

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Bradford on Avon



PARISH NEWS

JANUARY 2009

web edition

DIRECTORY

Vicar

Canon Bill Matthews

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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) 3 rd Thursday
Bell Practice	7.30–9 pm	2 nd and 4 th 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

In the United States, a presidential term begins tidily in January, though at the cost of an outdoor inauguration in a very chilly Washington DC. The recent election captured the imagination of people throughout the world, as the process of choosing the Democratic candidate went almost up to the convention, and brought the possibility of electing either the first woman president, or the first black one.

But those of us who have been thinking and praying about the election and the new presidency must feel for the President-elect Obama as he copes with the messianic expectations that have been heaped upon him, both within his own country and in the wider world. He takes on a country in recession, with enormous international debts. He will be expected to take a new initiative on climate change, at a time when the nations of the world can least afford it. He is left with the consequences of his predecessor's actions and decisions in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is faced with new relationships with an increasingly wealthy and powerful India and China, and a Russia striving to prove that it is still a Great Power. The toxic relationship between Israel and Palestine remains. We could go on and on...

Even this cursory overview is a further call to prayer. On the one hand, we must hope that people will not expect miracles. On the other, we must pray that Barack Obama will manage to make a real difference in these and other areas for the sake of us all.

And perhaps this is something that we can think about as our own lives move into another year, with all that we can already foresee, and all the events that will take us by surprise.

Our cautious selves advise us to be realistic as to what we can achieve, especially in the light of our own track record. And that is probably very sensible. But we shall begin another year having just celebrated again God's miracle of love and grace in the gift of his Son. That is surely a challenge to us not to be over-cautious about our expectations of what God can do in us. Christians down the ages have borne witness to what God's grace can do in their lives. I'm sure that we should pray expectantly for at least one or two little miracles of grace to help us to serve him better in this coming year.

May God bless you all in the weeks and months that lie ahead.

Bill Maris

DIARY FOR JANUARY



2 Friday	8 am	Basil the Great & Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops	
4 SUNDAY		THE EPIPHANY	
	9.30 am	Solemn Eucharist	
	6 pm	Compline	
11 SUNDAY		BAPTISM OF CHRIST	
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
	6 pm	Evensong	<i>Christ Church</i>
15 Thursday	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Dinner at Cliffe Hotel with raffle	
18 SUNDAY		EPIPHANY 2	
	9.30 am	Family Communion	
	6 pm	Compline	
21 Wednesday	10 am 7.00 pm 7.35 pm	Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome Holy Communion Parochial Parish Council	<i>St Mary Tory St Mary Tory</i>
25 SUNDAY		THE CONVERSION OF PAUL	
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
	6 pm	Evensong	
28 Wednesday	10 am	Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher & Teacher of the Faith	

Holy Communion is usually at 8 am each Sunday

Copy Date for February is 18th January

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

23.11 Taya-Jayde Mae Gant-Brooks

Thanksgiving Service

5.12 Barbara Edith Moth

Funerals

17.11 Irene Flora May Stevens

27.11 Marion Dorothy lean Richards

8.12 Thomas Gwyndaf Thomas

HOLY TRINITY MOTHERS' UNION

Two days after returning from the Far East, and with the house looking like Widow Twankey's laundry, I set off for Bath to hear a talk by the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Jane Williams. Bath & Wells Diocese had invited MU members from Salisbury, Bristol and Gloucester dioceses to a meeting in the Guildhall, Bath, to hear her talk on "The Lambeth Walk". No tickets had been issued, or even numbers ascertained, so I was quite worried that there would be too many people wanting to get in!

I arrived, soon after 12 (the talk was at 12.30), to find only about the first three rows of the Banqueting Room filled. I was given a warm welcome by the B & W members, and the room soon filled up. There were several people I knew from my time in Bath in the 1960s. Two rows behind was a contingent from St John's, Studley, and I also saw Josie Griffith from Christ Church.

Jane started to talk about the preparations for the Lambeth Conference, and how she had been involved in it, setting up a committee of Bishops' wives from various parts of the world, some of whom lived in England. They had to plan what to do for the Bishops' wives while their husbands were at the conference. They were staying at Canterbury, and one of the funniest requests was that they wanted to share a room with someone. They don't like being alone in a room! She told us that when she had gone to a similar conference, the reaction to her wanting a room to herself had been astonishment!

When the conference took place, she was surprised to be addressed as "The Most Reverend Mother of England". One of the days had been set aside to talk about 'Violence', and it had been a very uncomfortable day. The women from the Congo, for example, have to decide whether to go looking for food, and risk being raped, or stay at home and let the children go hungry. There was a general feeling that, had the wives known what their lives would be like married to a Bishop, they would have run a mile at the start of the courtship!

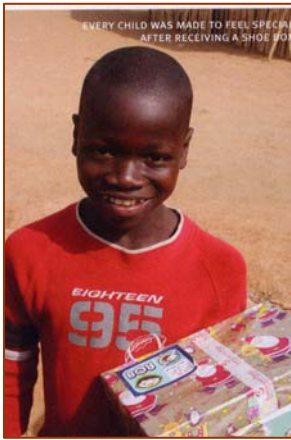
She spoke for nearly 1½ hours, said she could have gone on for 3 but wanted to be back in London to pick her 12-year-old up from school. Unfortunately, I didn't make notes, which, my memory being what it is, I needed to do as I couldn't get round to writing about it straight away. However, it was a most moving and interesting talk, and I felt privileged to be there. We were given tea and cakes afterwards, and a chance to socialise with another diocese. I met several people who recognised me from over 40 years ago, and still wanted to speak to me!



photo: Rowan Williams's website

Chris Hodge

Christmas Child – Shoe Boxes 2008



Thousands of very poor and under-privileged children will smile this Christmas to receive your love and generosity as they accept and open their gift-filled shoe boxes.

I am sure these children would want to say a very big THANK YOU.

The final total of shoe-box contributions from our Church family, friends and neighbours this year was **133** boxes, a wonderful effort. The very first lorry to leave contained 70 of these, and was destined for Liberia, a country devastated by war, disaster, and poverty, where inevitably children are suffering.

The remaining 63 boxes are now on their way to Bosnia and Ukraine, where we are sure the children will open them with much delight and gratitude. We hope and pray that they will all arrive safely after their long journeys.

THANK YOU to you all for your contributions.

Wishing you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas.

Celia Milne

Parish Christmas Card Distribution

A special thank you to all the 50 or so people who once again helped with the distribution of the 3000 parish Christmas cards and especially to those who did so for the first time. One was delivered to every home in the parish and packs were delivered to local hotels and guesthouses, the library and the tourist information office. I hope you agree that it was very worthwhile and responsible for many of the ‘new faces’ apparent at our services over the Christmas period.

The front of the very attractive card was a painting of the interior of our church by our own George Hurst, photographed by David Milne for the printers.

Thank you George and David and thank you everyone, especially those of you who took on a ‘little extra’ this time. Your assistance and continued support is much appreciated.

Mike Fuller

With 'The Friends' at the theatre

Many thanks go to John Woods and the 'Friends of Holy Trinity' for giving us the opportunity to visit the Bath Theatre Royal for some great entertainment recently. The choice was Oscar Wilde's *The Ideal Husband*, a Peter Hall production, and the Northern Ballet's magical presentation of *The Nutcracker* the following week.



These days the stage management and scene changes are so sophisticated and smooth - a far cry from my days working in weekly repertory theatre (albeit a long time ago!). As ASMs (Assistant Stage Managers) we rushed frantically about backstage, moving furniture and props, sometimes dropping them in the hurry and on one occasion the foot of our eager electrician appeared through the ceiling of the auditorium!

In the case of *The Ideal Husband*, the main tabs (or curtains) were not drawn but in their place hung a huge medallion depicting the head of Queen Victoria. Behind this on a darkened stage, hardly noticeable, scenes were changed and ASMs in black quietly moved furniture and props while the audience chatted quietly. As ever, Peter Hall's production was polished and entertaining. The brilliant cast included well-known faces such as Tony Britton, Fenella Fielding, Michel Praed and Kate O'Mara. It was a super evening.

In quiet contrast was the magical *Nutcracker* ballet, popular with children and adults alike. The multi-national cast danced beautifully and the scenery was enchanting, smoothly changing before our eyes. Pippa Moore, who danced the leading role of Clara says that she enjoys this rôle because there are no hidden depths to this character, it's just "a magical journey of adventure and adolescent romance." The Northern Ballet have a varied programme, visiting theatres all over the country and are soon to have a new, purpose-built home with the Phoenix Dance Theatre in the centre of Leeds.

Ann Holland

It is better to lose anything than to lose time; we can recover lost money, but time is irrecoverable.

Chrysostom

HOLY TRINITY VISIT TO THE CHAPEL ROYAL

November 16th 2008

How Bill became Chaplain to the Queen

In January 2001 Bill received a letter from the Clerk of the Closet, then the Bishop of Birmingham, setting out the possibility of being appointed. He then received a formal offer from the Lord Chamberlain, and was presented, with Jean, to The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace that summer. He preached his first sermon in the Queen's Chapel the following year.

The Chapel Royal

Many centuries ago the 'Chapel Royal' comprised a group of priests and singers who travelled with the Sovereign to whichever palace or residence was in use. Since the late 17th century the Chapel Royal has been based at St James's Palace and the marriages of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1840 and King George V and Queen Mary (as Duke of York and Princess Mary of Teck) in 1893 took place in the Chapel. The Chapel Royal was constructed by Henry VIII and decorated by Hans Holbein.

In 1997 the coffin of Diana, Princess of Wales was placed before the altar of the Chapel prior to her funeral in Westminster Abbey. Many noted organists and composers contributed to the long musical history of the Chapel Royal including Henry Purcell and George Frederick Handel.

Our visit

A group of 31 members of Holy Trinity left Bradford promptly at 7am on Sunday November 16th and, following a scheduled stop at Reading services, arrived in London's Pall Mall at 10am. We identified our eventual destination and were informed that the large black gates would open at 10.45am to allow us to enter the Chapel Royal.

The opportunity for a walk in the park was very welcome in spite of the occasional drizzle and we were able to see the Horse Guards in all their regalia riding along the Mall and into St James's Palace.

At the appointed time we were welcomed to the Chapel Royal by the lady verger and shown to our seats. The Chapel is long and narrow with the congregation facing inwards as in our choir stalls. Jean was conducted to her special seat at the end of the chapel and was soon joined by a most handsome guardsman.



Part of the Holy Trinity group entering the Chapel Royal. photo provided by Tony Haffenden

Sung matins, led by the Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal, Canon Bill Scott, began promptly at 11.15am with the hymn *Lead us heavenly father lead us* and the entry of the choir and clergy. The choirboys were resplendent in gold and scarlet tunics and scarlet trousers. They all attend the City of London Boys School and audition to be choir boys in the Chapel Royal. During the service the choir sang the canticle *Collegium regale* by Herbert Howells and the anthem *Know you not* by Thomas Tomkins. The choir and organist were outstanding.

At the time of the notices the visitors from Holy Trinity were warmly welcomed by the Dean and told that although our vicar may be retiring from Holy Trinity he will not be allowed to retire from the Chapel Royal as he is a mere youngster!

Bill's impressive sermon (with yet more from Revelations!!!) was delivered with no notes and no sound system!! The other Hymns were *My God how wonderful thou art* and *Let all the world in every corner sing*.

I think we all felt incredibly privileged to be able to be part of this impressive full Matins service in this historic building with our own vicar presenting his sermon from the heart. It will always remain in our memories.

Following the service our group dispersed to reassemble later in Pall Mall for our return journey, George and Ivy being first back on the coach. Several members of our group were met by family after the service. Others visited the Royal Academy of Art and the Byzantine exhibition, The National Gallery and impressionist paintings, Fortnum and Mason, where a box of crackers costing £1000 was not purchased, Liberty's, where a £1000 handbag remained unpurchased, and of course, many coffee shops.

A truly wonderful experience.

Joan Finch

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie

An old, tired-looking dog wandered into my garden one day. I could tell from his collar and well-fed tummy that he had a home and was well taken care of. Calmly, he came over to me, and then followed me into my house. Slowly he walked down the hall, into the sitting room, curled up on the hearthrug, and fell asleep. An hour or so later he went to the door, and I let him out. The next day he was back, greeted me in my garden, walked by me into the house, and again slept for an hour or so in the sitting room. This daily visit with a nap continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious, I finally pinned a note to his collar: "I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is, and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap."

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: "He lives in a home with six children, two under the age of three - he's trying to catch up on his sleep.

Can I come with him tomorrow?"

Dear Editors,

My husband Paul recently suffered a heart attack on September 26th and over the following nine weeks has been back and forth to hospital seven times. Don't ever be afraid to call 999: each time the emergency services came they were brilliant I would like to thank all at Holy Trinity who have kept us in their prayers.

What a wonderful Health Service we have. I would also, through this magazine, like to thank the paramedics on the ambulance who saved Paul with a clot-busting drug, the A & E staff who preserved his life, the cardiac ward consultants, and all the nurses in between.



We've been framed!

photo supplied by Alison

Alison Cook

PS. The photo was taken at a wedding the week before!
I made this poem up I hope you like it,

December's already here, it makes no sense!
But all is well, Paul's had two stents.

It took so long he felt a fraud and faker,
so, to make doubly sure, he was given a pacemaker!

He is home now, and feeling much better,
I thought I'd update you all in this letter.

Mincemeat cake — a way to use up the left-over mincemeat after Christmas.

Ingredients:

150g butter or soft margarine
150g soft brown sugar
2 eggs
225g self-raising flour
75g sultanas
450g mincemeat
25g flaked almonds

Place all ingredients (except the almonds) in a large bowl and beat well for 1 minute. Put into greased and lined 20cm tin and sprinkle almonds over the top.
Bake for 1hr 45 minutes at 160°C.
Leave to cool in the tin. Store in an airtight tin.

Joan Finch

Epiphany at Much Yorning in the Puse

Today is a Big Day. For one thing, I am returning to the organ stool after three months break while I had a hip replacement. For another, it is our first Family Service of the year. I am assisted by Paul and Elizabeth, the other Youth Leaders.

Unfortunately, we have had a message to say that Mary has had an accident, so she and her new baby, who was cast as Jesus, will be unable to be present. We have rung the Third King and asked her to be Mary instead. She agrees and offers to provide a doll for the baby. Simon has agreed to be Joseph as well as God on the grounds that, if he is God, he can do anything.

I arrive at church early with my sellotape to mend the star which has become unstuck from my loft ladder stick to which it is attached. I then go into the choir vestry to look for something for the new Mary to wear. Thinking I might borrow a blue cassock belonging to one of the choir, I start rifling through the choir robes. Immediately, I am surrounded by aggressive looking choir members armed with large hymn books, who demand to know what I am doing. I explain, fearfully, that I am looking for a cassock for Mary. Jenny-the--

Churchwarden, who has been called in for backup, looks fierce and asks, "Who is Mary?" I explain that Mary is the mother of Jesus and make a mental note to invite Jenny to the confirmation classes when they start.

By 9.27am there is no sign of Karen (star bearer) or Carly (Mary).

At 9.29am Karen wanders through the door. I ask her where Carly is and she assures me that she is on her way. At 9.31am Carly arrives, holding a box which, I assume, contains Baby Jesus. She strolls up the aisle and sits down with her family. I am busy hissing

at her to join the others, when I become aware that Brian the Vicar is publicly welcoming me back to the organ stool after my enforced absence, and I am supposed to be smiling graciously.

We reach the second hymn and I start to play, secure in the knowledge that Paul, the other Youth

Leader, will go and put Mary's chair in position as we begin to sing. However, Paul has forgotten. Elizabeth, having pulled Carly into her robe and briefed her, dashes up to move the chair into the crossing. Only the vicar and his lectern are in the way. Elizabeth pushes them to one side with more speed than dignity, puts the chair



in position and turns to join the others at the back. While her back is turned, I spot, out of the corner of my eye, Carly making her way down to the back where the kings are congregating, instead of to the stable as instructed. There is nothing I can do so I am relieved when I see Rob, Carly's father, grab her arm as she passes. However, he is not giving her directions to the stable, as I had hoped, but merely pointing out that she has forgotten the baby. Carly retrieves the baby from its box and continues on her way to the back of the church. Elizabeth legs it to the back and sends her back up again. Realizing that there might not be enough hymn left to get the star and the Kings up the nave in a dignified manner, I prepare to start playing more slowly. Since the choir and congregation are already several bars behind me, this proves to be an unnecessary precaution.

The star leads the Kings to the stable where Mary now sits holding the Baby Jesus and her hymnbook. The star makes its way into the pulpit where the star bearer discovers that it is fun to twiddle the loft ladder stick and make the star wave about. She catches my eye, I frown menacingly and she stops. The rest of the service proceeds, more or less, according to plan.

Jenny reads the poem as the Kings present their gifts. She reaches the bit where she says the word, 'adoration,' and the kings all kneel. We practised this bit on Friday and it looked really good. Jenny says 'adoration' and looks pointedly at the Kings. The Kings continue to gaze at Baby Jesus and the hymn book in Mary's arms and remain standing.

Soon it is time for the Peace. As the congregation starts to exchange it, the second king takes off his crown, chucks the myrrh on the pew and asks, "What do you want done with this lot, then?" We remind him that there is now an offertory procession in which he is expected to carry his gift reverently to the altar. We jam the crown back on his head and send him packing to the back of the church,

In spite of everything, the congregation seems to appreciate the service. Somebody even makes the suggestion to Paul that the members of the youth group do the service every week

©Sheelagh Wurr

Reprinted from *The Chronicles of Much Yorning in the Puse*,
with permission.

Illustration by the Rev C Gilbert

In this year of remembering Darwin, if evolution is true,
why do mothers still only have one pair of hands?

Extracts from a letter from Zimbabwe

I reckon that these are the last days of TKM and ZPF. The darkest hour's always before dawn.

We are all terrified at what they are going to destroy next. They are actually ploughing down brick and mortar houses and one family with twin boys of 10 had no chance of salvaging anything when 100 riot police came in with AK47s and bulldozers and demolished their beautiful house — 5 bedrooms and pine ceilings — because it was “too close to the airport”, so we are feeling extremely insecure right now.

I am aware that this does not help you sleep at night, but if you do not know how can you help? Even if you put us in your own mental ring of light and send your guardian angels to be with us, that is a help, but I feel so cut off from you all knowing I cannot tell you what's going on here simply because you will feel uncomfortable. There is no way we can leave here so that is not an option.

I ask that you all pray for us in the way that you know how, and let me know that you are thinking of us and sending out positive vibes...that's all. You can't just be in denial and pretend/believe it's not going on.

To be frank with you, it's genocide in the making and if you do not believe me, read the Genocide Report by Amnesty International which says we are IN level 7 (level 8 is after it's happened and everyone is in denial).

If you don't want me to tell you these things — how bad it is — then it means you have not dealt with your own fear, but it does not help me to think you are turning your back on our situation. We need you, please, to get the news OUT that we are all in a fearfully dangerous situation here. Too many people turn their backs and say: “Oh well, that's what happens in Africa”.

The petrol queues are a reality, the pall of smoke all around our city is a reality, the thousands of homeless people sleeping outside in temperatures of 0°C with no food, water, shelter and bedding are a reality. Today a family approached me, the brother of the gardener's wife with two small children. Their home was trashed and they will have to sleep outside. We already support 8 adult people and a child on this property, and electricity is going up next month by 250% as is water. How can I take on another family of 4 — and yet how can I turn them away to sleep out in the open?

“I am one. I cannot do everything, — but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do. What I can do, I should do. And what I should do, by the grace of God, I will do.”

(Edward Everett Hale).

Sent by John Winter in Zimbabwe

SAINTS CORNER

January 27th — Angela Merici, 1474-1540

2009 is the International Year of the Child, and Angela is a good saint to remember as the year gets underway. Not only did she herself survive a harsh childhood, but she went on to dedicate her own life to helping children in need.

Angela was born near Lake Garda, in Desenzano, where she was orphaned as a young child. The 1480s were hardly an easy time for orphaned girls, but somehow Angela survived to grow into her teens, when she became a Franciscan tertiary. However miserable her own childhood, Angela chose to let it work for good in her life; she decided to devote her own life to the education of poor girls. Girls! This was a time when most of the men were illiterate!

But Angela was an audacious woman, and she had only just begun. She and some close companions set to work in the name of Christ, seeking out the poor families in their community. Angela taught the young girls all that she could, and prayed with them, assuring them that even they were precious in the eyes of their Creator. All of which left the Roman Catholic Church badly baffled. What should they do with religious sisters who had taken no vows, still wore their lay clothes, and who, instead of walling themselves up in some nunnery to lead an enclosed life, spent their days in a decidedly mobile, highly visible fashion – out and about in community support?

It wasn't until 1565, some 25 years after Angela's death, that the Church decided it approved of such work. By then the Ursuline nuns, as they were by then called, were going from strength to strength. They still flourish today, with some 2400 Sisters in 27 provinces on six continents, and have been well described as 'the oldest and most considerable teaching order of women in the RC Church.'

It took nearly 300 years, but in 1807 the Roman Catholic Church decided that Angela, unveiled, unenclosed and unsupervised as she had been, had been a saint after all – and 'made' her one.

Source :Parish Pump

Churches gear up for the Year of the Child 2009

2009 is the 30th anniversary of the United Nations' International Year of the Child. To help mark the year, many churches are planning to make 2009 'a year to remember' for young people and the Church. It is an ideal opportunity for local churches everywhere to review and to celebrate the work they do with children and young people.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, has said: "Young people all over the country need to hear the words of Christ's love for them in all manner of ways. So too, we the Church need to hear afresh God speaking to us through the life and witness of children. Come and join the celebration, be challenged and inspired."

The Rev Mary Hawes, National Children's Adviser for the Church of England, stresses that the Year of the Child 2009 is not a prescriptive project or even a centrally driven programme:

"It is simply an open invitation to the Christian church in the UK to join in by making 2009 a special year for children and young people. There are no plans for big national events, but rather to create a spotlight to help churches focus on their work with children. "We are hoping that 2009 will be a year in which the issues facing young people today can be highlighted, and for work with children and young people to be celebrated."

Updates on the activities taking place under the Church's Year of the Child will be posted at www.yearofthechild2009.co.uk.

Morning Tea

A vicar in a small country church was looking forward to an important visit from his bishop, which would involve the bishop staying overnight at the vicarage after the service. His young son became very excited, as he had never spoken to a bishop before.

The vicar decided that his young son should be allowed to knock the bishop's door in the morning and bring him in his morning tea. His father gave him instructions: "First, knock on the door of the bishop's room and then say loud and clear: "It's the boy, my Lord, it's time to get up."

The young son was very excited and rehearsed his lines, repeating them over and over. Finally the bishop came and spent the night. Next morning day came and the young lad went to the door and knocked. He cried loudly: "It's the Lord, my boy, and your time is up!"

“If ye would hear the angels sing.....”

Gareth and the choir excelled themselves at the gloriously inspiring Bradford on Avon Churches Together Advent service. The bank of candles glowing in the chancel as we sat in the darkened church was a powerful symbol of the Christ-light coming into our dark world.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this an unforgettable experience.



photo: Bryan Harris

The choir, with the Vicar, the Director of Music and the Churchwardens, at the Advent Carols by Candlelight service, November 30th, 2008.

Postage Stamps

Someone asked me the other day whether I collected postage stamps for the Sudan Fund. I replied that I did not, but that I would ask around in church.

If there is someone who collects stamps for the fund or for some other charity, would they please let the Editors of Parish News know so that they advertise about it in the News?

Collecting stamps raises money. The Sudan church needs all the help it can get. When a sufficient number of stamps have been gathered in, they can be taken to Church House in Salisbury – a very pleasant ride on the bus, and free if one has a bus pass!

Muriel Freeborn

Who were the Magi?

The birth of Jesus – and the star which heralded his birth – was the activity of God himself. At significant stages of Jesus's life, certain phenomena featured – the dove at his baptism, the light at his transfiguration, the darkness and earthquake at his death, the cloud at his ascension. These occurrences attested Jesus to those who had minds to understand. Similarly then, at his birth, there was a star.

The significance of the wise men – the 'Magi' as they have been called – is that they were Gentiles, probably from Mesopotamia. Traditionally it seems that the Magi (who were a kind of priestly tribe) were to the Persians what the Levites were to Israel; they were respected instructors of the Persian kings. They would not have benefited directly from the privileges of Judaism or its Scriptures. It is, however, very likely that they would have taken note of a prophecy that had been uttered centuries earlier by a Gentile prophet, Balaam by name. In fact he was from their own area, Pethor, by the river Euphrates (Numbers 22:4,5). His words would have been remembered down the ages. Their enquiring minds predisposed them to recognise and then follow the star, when it appeared.

The star stood for regal power and splendour; here is a firm indication of kingship. Further lines point to the widespread rule of this coming individual. Consequently, when a special star came to the attention of the Magi, they decided to investigate further. On reaching Jerusalem, the Magi caused great disruption with their enquiry as to where the new king had been born. Herod's advisers looked up the prophecies, and announced Bethlehem as the location (Micah 5:2). But none of them made the journey to Bethlehem. It was left to these Gentile enquirers to go and pay homage to Israel's king. Worship – not power – was their aim. Another 'wise man' in the New Testament, Simon Magus (Acts 8:9-11), was in a lower order altogether, though through his exploits he wanted to be 'great' – and that is the approach of occultism. Not so, the Magi of Matthew chapter 2. They were wise with the wisdom that seeks God, and were obedient to him.

Source: Parish Pump

Book Review: The Lion Companion to Church Architecture

David Stancliffe, Lion, £20

For centuries, churches have been a key part of the landscape of the world. In this fascinating book, David Stancliffe takes us back to the earliest churches, showing how they were conceived as spaces for worship. We see their historical development from the early Roman house churches, through Byzantine, Romanesque and on to Gothic. With the Reformation came significant change in the religious landscape – these changes are described and the journey to the modern understanding of church architecture explored. The book is infused throughout with the spirit of human quest for meaning and transcendence. It is produced in full colour illustrated with photography, cutaways and line drawings.

David Stancliffe has been Bishop of Salisbury since 1993.

Church Bulletins

The following have either appeared in church bulletins or were announced in services (none from Holy Trinity, of course!)

- ◆ The 'Fasting and Prayer Conference' includes meals.
- ◆ Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- ◆ Don't let worry kill you off — let the Church help.
- ◆ Miss Charlene Mason sang *I will not pass this way again*, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- ◆ For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- ◆ Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- ◆ At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- ◆ Eight new choir robes are currently needed owing to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- ◆ Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married in church on October 24th. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- ◆ The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
- ◆ Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00pm — prayer and medication to follow.
- ◆ The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- ◆ This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- ◆ The Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet on Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
- ◆ Weight-watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- ◆ The school sixth-form will be presenting Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the church basement Friday at 7pm, The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Supplied by Mary Dawson

Back to School for Governors

The middle of October was a busy period for Foundation Governors of schools in the northern part of the county of Wiltshire. It commenced with the Governors' Annual Conference held in Devizes on Friday 10th for all governors. Then, on the following Wednesday, there was an evening briefing session for church school governors held at Urchfont. This busy fortnight terminated with an afternoon service for Foundation Governors at St John's Church in Devizes.

The Governors conference was held to explain the growing development of the many different forms of collaboration and partnerships for schools. These are of relevance to St Laurence through its involvement in the extended Schools programme covering its offering of out-of-hours activities, to the West Wiltshire Federation for offering one of the new diploma courses, its School Improvement Partner for general development, and to the Clusters for improving the transition from primary to secondary schools.

The Church Schools Briefing concentrated on three issues. The first was an exploration of how the National agenda of Excellence and the fundamental aspects of Church School distinctiveness coincide. Next was an introduction to the new SIAS toolkit for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools, which is in its final stages of development and will be rolled out from the start of the next school year. The final issue covered federation and amalgamation matters, which was mainly of concern for small primary schools.

The service on the Sunday was a new development, being a Eucharist associated with giving thanks for, and encouragement to, the Foundation Governors. It focussed on the mission of the church to young people, where Foundation Governors had a unique opportunity in being able to reach out to those parts of the community which the church was not reaching – likened by Bishop Stephen to the Heineken Effect!

So ended this period of refreshment for Foundation Governors. It is well said that education should be a life-long experience.

Malcolm Walsh

Note: Readers may recall that in our last issue we reported the recommendation of the PCC that Cecilia Hynes-Higman should be appointed as a St Laurence School Governor to replace Canon Bill Matthews.

Winter thoughts on winter woes

Have you ever really wondered
What happens to a sneeze
As it sets off on its journey
With extraordinary ease?

It must surely travel forward,
Not ever turning back
Until it meets an obstacle
Or impetus does lack.

The sufferer who's left behind
Continues on to wheeze
Only stopping momentarily
A handkerchief to seize.

Beware the sneeze that is not blocked
It surely carries sorrow,
The nasty germs must soon be blocked
Or YOU may sneeze tomorrow.

Liz Netley



*...the good news is - I've found a way of
heating the church on unwanted chip-fat!...*

WILTSHIRE WEST SCOUT ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOUR HELP

We have been trying for some time to find a replacement Treasurer for the Wiltshire West Scout Association and I wondered if you knew of anyone who might be persuaded to volunteer.

Whilst the work that we do continues to help our young people develop their full potential as good citizens, there can be no disguising the very real difficulties which the Scout Movement faces. These stem far more from a lack of uniformed and lay adult support than from a shortage of young people wishing to take advantage of all that Scouting has to offer.

The post of Treasurer is an unpaid, but rewarding, job which involves attendance at half a dozen or so evening meetings a year and managing funds which total about £18,000 with an annual turnover of around £7,000.

I do, of course, recognize that so many of us are far too busy with the demands of modern day work and life styles to find the time to volunteer, but we need to find some way to ensure that Scouting can continue to offer a world of adventure, citizenship, responsibility, self fulfillment, a sense of achievement and, above all, FUN to our young people of whatever sex, colour and creed. Any prospective volunteers can get in touch with me or Heather Pugh, our retiring Treasurer, on 01225 866875.

More information about scouting in general can be found at www2.scouts.org.uk/ magazine.

Many thanks

John Cox

07973678487

01225864270

As a commitment to local youth organizations has always been an important priority for us at Holy Trinity we really hope that someone or maybe a small team of you will come forward to offer your support to fill this role and provide help for our local scouts.

Churchwardens

A VOYAGE IN THE FAR EAST — PART 1

一次航行在远东

Seen in a Travelsphere brochure back in mid-2007, at a price I thought we could afford, I told my friend in Cardiff we were planning to do a “Treasures of the Far East” cruise in November 2008, and she asked if they could come too. Telling her it was on a Costa ship, as they usually like to travel on more up-market lines, I was surprised when she said yes, please. So we booked, and Gerald spent the next 15 months saving up for it, bless him! We decided to go to Heathrow by National Express, by far the cheapest option, and it worked very well. Taxi into Bath, and then on a comfortable coach to Heathrow — unfortunately to the central coach station, not

Terminal 5, which was where our friends were going on their coach. However, we had plenty of time, and needed it, as we had to use lifts twice, and a train to get us there. What a massive place it is, and we were supposed to meet Jill & Glyn there somewhere that afternoon. Fortunately, I spotted them wandering down the concourse, and a shout stopped them in their tracks! Their coach had been late, but the first hurdle had been negotiated. It was to be the only one, I think, as everything was pretty plain sailing after that!

The flight was brilliant, if long (over 13 hours). I was dreading not being able to put my feet up for that length of time, but was sitting on an end seat, so able to walk around. We had a super

lasagne, accompanied by as much free drink as you wanted. How BA continue to make a profit, I do not know. Although there was a TV in front of each seat, Jill was the only one who watched films, the rest of us dozed or slept, watching the course of the flight on TV when we wanted to; I found that fascinating. The Stewardess even gave me a cup of tea at 6am GMT, Bliss! Then a very decent full English breakfast. Our watches had to go forward 8 hours, and we arrived at Hong Kong at 4.40pm. By 5.30 we were leaving the airport with



Hong Kong Harbour.

photo: Overseas Property Mall

our guide Gai, who gave us a brief history of the colony on the way to the hotel, where we received meal vouchers as well as keys. We were on 5th floor — lucky, as some were on 19th and higher.

We even managed to eat some dinner, and go for a short walk before retiring early. At least, Gerald did, as usual, while I unpacked the HK part of the cases, bathed, read, and still couldn't sleep. Spent half the night writing up my notes!

We had a free coach tour with Travelsphere next morning, showing us the highlights of HK. First to the tram stop for the trip up to the Peak, and what a ride that is, with magnificent views as you climb to the highest point in HK. We only had 20 minutes. Free

time to take our photos and use the facilities, before we were back on the coach to go to Aberdeen. I even managed to snap a rickshaw man, without him seeing me. At Aberdeen there were trips in a sampan, if you wanted to go out on the river. Gerald remembered the sampan lady being very fierce on his last trip, and didn't fancy it, so we just took photos, trying to get one of her, but she was very elusive. Next stop to a jewellery factory, interesting but expensive, where they gave us much needed drinks, my water bottle was empty already! Then on to another HK institution – Stanley Market. A huge area of covered stalls, where we browsed, and bought! The rest of the day was free, and we each did our own things, quite a few of my postcards got written that day!

My first job on Sunday morning, according to Gerald, was checking my phone! Sure enough, Gilly had supplied him with the important results – Plymouth Argyle had only drawn, but Liverpool had won, and for me – Wales had thrown away the rugby with South Africa by losing 15-20. Our daughter, bless her, always has her priorities right! To the real priorities of the day, we wanted to go to Lantau Island, go up in the new cable car, and see the giant Buddha, but found it would cost a lot to go by taxi, and we didn't have time to go any other way. So we decided to go



*Nathan Street, HK, at night.
photo Webshots Travel*

by tram to the Star Ferry, and go across to Kowloon.

The trams were packed, and it was a long way from the stop to the ferry, on a *very* hot day. Nice to get on the water and get some air. Arriving in Kowloon we made for Nathan Road, but got to The Peninsula Hotel first, and decided to go in for coffee, whatever the cost! While waiting for

it, I was approached by Valerie Figes, from Rickfield, a member of Bradford Choral, who had been sitting on the other side with her husband. He'd remarked to her that he doubted if she'd see anyone she knew this far from Bradford, when we walked in. As always – a small world! The drinks were expensive, but we did enjoy the opulence! Having to go up two flights of stairs to find the loos, we had to go straight back to HK afterwards, as we had to vacate our rooms by 12 noon.

Taking a taxi on the other side of the ferry cost us just £2, I think our taxis have that on the meter before they start!

We boarded the Costa Allegra that afternoon, finding ourselves in a very spacious cabin with a 6ft. bed! Out on deck after dinner, we were treated to a 10 min. light show from HK where all the skyscrapers vie with each other to see how many lights and lasers they can throw up to the sky. A splendid free show.

Chris Hodge

CELEBRATING EPIPHANY IN EUROPE

A few years ago we happened to be on holiday in Lanzarote in the Canary Islands on January 6th.

We noticed a stage being erected in the main square by the fishing harbour of Puerto del Carmen. (The original harbour and some of the old streets still exist, although somewhat engulfed by extensive low-rise holiday complexes!) We were told there was to be a celebration of the Epiphany which included music and dancing that night.

When we returned that evening a crowd of local children and parents had gathered, as well as holidaymakers like ourselves. The children were whispering *los Reyes*, *los Reyes* – the Kings, the Kings.

Suddenly down the hill to the harbour came the Kings. I couldn't believe my eyes, it was as if the Bible had come to life. Three men splendidly dressed as the Kings, including a handsome black Balthazar, arrived riding camels and throwing sweets to the children from their saddle-bags.

(Those of you who have been to Lanzarote will probably have visited the amazing volcanic Timanfaya National Park, one of whose tourist attractions are camel rides. No doubt the camels had been 'borrowed' from there.)

Many Spanish towns organize *cabalgatas* as they are called, like the one we saw, in which the Kings and their servants parade and throw sweets to the children (and parents) in attendance.

In Spain the three Kings receive wish letters from children and magically bring them gifts on the night before Epiphany. According to the tradition, the Magi come from the Orient on their camels to visit the houses of all children and, like Father Christmas with his reindeer, they visit everyone in one night. In some areas, children prepare a drink for each of the Magi, and it is also traditional to prepare food and drink for the camels, because this is the only night of the year when they eat.



In much of central Europe another Epiphany tradition involves writing the initials of the three Kings' names above the main door of the home to confer blessings on the occupants for the New Year. For example, 20 + C + M + B + 09.

The initials may also represent *Christus mansionem benedicat* (Christ bless this house). In Catholic parts of Germany and in Austria, this is done by so called *Sternsinger* (star singers), children, dressed up as the Magi, carrying the star. In 'exchange' for writing the initials, they collect money for charity projects in the third world.

In France and Belgium, the holiday is celebrated with a special traditional cake 'to draw the Kings' to the Epiphany. The cake, called *la galette des Rois* (Kings' cake) contains *la fève* (French for broad bean). The *fève* may not literally be a bean but is sometimes a lucky charm, such as we might put in our Christmas puddings. When the cake is cut, whoever gets the bean is 'crowned' King for the day.

and will have to buy the next cake. The King or Queen then has to choose his Queen or her King, by dropping the lucky charm in their glass.

To ensure a random distribution of the pieces of cake, it is traditional for the youngest person to hide themselves under the table and name the recipient of the pieces as the slices are cut.

The custom of la galette des Rois originated in the Middle Ages and the style of cake could differ according to the regions; for example it was made of puff pastry in Paris, but made of brioche and shaped as a crown in Provence. Under Louis XIV, the Church considered this festival a pagan celebration and an excuse for indulgence, and it was subsequently banned. To get around this ban, it became la fête du bon voisinage (literally, 'good neighbours day'). The tradition even survived the French Revolution when it became the Gâteau de l'Égalité (equality cake), as kings were not very popular at that time!

The cake is made of flaky puff pastry layers with a centre of marzipan, and can be found in most bakeries during the month of January. When one buys a galette a paper crown is included to crown the 'King'. Our French Twinning Association in Bradford on Avon celebrates this French tradition, and often one of the members has been able to bring cakes back directly from France.

Some sources say the bean, la fève, is a symbol of fertility and the person who found the charm in their slice not only became King or Queen but had to

buy a round of drinks for all their companions. To avoid buying a round of drinks, the potential King or Queen very often swallowed the bean! This is why towards the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, the fève started being made of china. The charm can take any shape or form and can either be very plain or more sophisticated (glazed or hand painted). It sometimes represents a religious figure such as the baby Jesus, but it can be virtually anything. Little horseshoe shapes are popular as they are thought to bring luck. Although nowadays the charms are very often



A Roscón de Reyes

made of plastic, old-fashioned china charms are still used and they have become a collectable item.

This tradition also exists in Spain, but with one small variant; the cake, in this case actually a ring-shaped pastry or Roscón de Reyes, contains a small figurine of a Baby Jesus and a dry broad bean. The one who gets the figurine is crowned, but whoever gets the bean has to pay the value of the cake to the person that originally bought it. In the past the cake was divided into the number of guests, plus one. The extra piece, called 'the share of God', 'share of the Virgin Mary', or 'share of the poor' was intended for the first poor person to arrive at the home. In Portugal the cake is called Bolo Rei, in Greece and Cyprus vasilopita and Bulgaria banitsa.

You can see video clips of galettes being made via the website www.slowtrav.com/france/food .

Daphne Hancock

NATURE DIARY 11

More extracts from my diary:

November 2008

Monday 3rd: (Still in Cornwall).

Went to Padstow. Saw curlews, oystercatchers, black-headed, herring and lesser black back gulls and then something I have never seen before – turnstones marching around the streets of a town as if they owned the place! They were not just by the side of the sea but right in the town centre. I have only ever seen them on beaches and then behaving in a fairly shy manner. We watched them for some time as they practically ran over our feet!

The many garden flowers, including masses of climbing roses, fuchsias, buddleia and hydrangea all still in wonderful colour demonstrating how much more clement the weather is down here – once out of the wind.

On returning to the flat, watched a common shrew dash across the road and later when Brian went out he found a large, furry, brown caterpillar. Must check with Mike for identification.

Tuesday 4th: Went to Boscastle. The sheep looked like scattered confetti and clouds of starlings swirled across the sky. Red and pink valerian, marigolds, gorse, bright red geraniums and a single 'Flanders' poppy punctuated the gloom of the day with brightness.

Brian found another caterpillar – this time dead.

Wednesday 5th: On the way home to Wiltshire saw a very large buzzard, low flying, and two migrating Bewick swans.

I made a list, a treescape, of the journey: -

Cornwall with trees bare, bent and windswept with occasional avenues of beeches.

Devon with wooded hills and wayside trees lining the roads.

Somerset with more open vistas and less obvious variety of trees.

Wiltshire with fewer trees than Devon but a greater variety, especially oaks, and so many still leaved in fabulous colour.

Thursday 6th: Emailed Mike re: the caterpillars. He kindly responded: -

"Your description suggests it was a Fox moth caterpillar. They are certainly very furry, large, dark and quite noticeable at this time of year. I saw 1 or 2 at Bratton Castle earthworks a few weeks ago. It is a common resident species and the fully grown caterpillars hibernate on, or just below the surface under moss or leaf litter. The moths are out in May/June."

Monday 10th: Have finished reading the "Flower Hunters" by Mary and John Gribbin. I have read many books on these fantastic plant finders and am always amazed at the determination and questing spirit that drove them through horrendous hardships to send seeds and specimens home. So many were paid a pittance while their employers made fortunes selling to the rich the plants they received through the fantastic bravery of others.

This book has a rather odd selection of flower hunters – John Ray, Carl Linnaeus (who can hardly be called an explorer!), Francis Masson, David Douglas, William Lobb, Robert Fortune, Marianne North (who I have admired for years but find an odd selection tho' she fits, I suppose, with the title), Richard Spruce and Joseph Dalton Hooker.

(I made a list in my diary of the names of the plants found, brought back and now so much accepted as part of our garden scenery by these brave souls. It would take up too much space to list them here. It is a staggering number.)

Tuesday 11th: The colour of the cotoneaster leaves is fantastic – from the deepest maroon fading to the lightest orange just before they fall. The Autumn colours still flame out, highlighted by the pastel shades of the lemon and cream of roses and late flowering climbers and shrubs.

Friday 14th: After a stormy night the trees are much more skeletal with far fewer leaves remaining – sadly suddenly shorn.

Monday 17th: Yesterday and today have been depressingly dark and damp but I suddenly realized how tiny blocks of colour brighten the day – the startling yellow of winter jasmine, the bright white of a flowering deadnettle, the deep scarlet of individual cotoneaster leaves, the wonderful violet blue of a hedgerow cranesbill, the vibrant lime green of moss and the deep, glowing purple of clematis stems.

Sad news in the paper today that dunlin numbers are down – the lowest since 1970.

Tuesday 18th: I have finished reading “Waterlog” by Roger Deakin, described by Michele Roberts (Financial Times) as a “Wonderfully romantic tale...think Ratty, think Mole, think three men falling out of a boat...enchanted.” It’s a superbly descriptive book of the author’s swimming exploits that covers areas from Lands End to the islands of Scotland. He swims in lakes, seas, ponds, rivers, moats, swimming pools (indoor and out) and even a canal. There is a lovely five pages devoted to the Farleigh Hungerford Swimming Club that has existed for seventy years. In one passage he tells how folk would walk “The three miles or so out there from Trowbridge for a swim and a drink at The Hungerford Arms ...others to picnic at the castle or the watermill or visit the watercress beds” What is even better is how he relates his visit there in 1999.

Thursday 20th: Brian saw waxwings up at Kingsdown golf course – a group of 10 or so – lovely!

Last week I bought myself an early Christmas pressie (I don’t feel that guilty as it’s under a tenner). It’s the ‘Mr. Marshall’s Flower Book’ issued by the Royal Collection Publications. Alexander Marshall (1620-1682) created the “Exquisite ‘Florilegium’...the only surviving example of an English Flower Book of the 17th century.” It’s a delight and the watercolour paintings are breathtaking.

Friday 21st: Drove back, as the sun began to set, on the road from Beckhampton to Devizes. The trees, now bare, laced the sky with their silhouetted skeletal branches, and the barrows on the hill tops with their surrounding beeches were beautiful in their starkness. The sky was blue, pink, purple, turquoise, violet, yellow and green, changing momentarily. The scene could perhaps be painted by a genius but was one instance when a photograph couldn’t capture the magnificence.

Saturday 22nd: Couldn’t sleep last night but the tawny owls kept me company for at least an hour – reminded me why we call our house ‘Owls Hoot’ – ‘cos they do!

Our new abutilon is flowering madly.

Liz Netley

WILTSHIRE BUTTERFLIES – JANUARY 2009

Not surprisingly perhaps, there is not much to report at this time of year. The last butterflies to be reported were a **Small Tortoiseshell** and a **Red Admiral** in Bradford on Avon on 19th November, the last warm, sunny day before much cooler conditions set in.

Each year, just for fun, recorders are asked to nominate their **Butterfly of the Year** and for 2008 it looks as if the **Large White** (one of the so-called Cabbage Whites) will be the winner — probably not a popular choice with vegetable growers and some farmers!

Looking back on 2008 it was not a good year for most butterflies (and moths) and lepidopterists are eagerly looking forward to a better 2009. Perusing the earlier literature however, we should not be too surprised at large fluctuations in abundance levels from year to year. During the 19th century there were



Large white butterfly. photo terry Dabner

three exceptionally long cold periods and it is believed these were responsible for the extinction of some species, even in those days when the countryside was much more nature-friendly compared with today.

Wiltshire still has some wonderful countryside and Butterfly Conservation will be organising trips to some of the best butterfly areas in 2009. If anyone is interested in details of these, do please get in touch and I can give you details in due course.

© Mike Fuller

Wiltshire Butterfly Recorder
Vice-Chairman BC Wiltshire Branch

Garden Birdwatch 2009

If you love wild birds, here is your chance to join the RSPB's 30th Big Garden Birdwatch, which will be held on 24th and 25th of January. The RSPB are hoping to make it the biggest Garden Birdwatch yet. Taking part is very simple – just spend an hour that weekend counting the birds that you see in your garden or in a local park. Record the highest number of each species seen (not flying over) at any one time. It's important you don't count all the birds you see because some birds will return to your garden many times in the hour. For example, seeing the same blue tit come back 10 times does not make for 10 blue tits! The RSPB provide a downloadable counting sheet, and offer an online form to help you send in your results easily. Please visit:

www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch/2009/index.asp for details.

FOR PRAYER IN JANUARY

We pray:

- for God's blessing and guidance in the coming year
- for our continuing Christian Stewardship
- for our mission to the local community
- for the United States of America and their new president

Interfaith Group Meeting,

Getting to know a Cultural and Faith diverse Wiltshire
Saturday 10th January 2009 at the Bridge House, Stallard
Street, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 9AE

Chief Guest Speaker Andrew Murrison, MP

Reception at 10am, talks/discussion from 10:30am

This is an opportunity to express your concerns on issues
that matters to you and your community.

A buffet lunch will be served at 12 noon

Saxon Club Programme January 2009

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

You are very welcome to join us.

January 6th: Grandparents — Joyce Ellis and Alice Moody

13th: Nepal — Jan Hopkins

20th: Quiz afternoon.

27th: To be arranged.

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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