down with rain! I have rarely in recent years ever got so wet and cold and bruised. At least I heard a raven!

Friday 3rd: On the way to Brantwood (Ruskin's home), saw three swallows, and while there saw two martins – don't they know it's October? Lovely day in comparison to yesterday, with blue skies and glorious leaf colour.

Saw, on returning to the cottage, a jay and before that had seen pheasants galore. One group consisted of two males and five females, another with many females and two males in combat and a third group – much more settled – of three females and one male.

Monday 6th: Home!

Wrapped up the specimen mineral sample – Spherulitic Rhyolite for Ray as a 'thank you' for keeping an eye on the house while we were away. I found a lovely quote from Ruskin to put with it: - "A stone when examined closely will be found to be a mountain" – though in this case a volcano!

Thursday 9th: Brian saw a great many swallows at Kingsdown.

Sunday 12th: Wonderful day, the sky the clearest, cloudless blue and the Autumn colours brilliant and held in the stillness of the day.

Ann (Holland) sent me this delightful story: -

'The other day Brian walked into Drammie's stable and found a shocked looking little owl sitting on the edge of the trough. It took one look at Brian and fell face down into the water. Brian hastily folded its wings, which had automatically spread out, I suppose to prevent it sinking (can owls swim?)*. Once squeezed out it flew out the door restored to Mother Nature.'

*No – I'm sure they can't as their feathers aren't water resistant – but they could stay afloat for quite some time with their wings outspread.

Wednesday 15th: The leaves are falling in a tumult, like confetti driven by a storm rather than thrown by friendly hands.

Sunday 19th: Brian heard the raven again. I have heard a tale that, locally, someone's cat caught one and brought it into the house. I have to admit I doubt this as ravens are as big as buzzards!

The garden is lovely – cyclamen and hydrangeas glowing pink, the flowers in the bog garden showing orange and maroon, the geraniums, purple, and the roses, a gleaming yellow.

Took Chris for a drive out to Alton Barnes, through Quiet Lane to Oare then back through Marlborough and home. He said he had a desire for open spaces. He described the hills as 'toes curled in comfort'.

Monday 20th: To Stow and back. The trees are glorious and I've realized that the reason that there is so much foliage left on the trees is because there has been no frost – obvious really! The range of colours is fantastic – from the palest lemon for forsythia yellow, blue-black green to lime, orange to maroon and cream. I think this is why so many paintings of Autumn look unreal and fantastical – because of the range used from the artist's palette.

Thursday 23rd: As I opened the back door this morning a whole family of long-tailed tits flew chattering by. They are such delightful little birds and hardly ever seen singly.

Saturday 25th: The first frost of the year.

Wednesday 29th: On the way down to stay at Doyden Point, Cornwall, for a week.

Noticeable that up to the borders of Cornwall the trees still held the majority of their leaves but as soon as we 'hit' Cornwall, apart from roadside avenues of beeches, the trees – far fewer and many stunted by wind direction – are bare.

Just before entering Cornwall a peregrine flew alongside the car, just low enough for me to see the dark smudges under the eyes.

Delight! Just as we were nearing our destination at about 2.45pm saw two huge flocks of starlings – each flock numbering in the hundreds – playing 'chicken' in among the wind farm sails. A real treat as there are so few starlings now in Bradford.

As the night drew in the sky turned yellow and the wind turned bitter.

Thursday 30th: Have read in the paper that kittiwakes, Arctic terns and Arctic skuas have not bred at all this year in Britain because of a lack of food.

Went to Lanhydrock. Too cold to go round the gardens but the sentinel yews at the front of the house are splendid.

Friday 31st: From the kitchen window of our National Trust flat we can see the entrance to one of the many lead and antimony mine shafts that riddle the cliffs here. From this distance the fencing around the shaft looks like a standing stone circle as found in the Orkneys, adding a real sense of mystery to this place.

Liz Netley

Mincemeat pinwheels.

A new twist on a traditional favourite.

Ingredients: 1 packet of puff pastry, mincemeat.

1. Roll out pastry thinly into a rectangle on a surface dusted with caster sugar.
2. Spread surface evenly with mincemeat leaving a 2cm border clear on each of the long edges.
3. Roll up pastry tightly into a sausage shape rolling from one long edge to the other.
4. Brush edge of pastry with milk and seal firmly to retain filling.
5. Refrigerate long roll for an hour.
6. Cut the roll into slices about 3cm thick or as desired.
7. Place, evenly spaced, on a large baking tray.
8. Flatten each slice with your hand as with Chelsea Buns.

These pinwheels, or the whole sausage shape, can be frozen at this stage for up to 3 months.

Bake at 180°C for 25-30 minutes until golden brown and the mincemeat is sizzling. They are good served hot with custard.

To make cocktail-sized pinwheels roll the pastry into two slimmer rolls before cutting through. You may like to sprinkle flaked almonds or add cherries to the tops of the wheels.

Joan Finch



*...no I don't think you're the real Father Christmas!
I think you're up there pinching lead off my roof!!*

ONE WORLD WEEK

The West Wiltshire Interfaith Group organized an afternoon celebration for One World Week at the Trowbridge Civic Hall on 26th October, 2008. It was appropriately dedicated to the memory of Grace Hill who worked tirelessly throughout her life to promote understanding and tolerance within our local community.

Fifty people attended an excellent talk in the Usher Room by Chief Inspector Glyn Hooking. His subject was people trafficking, a grim topic for a bright Sunday afternoon. But that was his point – we would all prefer to close our eyes to the abuses which often happen under our noses. He pointed out that in West Wiltshire people trafficking most commonly takes the form of agricultural labour exploitation. The sex trade, which involves young women, men and small children, is not restricted to large cities either. Traffickers, who get £3000 for every human being prostituted in this way, can imprison and exploit their desperate victims anywhere. And those 'bargains' we love to buy are often the products of illegal sweat-shops and virtual slave labour.

Because of the obvious difficulties that the police have in uncovering these illegal activities they have launched a campaign called 'Blue Blindfold' to encourage us to see what is happening in our localities and help us to report any suspicions we may have. There is an information pack for anyone who is interested in taking this further.

After all of this, relaxation and refreshment were very welcome. So we joined the drummers, face painters, representatives of Amnesty and other community groups in the Main Hall for chat and delicious spicy food.

Once more we must thank Farzana Saker for co-ordinating this very successful event and the Mayor of Trowbridge, Councillor John Knight, for his warm welcome and encouragement.

Margaret Harris



Camels

In Jane's Christmas drawing, two of the camels were approaching the inn, over which was pictured a large star. The third camel and its rider were going directly away from it.

"Why is the third man going in a different direction?" her mother asked. Jane replied: "Oh, he's looking for a place to park."

Book review: The Book of Judith

Picture the scene: Nebuchadnezzar (King of Assyria) and his vast army have devastated all the lands of the Middle East and destroyed most of its inhabitants. Now only the people of Judah and the city of Jerusalem lie in his way. But instead of launching a full frontal assault he decides to cut off the city's water supply and besiege the city till the people surrender.

As the water supply within the city begins to dry up Uzziah, the Chief Magistrate of the city, can stand the people's complaints no longer and promises them that if God does not rescue them within five days, he will surrender the city...

Will God save the people of Jerusalem in time and, if so, how?

Read the Book of Judith to find out what happens next and to discover a story of espionage, seduction and violence even James Bond would be proud of.

Graham Dove

NB. The Book of Judith is one of the books of the Apocrypha. These books were not included in the official Hebrew canon when it was fixed in the first century AD, but were found in the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures of that time (the Septuagint). They are regarded as worthy of study and only second in importance to the books in the Bible for both the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.

A prayer for the current financial situation

Lord God, we live in disturbing days:

across the world,

prices rise, debts increase, banks collapse,

jobs are taken away,

and fragile security is under threat.

Loving God, meet us in our fear and hear our prayer:

be a tower of strength amidst the shifting sands,

and a light in the darkness;

help us receive your gift of peace,

and fix our hearts where true joys are to be found,

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

CHURCHWARDENS' CONFERENCES

On the 15th November in Devizes and the 26th November in Salisbury I had the opportunity of attending the Ramsbury area Churchwardens' Conferences. These all-day conferences provided a series of workshops to Churchwardens covering practical topics including Building and Faculties, Insurance, Youth, Chairing a PCC, Relating to your Church School, Leading Family Worship, What to do if your Priest leaves, Back-to-Church Sunday, and Conflict Transformation. All these subjects are important to us at Holy Trinity and it is good to know there is a great deal of really good help available on them all. If anyone has any special interest in any of these topics then I do have quite a lot of additional leaflets *etc.* and am willing to pass them on to anyone who would like them.

I also had the privilege of co-presenting the workshop on Conflict Transformation. Conflict can be a natural part of church life and this workshop focused on how we can build on relationships and develop conflict creatively. During my research I came across this quote by Alistair Mackay which I thought might be useful to include in Parish News:

I believe that the Church can make a transformative difference in our society.

We need better ways to deal with the conflicts facing us in Britain, and a Church which is faithful to Jesus will model the healthy handling of conflict. Sadly the current reality is often different. If we have anything to offer the world, then we have to be living out the gospel in our own midst. How we engage with one another around our conflicts, and how we work at reconciliation and conflict transformation, is a key dimension of living out the Christian gospel in today's world.

Tony Haffenden

Angel tidings

The little boy was to be an angel in the Christmas play and his one line was: "Behold, I bring you good tidings." He asked what tidings were and his mother explained that the word meant news. On the night of the play, the youngster had stage fright and, after a long silence, blurted out: "Hey, have I got news for you!"

Bradford on Avon Thursday Club

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT FOR LUNCH EVERY
WEEK TO MEET OLD FRIENDS AND ALSO MAKE
NEW FRIENDS?**

The lunch takes place at the Youth and Community Centre, Frome Road. It is comfortable, and warm like the welcome you will get from everyone.

Here are a few views of it from our members:

- "It's so good to meet people my age, it keeps me feeling young!" Vera.
- "We don't just sit, we have lots of laughs." Nan.
- "All the quizzes keep our brains ticking over." Betty.
- "I miss it on days when we have a holiday." Joyce.
- "It's a good day out for under £5, and we also have transport to get there if we need it."

Ring CHRISTINE on 01225 865653 if you are interested.

for prayer in month

We pray:

- for all involved in preparing for our Advent and Christmas Worship
- for the work of all charities involved with the homeless
- for those on their own this Christmas time
- for those serving away from home in the Armed Forces and Peace Keeping Forces this Christmas

Saxon Club Programme December 2008

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

You are very welcome to join us.

- December 2nd: Christmas lunch, Church Hall
9th: Neem Tree Trust, Kathy Miller
16th: Carols and mince pies
23rd: No meeting
30th: No meeting

Bradford Choral Society

Christmas Carol Concert

with works by Rutter, Gibbons and Warlock

Musical Director : Rupert Bevan

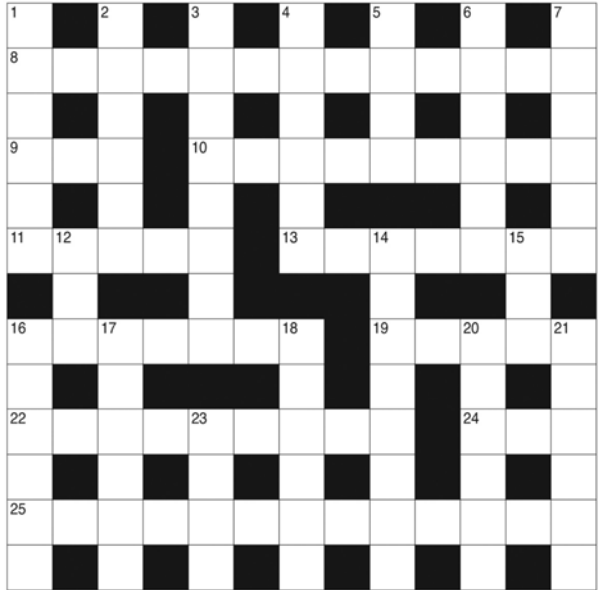
Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon

7-30pm, Friday, December 12th

Tickets £8.00 available from members, from *Ex Libris*, and on the door.

Quick Crossword

The Bible version is the NIV



Clues across

- 8 'Then Aaron and his sons and - - will be consecrated' (Exodus 29:21) (5,8)
 9 'He lifted me out of the slimy - , out of the mud and mire' (Psalm 40:2) (3)
 10 Such a person should be put to death (Leviticus 20:27) (9)
 11 Chain of mountains (Numbers 27:12) (5)
 13 'They are worse off at the - - they were at the beginning' (2 Peter 2:20) (3,4)
 16 Descent (anag.) (7)
 19 'But they all alike - to make excuses' (Luke 14:18) (5)
 22 Reimbursement (Luke 6:34) (9)
 24 Female sheep (2 Samuel 12:4) (3)
 25 ' - - is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain' (Psalm 139:6) (4,9)

Clues down

- 1 Alcohol-induced oblivion (Psalm 78:65) (6)
 2 'Three times I was - with rods' (2 Corinthians 11:25) (6)
 3 Future outlook (Proverbs 10:28) (8)
 4 It caused Joseph's brothers to journey to Egypt to buy grain (Genesis 42:5) (6)
 5 See 15 Down
 6 'You care for the land and water it; you - it abundantly' (Psalm 65:9) (6)
 7 Son of Mehir and descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:11) (6)
 12 Car (anag.) (3)
 14 Engage in warfare (Isaiah 31:4) (2,6)
 15 'In the thirty-first year of - king of Judah, - became king of Israel' (1 Kings 16:23) (3,4)
 16 Excessive strain or tension (Jeremiah 19:9) (6)
 17 'The Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not - him' (Luke 12:40) (6)
 18 'Very rarely will anyone - - a righteous man' (Romans 5:7) (3,3)
 20 Avaricious (1 Peter 5:2) (6)
 21 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is - ' (Luke 10:41-42) (6)
 23 'For my - is easy and my burden is light' (Matthew 11:30) (4)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - OFFICERS

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

Tony Haffenden (Churchwarden)
Graham Dove (Hon. Secretary)

Pat Astill

Peggy Leach

Janet Brown

Dr Nick Nutt

Mary Burge

David Rawstron

Anne Carter

Edward Shaw

Bryan Harris

Malcolm Walsh

June Harrison

Anne Willis

Cecilia Hynes-Higman

John Woods

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

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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 Licensed Lay Ministers.

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	862240
Sidesman's Rota	Joan Finch	863878
Stewardship Secretary	Graham Dove	868654
Junior Church	Alison Cook	864116
	June Harrison	863745
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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