

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Bradford on Avon



PARISH NEWS

DECEMBER 2010/JANUARY 2011

DIRECTORY

Priest in Charge

The Revd Joanna Abecassis

18A Woolley Street

864444

email:

joanna@abecassis.freeserve.co.uk

Churchwardens

Joan Finch

40, Palairret Close, BoA

863878

Trevor Ford

25, Downavon, BoA

862240

Retired Clergy

The Ven John Burgess, The Revd Alun Glyn-Jones,
Canon Peter Hardman, The Revd Jim Hill,
The Right Revd Bill Ind, The Revd Angela Onions,
The Ven Ian Stanes, The Revd Karl Wiggins,
Canon Humphrey York.

Lay Ministers

Graham Dove (licensed)

868654

Dr Malcolm Walsh (retired)

Director of Music

Gareth Bennett

01380 728772

Times of Services

(Check Bulletins and notices or Church web site)

Sundays

8am

Eucharist

9.30am

Sung Eucharist (coffee afterwards)

6pm

Evensong, Compline, etc

Weekday Eucharist

10am

Wednesdays

12 noon

Friday

Times of Meetings

Choir Practice

6.30pm

Church, Tuesdays

Junior Church

9.30am

Church Hall (1st and 2nd Sundays in the month, September to July (except Easter)

Mothers' Union

7.30pm

Church Hall, (usually) 3rd Thursday

Bell Practice

7.30–9pm

2nd and 4th Mondays

Holy Trinity Web-site

www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk

Diocese Web-site

www.salisburyanglican.org.uk

Weekly Bulletin

Notices to Trevor Ford not later than
Wednesday for the following Sunday.

**Please let the Priest in Charge, LLM or Churchwardens know if
someone needs visiting at home or in hospital.**

DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2010



5 SUNDAY

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30am Sung Eucharist

6pm Compline

10 Friday

7.30pm Bradford on Avon Choral Society Concert

12 SUNDAY

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30am Sung Eucharist

6pm Evensong Christ Church

14 Tuesday

7pm St Laurence School Carol Service

16 Thursday

10.30am Fitzmaurice School Carol Service

7.30pm Mothers' Union Christmas Readings
and Music 'Church' Hall

19 SUNDAY

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30am All-Age Eucharist with Nativity Tableau
(and sherry party!)

2.15pm Holy Baptism

6pm SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

24 FRIDAY

CHRISTMAS EVE

12.30pm Holy Matrimony

3pm CHRISTINGLE AND CRIB SERVICE

11.15pm MIDNIGHT MASS

25 SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS DAY

10am ALL-AGE EUCHARIST

26 SUNDAY

ST STEPHEN

10am Eucharist with Readings and Carols

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday

8am

Eucharist (Traditional Language)

BUT NO SERVICE ON 26 DECEMBER

Wednesday

10am

Eucharist

Friday

12 noon

Eucharist (Traditional Language)
with lunch out afterwards

Daily (except Tuesdays and Sundays) Morning & Evening Prayer at 8.30am and 5.30pm. (please enter *via* the north door — opposite the Saxon Church — and check Bulletin for any cancellations)

Starts 3 December

WEEKLY GROUPS

Tuesday

10.30am

mainly music

(a group for young children – school terms only)

● DIARY FOR JANUARY 2011



- 2 SUNDAY THE EPIPHANY**
9.30am Festival Sung Eucharist (with incense)
6pm Compline
- 9 SUNDAY THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
9.30am Sung Eucharist
6pm Evensong Christ Church
- 16 SUNDAY THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**
9.30am All-Age Eucharist
6pm Taizé Service with Prayers for
Hope and Health
- 23 SUNDAY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**
9.30am Sung Eucharist
6pm Christians Together Service for the
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 30 SUNDAY CANDLEMAS**
(The Presentation of Christ in the Temple)
9.30am Sung Eucharist
6pm Songs of Praise

WEEKLY SERVICES

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|---|
| Sunday | 8am | Eucharist (Traditional Language) |
| Wednesday | 10am | Eucharist |
| Friday | 12 noon | Eucharist (Traditional Language)
with lunch out afterwards |

Daily (except Tuesdays and Sundays) Morning & Evening Prayer at 8.30am and 5.30pm (please enter via the north door — opposite the Saxon Church — and check Bulletin for any cancellations)

WEEKLY GROUPS

- | | | |
|----------|---------|---|
| Monday | 7pm | 'Faith Explored', fortnightly from 31st January.
(venue TBA, please sign list) |
| Tuesday | 10.30am | mainly music
(a group for young children – school terms only) |
| Thursday | 11am | 'Faith Explored' (from 20 th January)
Vicarage, 18A Woolley Street |

Parish News copy date for February is 16th January

They shall name him Emmanuel

● which means ‘God with us’

What an exciting season we are entering – not least as this edition of Parish News is covering the months of both December and January! So we travel from Advent, through Christmas, to Epiphany and then on to Candlemas... We travel from darkness to light – we follow the angels and the shepherds, the star and the wise men – and we travel from the start of the church year to the start of (everyone else’s!) new year. So we reflect on the journey which we have travelled this year – quite an exciting and action-packed one for Holy Trinity! – and then on to the year ahead. Perhaps the word ‘anticipation’ captures it all.

Christmas and New Year are times of tradition for us all – we all have our rituals and family customs. How we all love to say, “we always do... at Christmas”. And that is really important to us. So I think the great challenge is to stop for a moment and reflect on the totally radical and extraordinary meaning and implications of the first Christmas: of the incarnation. Pondering in our hearts (as Mary was charged to do) just how the very earthiness of the Son of God coming to live amongst us – as a son, brother, friend, soul-mate, spiritual teacher and rabbi – transformed the world and can transform us, is a lifetime’s challenge. And of course a crucial part of that process is not to see the Christmas story – the incarnation – in isolation, but as a part (as an anticipation) of the whole journey which was to lead on to the cross and then the resurrection. Emmanuel – God is with us. Have a look at your Christmas cards as they come in – it is fascinating how they tell different parts of the story, and sometimes there is even a green hill and a cross in the background of the stable and manger... For some of course, whom we must always bear in mind, there will be a cross, but rather in the foreground this Christmas – it can be a deeply lonely and painful time as well as a joyful one.

You will find all of the services advertised in the Diary but I think that perhaps it is good to mention that there really is something for everybody – not forgetting our young people. I really look forward to the Junior Church Nativity Tableau on 19th December and then there is the Christingle and Crib Service on Christmas Eve and an All-Age Eucharist on Christmas morning. And as we begin the new year, there will be our regular third Sunday All-Age Eucharist on 16th January which I hope will gradually become a real feature for the calendar! For the rest of us (but still young at heart!) there will be some fantastic music and liturgy at the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, Midnight Mass, and the Festival Eucharist with incense for Epiphany on 2nd January. But fantastic music doesn’t grow on trees – so a huge thank-you to Gareth and the Choir and do tell your friends and neighbours (or even yourselves?) that the Choir is always looking for new recruits.

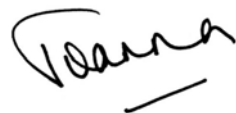
As we 'ring out the old' year, we say farewell to Peter Wills as verger wishing him a very happy and restful retirement after his 11 years of faithful service to Holy Trinity. But we are not going to let him go that easily, so we shall still see him around as we fear that the silver and brass and Garden of Remembrance grass might have withdrawal symptoms... So thank you from us all, Peter!

And then to 'ring in the new', we look forward to the arrival of Philip Elliott as Assistant Curate towards the end of June – which is a very exciting development! Philip will start his ministry as a 'Licensed Lay Worker' and will then be ordained deacon in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday, 1st October: so a date for the diary for us all. Philip has written a short note which appears on page 7 in this issue. He will be with us for between 3 and 4 years.

After the 'action-packed' year of 2010 at Holy Trinity, I think we are all looking forward to the new with anticipation. Who knows what God has in store for us! But here are just a few points...

- ◆ The sale of the former 'Church' Hall to the Masons of Bradford on Avon is now complete. We shall have the option of renting it on a commercial basis (along with other venues) in 2011, but hope to be able to use the space of our beautiful church building more.
- ◆ From Friday, 3rd December I shall be saying Morning and Evening Prayer in church at 8.30am and 5.30pm every day except for Tuesdays and Sundays. Do come and join me if you wish at any time, entering by the North door (opposite the Saxon Church) – it only lasts 15 or 20 minutes!
- ◆ 'Faith Explored' is another new opportunity which Graham and I are going to launch in January. This will be a really informal group (and just an hour's commitment) for all those of you who would value the opportunity just to have a 'no holds-barred' conversation about faith – about whatever concerns/puzzles/thrills/infuriates... you. There will be no agenda – no syllabus – no course – no right and wrong answers: all of that is up to you. I've tried this before and it's a great way of growing as a thinking and challenging church community (it will be challenging for Graham and me too!). So: every Thursday at 11am from 20th January at the Vicarage (just turn up) - and every other Monday at 7.30pm from 31st January at a venue to be confirmed (depending on numbers), so please sign the list in church.

For God IS with us — ALWAYS!! Have a wonderful Christmas!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanna', with a horizontal line underneath it.

From Philip Elliott

I remember the first time I was in Bradford on Avon. We were en route to a meeting at the Limpley Stoke Hotel, when I was a manager of a hotel in Salisbury, so there was no time to look around properly. The beauty of the place struck me but I never anticipated I would one day have the privilege of sharing in the responsibility of ministry to the people of this place. The people I have met until now have all been most pleasant and I am sure it will be a joy to work with you all.



But that is all for next year. I am currently in my final year at Westcott House, a theological training college in Cambridge. The college has me completing a placement in Manchester at present. On this placement I have spent much time observing and reflecting on something called Incarnational Theology – that is, our response to the call to be Christ's hands, his eyes, his lips in the communities in which we all, as Christians, minister. Having grown up in South Africa in the years of the fall of apartheid, I have been able to see great men like Desmond Tutu doing just this and I hope that my future ministry will in some way emulate this.

I was sent your Parish Profile when I was advised to explore Bradford on Avon as a potential parish to serve my curacy. This document and my experiences on subsequent visits have convinced me that this is a community that is doing much and yet wishes to continue to find new ways in which it can carry on being a positive presence in the town. I understand that this is a community that does not wish to be a holy huddle in the centre of town but seeks to be Christ's hands, eyes and mouth in Bradford on Avon. It is with these exciting prospects in mind that I look forward with great anticipation to joining you with Joanna on our journey with Christ as we work towards his kingdom.

Philip Elliott

From the Parish News Editors...

We should like to thank our many contributors for their wide-ranging and interesting contributions during 2010: to you, to our production and distribution teams, and to all of our readers, we wish you a peaceful Christmas.

Ann and Bryan

I've just come back from a delightful meeting of the Mothers' Union, when we listened to Joanna giving us a very brief, but very informative, story of her life. Mary Dawson had started the meeting with Prayers, and she had put so much work into them, too. Thank you, Mary. The branch had turned up trumps with a whole shopping trolley of goods for the new Womens' Refuge in Trowbridge. A washing up bowl to be filled with all sorts of necessary household products, which each woman needs when she leaves the Refuge to set up in her own home; toiletries for Christmas presents for the women, and toys for the children. The Refuge is going to be delighted when I take them over next week.

We shall soon be starting a Link with an MU branch in the Kadugli diocese, Sudan. Our link with Harare stopped when the branch there disbanded last year, and as our Deanery is linked with Kadugli, each branch is encouraged to make contact with a branch there, and correspond with them. By the next magazine, I hope we shall have a link up and running.

Evelyn Humphrey has been in charge of writing and delivering Baptism cards to all children up to school age for many years, but she finishes on the Committee this year, and asked if someone else would take it on. I was delighted when Dawn Bennet, our newest member volunteered. How wonderful for a new member to take on a job like that!

Sylvia Stanes is putting a marvellous display of MU work on the church notice board: please try and have a look at it, and see how much the MU is involved in throughout the world.

Then Joanna talked on the theme introduced by Ian on Mary Sumner Day – 'One Small Step...', starting with her childhood, culminating in her changing schools at 6th form level, and meeting a wonderful Head Teacher, a committed Christian, who, in fact, prepared her for Confirmation. On to University, and her PhD in Land Management – not Theology! Her marriage and her children, leading on, when her son was 8, to starting to assist the Chaplain at the BRI, which then led on to her call to a vocation in the Priesthood. Her divorce, and all that it entailed, and her Ordination and her first job in Tavistock, where she was for 5 years, with a wonderful training Incumbent, which is why she felt she had so much to offer an Ordinand needing Training, and Philip Elliott coming here next year. We heard how she moved to Dartington, about her daughter's marriage, and her noticing our post advert in the Church Times. How she has always refused to 'join' groups, until she came here.

It was a courageous talk, full of fun and laughter, and we really appreciated her telling us so much.

Beryl, Ivy and Frances served our refreshments, accompanied by lovely Christmas stollen.

Our next meeting is our 'party' on January 13th, when we shall be having a meal at the Old Manor Hotel, Trowbridge. Later in January we hold our AGM, when I shall start my last year as Enrolling Member.

And at last we have some idea of who is going to take the group over, and are delighted. More next time on who! It is such a wonderful crowd of people, it would have been awful for no new leader to have come forward.

Chris Hodge

Only 24 (or so) more shopping days to Christmas !



- ◆ Do you feel advertising targets your children?
- ◆ Do you feel under pressure to buy age-inappropriate gifts?
- ◆ Do you feel that sexualised and violent computer games and films are too easily available to young people?
- ◆ Do you find TV, the internet and music have made your children more sexually aware?
- ◆ Do you feel out of control over your child's social networking on the computer?

If you answered YES to these questions you are not alone. A survey by Mothers' Union found 80% of parents were very concerned about these issues, including our Prime Minister and Mumsnet users!

Bye Buy Childhood is a campaign launched by Mothers Union to raise awareness and support parents in their role and to lobby the advertising industry.

Chief Executive Reg Bailey said “ We are most concerned about the inappropriate sexualisation of children and the insidious way it has happened under the noses of parents. We want to give parents more confidence, as well as to encourage advertisers to be responsible. We are not calling for new legislation, but we want the current codes of practice enforced.

We don't sentimentalise childhood – we've all been subject to peer pressure – but it's the sheer volume of it today that is worrying. There is more and more pressure on children to assess themselves and it is diminishing their sense of belonging and meaning in their lives. Our society is just not doing the best it can for it's children.

To find out more visit:

<http://www.themothersunion.org/byebuychildhood.aspx>

Junior Church News

At our first meeting in November the children talked about Remembrance Sunday and we made a wreath of poppies, which is now on our Junior Church Board. Our second meeting this month found us talking about the Christmas Tableau, which seems to have come round again so quickly. The children were asked which part they would like to play. We now have at least seven children but would love to have more children taking part. We have two rehearsals in December and a dress rehearsal on Saturday 18th December, and the Tableau will then take place in Church on 19th December. This is always such an exciting time of the year for the children. On Sunday 21st November the children have been asked to take part in the 'All Age Worship Service' when Percy the parrot will be with us again. He is always a very popular visitor to church not only for the children but also for the adults.

GROWING



LEARNING

Junior Church Team



"Do you think it's God's way of saying,
"Thou shalt not illegally copy the
carol service music?"

COMMUNITY CAROLS AT THE SWAN

*Wednesday, 15th December
at 6.30pm*

Come and join the party with.....

Holy Trinity Choir

*The Bradfordians Dramatic
Society*

Jo Jingles Group

Barnardo's

*Lots of fun, food and drink for all
the family!*

Lighten our Darkness

On the evening of Sunday 31st October a service with this name was held for the bereaved at Holy Trinity Church. After a welcome and introduction from Joanna, the Hymn *All my Hope on God is founded* was sung and the Paschal Candle was lit — a sign of Christ's resurrection light and life. The choir sang the anthem *Oculi omnium* by Charles Wood. After readings and an address the choir sang *O for a closer walk with God* by Stanford and while Gareth played a Psalm-Prelude by Herbert Howells, members of the congregation were invited to the front of the nave, to take a candle and light it in memory of their loved ones. The candle was then placed on a cross of candles.



At the close the *Nunc Dimittis* was said, followed by the Hymn *Love Divine* and the Blessing was given. There were faces both familiar and unfamiliar and it was said how touched and peaceful people felt during this service.

Ann Holland

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2010

Once again how rewarding it was to see our Church filled to capacity for the Remembrance Day Service so ably conducted by Joanna. How fortunate we were with the weather too — although the choir needed umbrellas, the real downpour didn't arrive until an hour later.

Trevor and Joan would like to extend grateful thanks to all who contributed in so many ways to the smooth running of the day both in advance preparation and on the day.

Our thanks to:

Peter our Verger,

Our HT Stewards (Cecilia, Margaret and Bryan, Anne Val, Edward and Gordon) who not only guided everyone to their seats but also directed them safely out again,

Heather and Alan, the Sidespersons for both services, and for their able support for the stewards,

Stephen Ford for transporting the essential extra chairs from the 'Church' Hall and back again,

Mary and her team both at the practice and on the day,

And to all who helped clear the Church after the service.

The Churchwardens

And let us not forget the excellent organization by our Churchwardens!

Editors.



CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoe Box News, November 2010

On behalf of the children and Samaritan's Purse, I just want to say an enormous **THANK YOU** to everyone who has so generously responded, in so many different ways again this year, to the Shoe Box appeal. Thank you for all the love and care you have put into these little boxes full of useful gifts, which will be received with such joy.



On our last count **91** colourful boxes were ready to go to children who will receive them with much excitement and gratitude. They will treasure and love each gift we have given, and I'm told they will be quite amazed to realise that they have come from someone they do not even know.

Just a few simple things like pencils, crayons and exercise books can give them a chance to learn. They know how important it is to have an education, so they are always most grateful for these. The little teddy tucked into the corner of the box will see many smiles, and perhaps tears, but will be hugged and loved, and will give comfort for a long time to come. The warm hats, mitts, and scarves will almost certainly be worn straight away to help keep them warm, and the hand puppets will bring many smiles.

As we give, and receive our Christmas gifts here at home, we shall also be giving a little happiness, and hope to very needy children, perhaps living in orphanages or in poverty. Thank you again for the difference your gifts will make to these children's lives this Christmas. And thank you also for your generous donations towards essential travel costs.

Enjoy a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas,

From Celia

Thanks...

The Treasurer has received a letter from the Farm Crisis Network, FCN, thanking Holy Trinity for a donation of £104.41, the proceeds from the special collection at our Harvest Festival Service. This charity provides support for farmers and their families when the problems and difficulties which they face become overwhelming, and the donation will go to help FCN maintain their national telephone Helpline and to ensure that their volunteers are able to visit farms when and where they are needed.



AN EVACUEE'S CHRISTMAS

God bless children everywhere and our brave soldiers, airmen and sailors. May the bombs stop falling soon. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen."

There was a clatter of spoons as twenty-four little girls tucked into bowls of hot porridge. Sister Sims sat down after the morning prayer and, having looked over her spectacles to make sure all were holding their spoons correctly and nobody had thrown porridge down their sweaters, started on her own meagre breakfast that was hardly a working adult's portion, although there was a slice of toast with a little marmalade to look forward to. It was the same for nurses and children alike.

All these children had been brought to the convalescent home-cum-school deep in the countryside, from their homes in blitzed areas of London or places along the Thames Estuary that had frequently been bombarded. From the mauve, blue, green and pink dormitories that each accommodated six girls, could often be heard the screams of nightmares and Nursing Sister Sims would appear with a small light and sit by the bed, calming the child with soft words until deep sleep reclaimed the little one.

At the end of the summer when three new girls of five had arrived and settled into the mauve dormitory there had been a mini-uprising. The longest inhabitant and, at six, the oldest member, Ida was responsible for promising the new home-sick children that they would soon be home again with their parents. Ida

was a strong character and, at her tender age, a consummate actress. She was often caught after lights out with a towel around her head, imitating Carmen Miranda, singing "Aye, aye, aye" with a passable Spanish accent. When all the staff were having supper on this warm summer evening, Ida led five children from their dormitory, down the stairs, out of the back door across the immaculate sloping lawns and out into the woods. The objective was to get to the station and on to a train. Unfortunately, one of the girls couldn't keep up and was clattering across the patio in her clog-like shoes outside matron's window so was discovered.

The others were all rounded up as they approached the station, clothed only in their pyjamas covered by light jackets!

This incident demonstrated the sad state of mind

of these girls and their innocent belief that they only had to get on a train and all would be well.

On the whole, the home was a happy place and the children well cared for in spite of the restrictions of the time.

So now Christmas was approaching and on Christmas Eve, those who were well enough, dressed in warm woollen 'siren suits' ventured out with the teacher, Miss Hardcastle, into the beautiful white-clad grounds to gather holly and mistletoe for decorating the hall. As the light faded, back in the Hall, no sooner had they helped to put up the paper chains, jingling bells were heard and all rushed to the



The Junkers JU88 bomber

balcony to witness the arrival of Santa on his sleigh pulled not by reindeer but a jet-black pony. Two sacks were handed over to Nurse Sims, then Santa, with a cheery wave and a "Merry Christmas" went on his way. An orderly queue was formed in the hall and small presents, each with a girl's name attached by colourful label, were handed out. Coloured paper was ripped off and small rag dolls or Teddy bears emerged. These were clutched to each small bosom and taken to bed, where if one listened carefully could be heard a small voice quietly singing a lullaby to a new family member.



Was it angel voices that could be heard singing carols somewhere in this large old house? The children woke with a smile on their faces and listened before realising it was Christmas morning. The nurses scattered from the bottom of the stairs where they had been singing and rushed into the dining room where they helped to place a banana on each child's plate. This was a special treat as bananas were scarce but these had been imported for children who were sick or without their families.

Following breakfast there was a short service in the hall when the children sang the carols that Miss Hardcastle had been teaching them. After this all, except one or two sick girls, were allowed outside to play snowballs, build snowmen and play with two carefully constructed sledges that the gardeners had made out of old ammunition boxes. What appetites they had for Christmas dinner at midday. The excitement

was great as each girl pulled on a coloured paper hat placed by the side of her plate and tucked into what was to them a wonderful feast. Each had three slices of chicken, three potatoes, four Brussels sprouts and gravy. Followed by a helping each of Christmas pudding that all the staff had contributed to and helped to make. A feast indeed!

The highlight of Christmas Day was the opening of the cardboard boxes sent by loving parents. All sat around the hall with the teachers in a huge circle, boxes in front of each child – but first the radio was turned on and the King's speech was listened to in silence. Little minds may not have comprehended much of what was being said and there were some hesitations but each sat very still probably in fear of having the cardboard box removed if they moved. At last the National Anthem was played and all stood, then Nurse Sims said those magic words, "You may open your boxes now girls."

What ripping and tearing and what cries of joy were heard as each small item was pulled out and admired. All boxes had been checked by the staff to make sure that nobody had an excess of gifts, which was unlikely given the times, and a few items were added to those boxes not quite full. Each box contained a colouring book with coloured pencils, an orange, a ball, some tiny farm animals and a reading book. So little but so much to those whose lives had been interrupted by the destruction of war.

Ann Holland

RIDE 'N' STRIDE, 11TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Thanks to our sponsors we raised £300 for the Wiltshire Ancient Churches Fund. 50% of that is returned to Holy Trinity Bradford on Avon – so it is a worthwhile project. And congratulations to Brian who secured a Prize of £20 for the joint oldest cyclist which he is adding to the Churches Fund.

You understand that Wiltshire is a large county, so we concentrated our effort to the immediate North and East of Bradford visiting some 15 churches. The weather forecast was not optimistic, but it turned out to be a 'wear shorts' morning, so it proved to be an agreeable, dry and peaceful ride.

We had a warm welcome at many of the churches and it was nice to share a chat with other sponsored cyclists.

September 2011 for another ride? Perhaps you would like to join us? The main requirements are a bike and a survival instinct

Brian and Edward

THE 2011 HOLY TRINITY STREET MARKET

You will be pleased to hear that Westbury Gardens is now reserved for the next Holy Trinity Street Market, to take place on Saturday, July 2nd, 2011. Please keep it in mind as you buy, receive and give gifts this Christmas. Thanks to the amazing efforts of everyone involved, the 2010 Street Market succeeded in raising even more vital funds than the year before (Parish News, August 2010). Let's continue the trend!

Once again, we are glad to have Colin Johnston managing everything related to the Church stalls, and John Cox everything to do with the external vendors, including youth entrepreneurs. There is much to be done before the day and we are thankful for their continued involvement. Thanks also are due to Stephanie Moorfoot, who has been such an excellent publicity and communications coordinator for the past few years. Jackie Easby, who shadowed Stephanie in 2010, will do the job in 2011.

If anyone would like to shadow any of the three co-organisers in 2011, with a view to helping out in 2012, your help would be most welcome. Please speak to either Joan or Trevor or the organisers themselves.

Jackie Easby

"By love he can be caught and held, but by thinking never."

from *The Cloud of Unknowing*, written by a 14th century mystic.

...a sort of antidote to too much thinking! Sue Platt

Parish Christmas Card Distribution 2010

At this time of the year our thoughts and prayers focus with anticipation on the events that lead up to the birth of Christ. It is also a time when a team of over 50 people from our church deliver a Christmas card to every home in the parish as well as packs to local hotels, guesthouses, the library and the tourist information office. Many people tell us that the card is a most useful reminder of our very popular Christingle Service, Midnight Mass and the other Christmas services which give our parishioners a chance to celebrate the Christmas story. We hope you share our view that it is well worth while and partially responsible for many of the 'new faces' apparent at our services over the Christmas period.

As usual the 'packs' will be available for distribution in mid-December. 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 very healthy exercise for those of us who have delivered the cards for many years and it is very satisfying to know that when we pop these cards through the letter boxes we are taking part in this important aspect of our outreach in the town.

We also have pleasure in passing on our 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 are much appreciated and we would be pleased to hear from those of you who might be new to the parish or have an hour or so to spare and would like to help in this very rewarding task.

Marlene Haffenden and Parish News Distribution Team

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Bradford on Avon



*Design for the 2009
Christmas card by Sylvia
Stanes*

Learning for Discipleship Programme, Spring 2011

Registrations for the Learning for Discipleship courses on offer this spring term are now being taken.

Please contact Anne Willis for more details.

● FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Ethan-Cade Henry Gant Brooks	7th Nov
Laura Jacobina Johnson	14th Nov



9.30am on November 2nd saw the team arriving early to prepare for our launch. The cheery new carpet had been rolled out the night before. (This was our first opportunity to 'test-drive' it as the Embroideries had only just gone. Fortunately it fits perfectly and makes the space available both cosy and seem larger.) On the 'Welcome Table' name badges for those expected were pinned together in family bunches. The refreshment table was being laid out. The

PowerPoint presentation was in place to project the words of the songs onto the screen, the songs themselves ready to be played on the CD player. The instruments and toys were in place. We had used the resources supplied and followed *mainly music's* advice and plans closely.

Ten families had registered, but would anyone really come? At 10.15am we opened the church doors and waited.

Soon buggies were rolling in and we had a very happy and relaxed first session with seven families. The mums were fantastic at joining in and the children enjoyed it even though everything was so new. As we laid out the red fleece for the children to sit on while they had their drinks someone was heard to say, "Oh look! We're going to have a picnic!"

By the second week we had twelve families on our books of whom nine were able to come. This means that each week we expect up to twenty small children. We have great fun with them and feel much blessed by the way it is going. The lack of space means that at the present we are unable to enrol any more. This is sad as mums are already thinking of friends they would like to bring along too. Given the right facilities I suspect we could soon increase our numbers substantially.

Comments from parents include how much they like being in the church itself and what lovely toys we have for the last twenty minutes play time. Big, big thanks to all who donated these and all the other useful bits and pieces. We are now very well supplied. All your support and encouragement means a lot to us and has enabled us to start with a bang. Seeing our vision become such a vibrant reality is rather amazing.

Kate Wiggins

PS. Would anyone like to bake a cake for the mums once in a while? If so please ring me on 867007.

Bradford Area Churches Together



Twenty BACT members attended the meeting at St. Nicholas, Winsley, church hall on Tuesday 9th November. The opening prayers were said by the Chairman, Ambrose Stickney (St Thomas More) who included a special prayer of remembrance for our forces in Afghanistan and other conflicts, and especially for those who had given their lives.

Matters Arising from the last meeting: -

The Bradford on Avon Community Area Partnership

Under the guidance of Jim Lynch the partnership was moving forward and is intended to be used as a community 'focal point' for any issues which our church communities (*ie* congregations) may wish to bring to the attention of the Area Board – in other words, a direct line to County Hall.

Chairman's Report: Ambrose Stickney — St. Thomas More

The Revd Howard Jameson was thanked for allowing us to use his church hall for our meeting this month.

Ambrose spoke of the success of the 'Sure Start' facility for young mothers and children run at Fitzmaurice school. It was important to have some Christian input to all those who are in need of help and to provide advice in a less threatening way, as at Sure Start.

It is time to consider planning the BACT Lent Groups for 2011 – Ash Wednesday is on March 9th. Two or three courses are being investigated by Frances Hopwood, including 'Season of Renewal' and the 'York Course'. We should ensure that the course selected will result in the spiritual growth of all participants. A decision on which course to run will be made at the next BACT meeting. Ambrose thanked Holy Trinity for once again providing the venue for the annual Advent Carol Service (28th November. 6pm). Planning for Christian Unity week in January is under way.

Treasurer's Report: Reg Green — Christ Church

Reg announced that all member churches had now paid their BACT subscriptions, and our balance was £464.13 which will provide ample funds for the Lent Course material to be purchased. The Chairman reminded the meeting that he was still seeking a replacement for Reg, who had been Treasurer for many years and was now seeking to step down.

Faithworks Report — Jim Clarke reminded us that all churches and individuals with the various churches should continue to work closely together in order to serve their local community in the name of Christ. He mentioned in particular the Hope Debt Advice service, which has now been running for some time. It has an annual budget of £1,500-£2,000 but an annual income of only £400. Some gifts and grants have been received, but he would like to see member churches providing contributions on a regular basis. Also, more volunteers need to be trained. Jim produced a paper to be circulated to all churches.

Pentecost. It is planned to repeat the very successful vigil in the Saxon church at Pentecost next year (12th. June). BACT will liaise with Holy Trinity to organise the vigil. Meanwhile, Westbury Gardens have been booked for the 2012 Pentecost celebration which is planned to be a major local church activity to celebrate the Olympic Games.

News from Churches

The United Church is planning a meeting to consider a special event for Christian Aid Week, to include Judith Hammond who will speak about her recent experiences in Palestine.

Holy Trinity will host a Christian Unity service for BACT on Sunday 23rd January 2011.

Other Business

Food boxes were coming in quickly, and being despatched equally quickly from Bearfield Church. The Town Council and some churches have provided some funds for Bearfield to arrange a formal storage place for the boxes, but more money is required to reach the figure of £2,000 needed to complete the necessary work for a dedicated storage area. Is it possible for each member church to make a small donation in this respect? It was pointed out that in the current economic climate more, rather than fewer, food boxes will be required. (One food box will provide for a family of four, for 3 days).

Our Speaker, Fran Lewis MBE from SPLITZ Support Service, attracted several more member church participants to listen to a very interesting talk. Fran told us about SPLITZ, the important resource which provides support for all victims of domestic violence and abuse. Several interesting brochures were handed out. (Please see Joanna if you would like access to these).

Date of next Meeting

The next BACT meeting will be on Monday 24th January at the Friends Meeting House in Whiteheads Lane, at 7.00pm for the business topics, followed by an open meeting commencing at 7.30pm with a speaker – a representative of the Street Pastors in Trowbridge. This will surely be a most riveting talk. All Holy Trinity parishioners are welcome to come along at 7.30pm; Malcolm Walsh will deputise for me at this meeting.

David Rawstron

On Grandparents...

An hour with your grandchildren can make you feel young again. Anything longer than that, and you start to age quickly.

The best baby-sitters, of course, are the baby's grandparents. You feel completely comfortable entrusting your baby to them for long periods, which is probably why most grandparents flee to the south coast.

A TREASURE FOUND

In 1919 my father was given a small volume of poems entitled *A Muse at Sea* as a Christmas present. He was 24, and had seen service in the Great War. The poems were by E Hilton Young and were mostly written on Board HMS Iron Duke where he was serving in the Great War. They are poems from the heart of one who misses a land and home he dearly loves.

This book has always been on our bookshelves; I remember its cover as a child. And it has been on my bookshelf since 1979 when it was passed to me after my father died. Only lately have I opened it and read the poems. I have been much moved by them and wondered who Edward Hilton Young was — a Wiltshire man, for sure. At this season it seems most appropriate to quote one of these poems — *Christmas**.

Muriel Freeborn

Christmas

A boy was born at Bethlehem
that knew the haunts of Galilee.
He wandered on Mount Lebanon,
and learned to love each forest tree.

But I was born at Marlborough,
and love the homely faces there;
and for all other men besides
'tis little love I have to spare.

I should not mind to die for them,
my own dear downs, my comrades true.
But that great heart of Bethlehem,
he died for men he never knew.

And yet, I think, at Golgotha,
as Jesus' eyes were closed in death,
they saw with love most passionate
the village street at Nazareth.

E Hilton Young
Aboard HMS Iron Duke, 1914.
Quoted with permission.



*Edward Hilton Young by
Sir William Rothstein*

* Edward Hilton Young, (1879 - 1960), *A Muse At Sea*, 1919, (Sidgwick and Jackson, London), page 21.

Edward Hilton Young, 1st Baron Kennet of the Dene, (1879-1960), attended Eton, before studying at University College, London, and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took the Natural Sciences tripos. He was President of the Union Society and editor of the Cambridge Review. He was called to the Bar in 1904, and practised in the King's Bench Division and on the Oxford Circuit. As a result of illness he gave up his legal career to pursue politics and journalism, becoming assistant editor of the Economist, then financial editor of the Morning Post (1910-1914).

Enlisting in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve on 22nd August 1914, he served in a wide variety of theatres and actions in the First World War, including the Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow, Harwich light cruisers, Admiral Troubridge's mission to the Danube, naval siege guns at Flanders, the Zeebrugge Raid in which, commanding a rear gun on HMS Vindictive, he was severely wounded, necessitating the amputation of his right arm, and, finally, in the obscure Russian campaign, commanding an armoured train on the line south of Archangel. These experiences were all recounted in his colourful 1920 war memoir, *By Sea and Land*.

His war service also brought the awards of DSC and bar, DSO, Croix de Guerre and Serbian Silver Medal. Another literary consequence of his war service was *A Muse at Sea*, a compilation of his poems earlier published in the *Ducal Weekly* (the Iron Duke's newspaper), the Morning Post, the Cornhill Magazine and the Nation.



The Iron Duke was the flagship of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, and fought in the Battle of Jutland in the summer of 1916.

In 1922 — eleven years after her husband's death — he married the sculptor Kathleen Bruce, widow of Scott of the Antarctic and mother of Sir Peter Scott.

During the war he became MP for Norwich and Financial Secretary to the Treasury. He was the British Representative at the Hague Conference on International Finance and went on financial missions for the British Government to India, Poland, and Iraq. In 1926 he left the Liberals to join the Conservative Party. He represented the UK at the Geneva Disarmament Conference in 1931 and he was Secretary for Overseas Trade in the National Government and Minister of Health, 1931-35. He was created a peer in 1935.

His son Wayland married the daughter of Bryan Adams, another decorated Zeebrugge hero, and his grandson Thoby married the granddaughter of Roger Keyes who commanded the whole expedition.

Muriel Freeborn and Bryan Harris

OUR EDWARD-TIDE PILGRIMAGE TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

On a clear still day, eleven of us assembled on Saturday, 16th October, in the waiting room of Bradford railway station for our final briefing by Canon Pater Hardman on our day's pilgrimage to the shrine of Edward the Confessor in Westminster Abbey. Departing at 7.47am, the First Great Western train sped its way south-eastwards down the Wylde valley, where, in the stillness of the morning, the rising sun lit up the shallow blankets of mist which overhung the low-lying fields by the river – beautiful! We changed trains at Salisbury and, fortified by coffee and cakes, we gradually left behind the unbroken skies of Wiltshire to arrive uneventfully at Waterloo.

No sun, but no rain either, as we walked along to Westminster bridge. There a chill wind blew from the north east as we crossed the bridge, admiring the sparkling gilt of the clock tower which seemed to be leaning to the east. Was this an illusion or is the tower trying to imitate the one in Pisa? So, scuttling on, we arrived at the west entrance to the abbey which, for the first time, had been closed to tourists, admission being reserved for those on the pilgrimage. Here the fun began as Peter met up with his friends at the Abbey and we were all issued with the Abbey's Edwardtide Pilgrimage booklet, *Prayer Trail for Pilgrims*. It was now 11.00am – just the right time – as the announcement came for people to take their seats for the Festival Eucharist which was timed to start at 11.30am. So Peter led us up through the nave, past the scientists' corner and then through the musicians' aisle to the north transept, drawing our attention to the memorials of various famous people as we went. Here we were

ushered to seats just behind the front row at the crossing and given our National Pilgrimage service booklet. Gradually the seats filled up and the music began.

We stood to sing the opening hymn (melodies for all hymns were printed in our service booklet) as the choir and altar party came into view along with all the banners. Leaving the choir behind in their stalls, the altar party, in full canonicals, swept past us to take their several places in the sanctuary. So the worship of God and the thanksgiving of the festival Eucharist got under way, with the service being sung by an octet from the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir using a setting for the *Sanctus* and the *Agnus Dei* taken from Tomás Luis de Victoria's *Missa O quam gloriosum*.

On completion of the Eucharist, we had just over half an hour before our slot for visiting the shrine as a party, along with two other parish parties, was due. So some of us continued with the prayer trails, some went for coffee in the cloisters whilst others went to look at those parts of the abbey or gardens which were of particular interest to them.

Regrouping, we assembled at the foot of the stairs leading to the shrine, and with two other groups were admitted to the shrine. Our National Pilgrimage booklet contained a Litany of St Edward for use by pilgrim groups, but a printed sheet with a shorter version was set out on our seats for us to use at the shrine. This was said as an act of all-groups worship, with the priest from the Abbey. This enabled a little time at the end of the prayers for pilgrims to look around the chapel or pray at one of the shrine niches before

being ushered out to let in the next group.

Lunch time! Some went back to the cloister café but that was too cold for me, so I went out to the restaurant at the Methodists' Central Hall. The associated free time also allowed us to do more of the prayer trail and for Peter to be told that we would be admitted to a block in the choir stalls for the Evensong and Procession which began at 3pm. What fortune!

Evensong began with an introit by Bruckner from the Gradual for the Dedication of a Church, being sung by the choir in the nave – beautiful. In processional copes the clergy, banners and choir moved to their places. The officiant and choir then sang the Responses. We now sat whilst the choir sang Psalm 122 *I was glad when they said unto me we shall go into the house of the Lord*. So the worship of God for the Eve of the Dedication of Westminster Abbey in 1269 continued. The altar was censed whilst the choir sang the *Magnificat*, and later the *Nunc Dimittis* to a setting by Edmund Hooper. Following the collects and the prayers, the choir then sang an anthem based on Psalm 122 to a setting by Henry Purcell whilst the shrine of Edward was censed. The collegiate procession now moved to the Lady Chapel whilst we sang lustily. After their act of dedication there they returned whilst we sang the closing hymn. Following the closing prayer

and blessing by the Dean, the procession departed and evensong finished to the music of JS Bach.

Now was time to return. We emerged to find that there had been lots of rain during the worship, but now the clouds had departed so we were able to wend our way back to Waterloo, arriving there just in time to miss an earlier return train. This enabled us all to board the next South West train which was empty, so we were all able to sit together. The train ran to time. Arriving at Salisbury we were delighted to find the connecting train was late! We dashed on to this train whilst the conductor stood at the entrance muttering that he was already late and would not wait for all our party to arrive from the London train. However, blessings be upon him, he did, so we all managed to catch the same train from Salisbury that we would have caught if we had been on the earlier train from Waterloo.

Arriving back in Bradford, after thanking Peter for his management and leadership of the pilgrimage, some of us went home whilst others decided to have a fish and chip supper at the café by the station approach roundabout. So ended a very enjoyable and celebratory day, thanks be to God and all those who participated in the pilgrimage.

Malcolm Walsh

Muriel writes...

It was a wonderful opportunity to be able to join the National Pilgrimage to the shrine of Edward the Confessor on 16th October. Throughout the day, between services, the Abbey was a haven of peace and quiet, being closed to the normal throng of visitors.

Thank you, Peter, for organizing this most memorable day.

Muriel Freeborn

A POSTCARD FROM DOWN UNDER

For those who have not travelled to Australia it may be of interest to learn that the unique beauty spots and places where tourists accumulate in this fascinating country do not necessarily come in quite the same visual form with which we are all familiar here. For example, there is nothing in Oz to compare with Moreton in Marsh, or Broadway, or Castle Combe, or our magnificent city of Bath, to name but a few local places with which we are all probably very familiar. However, despite her relatively young age, Australia can still boast a wealth of very attractive spots of her own, a number of which I have described in previous ramblings.

On those occasions I probably made it clear that of all the places mentioned, my favourite — and fairly local (by Australian standards) to where we base ourselves each year near Melbourne — was probably the little town of Bright, about 200 miles to the north east of Melbourne. A long and fairly straight road heading north east and of some 600 miles in length, joins Melbourne to the metropolis of Sydney. This road used to be called the 'Hume Highway' until fairly recently, and this always amused me as a young immigrant in the '60s, since several sections of it were unmade and very dusty! More recently however, the road has been upgraded to international standards

and is now almost all dual carriageway, proudly bearing the name 'Hume Freeway'. So at less than one third along this long freeway, a right turn will lead the visitor towards Bright and the Australian Alps and into a literal gold mine of small towns steeped in early

Australian history.

One such gem is the beautiful town of Beechworth which lies just off the Great Alpine Road to the left, and where — as the road gently undulates some

30 miles towards

the town — the visitor will pass through the most enchanting and traditional 'Aussie' landscapes full of gum trees, 'black boy' ferns, sheep and cattle farms and the sort of picturesque views always associated with Australia. Beechworth is a very well preserved historical town with an interesting and varied past, but is most famous for its gold rush days in the mid 1850s. The original settlement, called Mayday Hills in the earlier part of the 19th century, served a community of graziers whose sheep and cattle had seemingly endless pasture land, and sufficient precious water to provide both milk and meat for the growing Melbourne population. But it was in 1853 that the town was renamed Beechworth and, a year later, on the back of the burgeoning gold rush, a magnificent Post Office was built in the town centre. Also in Ford Street is



Beechworth street scene - Ford Street

the magnificent Commercial Hotel. The present hotel, built in 1873 replaced the 1853 wooden original. It is an imposing two-storey stone and brick structure with a decorative iron lacework veranda. The lounge is furnished in mid-19th century style, just as Ned Kelly's gang knew it. To the rear of the building are the coach house and stables which were built in 1859 by the American Hiram Crawford who established his coaching company there, and became the most successful coaching service between Melbourne and Beechworth in the 1850s.

In its heyday, from 1852-1857, Beechworth was a most fabulous place to be, with gold prospectors arriving from the USA, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as from China. At this time, population peaked at 3,100 (today standing at 3,300 – about one third of the population of Bradford on Avon) and it was common for these prospectors to pan 5 or 6 pounds of gold every day, with one lucky man clearing some 50 pounds in a single week! So 'gold crazy' did the town become, that during the town's first election campaign one candidate, Daniel Cameron (no relative), rode a horse shod with solid gold



Beechworth Post Office

horseshoes. The extravagance of this event is still commemorated, and the logo for Beechworth is a golden horseshoe.

During its boom times, Beechworth boasted a range of industries, including a tannery, jewellers, boot makers, a brewery, blacksmiths and livestock sale yards. It had schools, a convent, a prison with imposing stone walls, two hospitals, a courthouse, police barracks, a powder magazine and several stage-coach companies with regular services to Melbourne and Sydney. The former Bank of Victoria building is now a superb gold jewellery store (a must to visit) and the prison, built between 1859 and 1864, is still in use today. Beechworth is known for its attractive streets and parks lined with deciduous trees which create an intense colourful display in autumn *ie* in April and May. The commercial centre extends along Camp Street and Ford Street, presenting an almost unbroken series of elegant buildings and elegant shop fronts, most of which date back to the 19th century which –



The magnificent Commercial Hotel

again by Australian standards – is exceedingly old! There are also several historic hotels and churches located in the town centre. Just east of the commercial centre is the Lake Sambell Reserve (well worth a visit) which, amongst other things contains a Chinese garden honouring the district's Chinese gold-rush pioneers. The Chinese were not allowed to live in Beechworth town itself, but resided on the outskirts in make-shift shanties. However, they were amongst the most successful miners, and at the end of the gold rush when the Europeans left for 'better pickings' in Ballarat and other towns, the Chinese stayed on and did very well mining out the tail ends of what had once been very productive gold seams, for which they became very unpopular with the remaining town residents. Beechworth Cemetery has a large preserved section of early Chinese miners, and it is to this interesting resting place of many immigrants and pioneers that I would now like to draw your attention.

Beechworth Cemetery occupies a 20-acre site towards the northern edge of the town. It was opened in 1856 to replace the much smaller original cemetery and, unusually, is carefully divided into various religious denominational sections, including the Beechworth Chinese Cemetery and some pioneer graves which were moved from the old cemetery.

The Chinese section is quite extensive, but almost all of the graves are of an understated nature, showing just a small vertical piece of hard wood with the name — in Chinese — engraved in it. One of the few exceptions is the grave of Henry Ah Yett who was the last Chinese person to be buried at Beechworth in

1932, and who has a stone headstone. Henry was a very old and well-known identity in Beechworth and district, having lived in the area for over 70 years. He is believed to have been 105 years old when he died. He was noted for his honesty, and his geniality and kindness to children were proverbial. It is interesting to note that the Chinese section is located on a hill slope, which is considered auspicious in the south of China, giving support to the belief that many of the miners were from that part of the country.



Another interesting grave is that of John Watt. John had arrived in Australia from Scotland in 1858 aged 25 and lived in the east of Victoria for some years, where he assisted local surveyors in conducting a geodetic survey to determine the boundary between Victoria and New South Wales. After moving to Beechworth in about 1871 he became landlord of the Wooragee Hotel a few miles outside the town. On the night of Tuesday 15th October 1872, two armed bushrangers held up the Wooragee Post Office and then went on to the Hotel where they

held up and shot John Watt and another man. John Watt received a gaping hole in his side from the shotgun blast. He did not die immediately but lived for nine more days, when the effects of the wound became too great for his system to cope with, and he died on Friday 25th October, aged only 39. His grave is clearly marked to show how he met his fate.

Some little distance away from all the denominational sections, which include some very grand Catholic gravestones and mausoleums, humble Jewish resting places marked by the star of David, and conventional Anglican graves, some with leaning headstones, others drab and untended — away from all of these is an area set aside for people of unknown religion, or simply 'Strangers'. In this area I was intrigued by a small concrete slab, no more than fifteen inches square, upon which a fairly recent plate had been fixed. It seemed quite plausible to me that someone from England had visited Beechworth to find their long lost relative and had been successful. So on returning to the UK with this scant information I decided to look further into the life of poor John Miller...

John Miller was arrested in the Strand in London on 7th August 1838 for stealing a handkerchief (worth about a shilling, the minimum for judicial proceedings) from the pocket of Daniel Harrison. He was tried at the Old Bailey on 20th August, 1838, and sentenced to transportation to Australia for ten years. John had previously served a 6-month sentence for an earlier offence. His age was given as 18 years.

John embarked on the 'John Barry', a 520-ton sailing ship, in November 1838 on its fourth voyage as a convict transport. It was captained by Mr John Robson and the surgeon was Campbell France. He arrived in Australia on the 'John Barry' on 22nd Mar 1839 in Sydney Cove, NSW.

His convict record described him as: -

John Miller: No 391319, age 21, Baptist, single, reads and writes, born Herefordshire, occupation blacksmith, offence picking pockets, tried Central Criminal Court on 20th August 1838, sentence 10 years, former conviction 6 months, height 5ft 6in, complexion fair, ruddy and a little freckled, hair brown, eyes hazel.

Description: Left eye injured, diagonal scar below left side of under lip, two raised moles on back of right cheekbone, one on back of left cheekbone, two moles on left jaw, another under left side of chin, 8 moles on lower right arm, 9 dots inside lower left arm (tattoo), two moles on back of same, scar on back of forefinger of left hand.

Ticket of Leave No 4312068, 31st August 1843 (4 years after arrival) states:

Allowed to remain in District of Camden (NSW). John Miller married Margaret Cogan, free settler and Irish immigrant, at St Mary's church Sydney on 23rd December, 1843. He was registered on the Citizen Electoral Roll 1842-43 for Gipps ward. His movements may be traced from the birthplaces of his children: 1843 at Camden NSW, 1847 at Yass

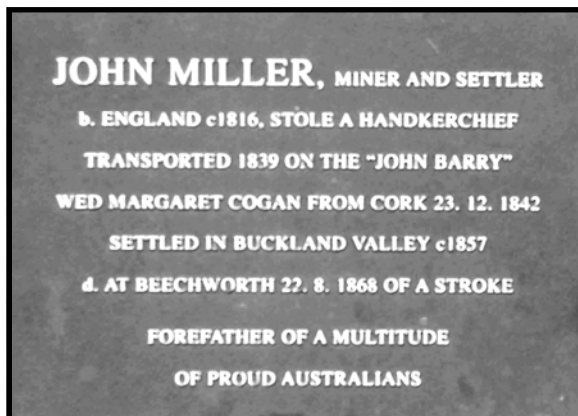
NSW, 1849 at Chiltern Victoria, 1850 at Albury NSW, 1852 at Woolshed near Beechworth, 1858 at nearby Buckland.

It is surmised that John Miller worked for squatters, bringing stock to new land holdings in the Chiltern/Beechworth area in the mid 1840s. John was a gold miner between 1856 and 1868. The electoral roll of Victoria in 1856/57 shows: John Miller, miner, Reids Creek, Woolshed Division. Therefore he did not move to Buckland, Victoria, until about 1857; his youngest child was born at Buckland in 1858. Buckland Mine Register Book 1862 shows his registration of a mine. He was in partnership with David Ballantyne Murdoch in a mining claim on Devil's Creek (Buckland) in 1866. John Miller apparently had a massive stroke, becoming

paralysed, and was committed to the Benevolent Asylum at Beechworth where he died on 28th August, 1868, of 'Brain Paralysis'. He was buried in grave No 153 in the Strangers Section of the Beechworth Cemetery...

What a fascinating tale and an interesting life this man had. During his time in Australia he had travelled from Sydney Cove, at the northern end of the old Hume Highway (probably a dirt track all the way), 400 miles to the Beechworth area, stopping on the way, and had turned his hand to various menial tasks. Sadly only 52 years old at the time of his death, John was very clearly the 'Forefather of a multitude of proud Australians' - as his modest grave stone tells us.

Text and photos by David Rawstron



Christmas pudding

BILL: "Can you tell me what are the best things to put into a Christmas pudding?"

WILL: "Well, I should say your teeth, old chap."

Bradford Choral Society
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Gounod's Mass for Saint Cecilia
Ireland's The Holy Boy
with traditional carols and readings.
Nerissa Soper (Soprano), Ed Coton (Tenor),
Andrew Mahon (Bass).

Musical Director: Rupert Bevan
Holy Trinity Church, Friday, December 10th, 7-30pm
Tickets: £8.50 from Ex Libris, members, or on the door.

Post cards and Stamps

Thank you to all those who have passed their unwanted post cards and stamps to me in aid of the Episcopal Church in Sudan.

This year, 2010, £12,350 has been raised and over the past five years the amount raised is a staggering £62,000 from post cards.

Please don't throw your old calendar cards away as the New Year comes in: they are wanted, too, as are used and unused ordinary cards, from Shepton Mallet or from Hong Kong! It is no disappointment for me to receive thorough my letter box (20, St Margaret's Street) a single post card, and, on picking it up, find that it was dated in 1990 and sent to someone I don't know; all are welcome.



Muriel Freeborn

If there had been three wise women...

- ◆ they would have asked for directions
- ◆ they would have been on time
- ◆ they would have assisted with the birth
- ◆ they would have cleaned the stable
- ◆ they would have brought more practical gifts (disposable nappies!)

O, LITTLE TOWN OF...



Each year at Christmas time we sing those familiar words by the American cleric Phillips Brooks. It appears that it was the sight of Bethlehem itself that gave Brooks the impulse to write this hymn. He was then rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity in Philadelphia and had spent a year travelling in Europe and the East. He wrote home in Christmas week of 1865:

“After an early dinner, we took our horses and rode to Bethlehem. It was only about two hours when we came to the town, situated on an eastern ridge of a range of hills, surrounded by its terraced gardens. It is a good-looking town, better built than any other we have seen in Palestine.

Before dark, we rode out of town to the field where they say the shepherds saw the star (*sic*. a curious solecism from a clergyman who subsequently became a bishop!). It is a fenced piece of ground with a cave in it (all the Holy Places are caves here), in which, strangely enough, they put the shepherds. The story is absurd, but the shepherds must have been somewhere in those fields we rode through. As we passed, the shepherds were still ‘keeping watch over their flocks,’ or leading them home to fold.”



Woodcut of Bethlehem, ca. 1840.

One can imagine that he was looking at something such as we see in this 1840 woodcut which is parodied in the kind of clipart icon that appears at the head of this page. The reality is somewhat different. In modern Bethlehem every possible opportunity is taken to foster the sentiments expressed in Phillips Brooks’s carol and all of the others of which we are so fond. You can still visit the ‘Shepherds’ field’, where a cave, not mentioned by Luke, has been transformed into the Grotto of



Looking out towards the Judean wilderness from Manger Road in Bethlehem.



Manger Road approaching Bethlehem from Jerusalem.



In thy dark streets shineth...

the Annunciation. And every other possible 'historical location' has its own church or chapel.

Standing on the quaintly named Manger Road to Jerusalem, you can look out towards the wilderness and see a view that has perhaps not changed all that much in 2000 years, apart from the new Israeli settlements built on

Palestinian land. But turn to look back along the road and you see a dreadful modern mess, with shack-like buildings, cables everywhere, and a permanent neon Star of Bethlehem waiting to be switched on. The dark streets are now infused with a rather different kind of everlasting light, and the stars are not visible because of light pollution.



The Church of the Nativity



The door of humility

either, if it comes to that), looks like a haven of peace. It has a very low entrance gate — the Door of Humility— said actually to have been reduced from its original height to prevent Crusaders from riding in on their horses. If you turn away from this empty space, however, you face 'Manger Square', packed with people and traffic, with the dominant minaret of the Mosque of Omar behind it, and everywhere there are soldiers and

The Church of the Nativity, reputedly built over the cave where Jesus was born (also not mentioned by Luke, who didn't refer to a stable



Manger Square and the Mosque of Omar

military vehicles. And of course, a short walk away there is the infamous Israeli Security Wall with its checkpoints where the movements of Palestinians are strictly controlled and hindered. The shepherds would never have made it to the manger today.

The rampant commercialization – vital to Bethlehem’s prosperity, and readily fed by international Christian tourism – makes it hard to visualize the events we read of in our bibles occurring here in the City of David. When I visited in 1992, during the first intifada, the only time I managed to imbibe any sense of what Christmas is all about was when I was standing on Manger Road looking out across the hills where, like Phillips Brooks, I could imagine shepherds, abiding in the fields, watching over their flocks by night.



A checkpoint on the Palestine/Israel 'security' wall

Bryan Harris



The supposed Shepherds' Field, with Bethlehem on the hill top in the background.

Photos from the internet, except where signed BH

WILTSHIRE BUTTERFLIES, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2010

October and early November were particularly mild (although with a few frosty nights), mainly calm and relatively dry, resulting in several butterfly species lingering beyond the end of their normal flight period. Small Coppers were seen up until 30th October near Sherrington in the Wylye Valley and probably had four broods during the year. A few Brimstones, Speckled Woods, Red Admirals, Peacocks and Commas, together with surprisingly late Meadow Browns and Small Heaths, were all recorded at a few sites until late October. The last Meadow Brown was seen on 27th near Alvediston (latest-ever county record 1st Nov 1972, near Warminster) and the last Small Heath on 1st November, also near Alvediston, a new latest-ever county record by 11 days. The second brood of the beautiful Adonis Blue was very abundant at its downland sites and last seen on 26th October, a new county record and beating mine, established on 15th October 1986.

The two 'cabbage whites' were rarely seen after late September. The one blue butterfly associated with gardens and urban areas, the Holly Blue, had a small third brood and the last was reported from Alderbury, SE of Salisbury on 8th October.

On 1st November I saw what were probably my last butterflies of the year – a rather faded and 'tired' looking Speckled Wood along the canal towpath. I saw one here last year on 2nd and the latest ever county date is 4th Nov 2001, also from this site. On the same day a Red Admiral flew through my garden in the weak, hazy sunshine and the latest were recorded on 6th at Sutton Veny and Calne. It has been normal in recent years to see many Red Admirals during November, but not so this year.

©Mike Fuller
Wiltshire Butterfly Recorder

Friends of Holy Trinity Church

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

An traditional supper evening with entertainment

7.00 for 7.30pm, Tuesday 25th January, 2011



Venue, Cost and further details to follow in
Church Bulletins.

**Please make a note of the date in
your diary now.**

KEEPING WARM

In Lubeck in the late 17th century, when the famous Dietrich Buxtehude was organist, the church was so cold that blankets were handed out to the congregation. As we sit in our pews this winter let us be thankful for modern heating and lighting which keeps us reasonably warm in our clean, dry church and enables us to see our service sheets easily.

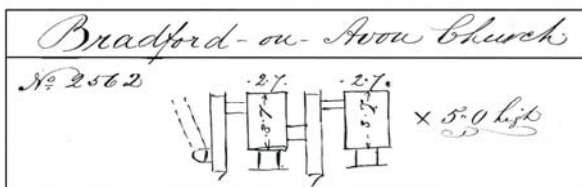
For most of Holy Trinity's history the church would have been cold, dark, damp and smelly. Any heating would have been by braziers, though candles would have given off some warmth. Before the Somerset Coal Fields were exploited charcoal would have been used in the braziers. By 1804 coal was being carried along the canal, and continued to be so until the Somersetshire Coal Canal was closed in 1900. Gas was used for lighting from the 1850s and the church had electricity installed in the 1920s.

Candles were expensive so the 'simple dips' noted by Canon Jones in 1850 would have been used if possible. One way of making these was to repeatedly dip dried reeds in mutton fat. The smell of roasting mutton is delicious; a church smelling of stale mutton fat is not, and it was probably not counteracted by the pleasing smell of beeswax candles. Other smells would have come from the smoky coal in the braziers, the bodies decomposing under the floor and the generally unwashed nature of many of the congregation.

There do not seem to have been any private fireplaces in the box pews that were installed in the church in

1778, as there were in some churches. However in 1746 it was directed that the 'churchwardens Mr William Lea and Mr William James should with all convenient speed Floor the Belfry with good Oak Board & erect a Chimney on the North side thereof and do any other thing consistent and necessary for Altering the said Belfry into a compleat Vestry Room'. The chimney was removed in the 1860s, but you can still see the sooty mark on the northwest corner of the tower. It is not known whether the ringers were allowed to make use of it.

Among the works in the 1864-66 rebuilding of the church was the installation of a thoroughly modern heating system, a Haden twin-furnace hot-air system. The boiler house was built on the north side of the chancel and now houses the kitchen and toilet. Coal was stored in the small



Drawing dated November 8th, 1865, of the Haden twin-furnace hot-air system.

building behind it. The chimney was built in the rood loft stairs, the long squint being blocked with stones, among which was the well lid with its ring that can still be seen inside. There is no mention of the cost of the system but in 1889 'repairs to heating apparatus' cost £31. Each Haden system had its own number: Holy Trinity was No 2561, and was entered in the contract book on December 8th 1865.

Hot air systems were a common method of heating at the time, technology not being up to a pumped hot-water system. Haden's factory was in Silver Street, Trowbridge, and their hot-air system which '*warmed and ventilated houses*' was used all over the world. Holy Trinity was not the only church in the parish to use the system; a list of contracts includes Christ Church, South Wraxall and Westwood churches, besides Holy Trinity, and there is an earlier reference to 'Bradford Chapel', probably one of the chapelries in the parish¹.

Heating a church was a vexed question in the 19th century. The influential Cambridge Camden Society was not in favour of heating because of the ugliness of the stoves and their vents and flues. On the other hand in one of their helpful pamphlets for churchwardens they warned that damp could '*tempt the poor to take themselves to the next meeting-house*'². A neat hot-air system as at Holy Trinity may have been approved of, though the damage to the squint and the rood-loft stairs would have appalled them. The ventilation from the hot-air system must have helped any problems with damp and perhaps encouraged more people to attend the church.

In 1921 there was considerable refurbishment of the church and a new boiler, with its own proper chimney, was installed for a wet system which served the church for many years. There were at least two changes of boiler, the final one being gas. The Haden system seems to have been completely removed, though you can still see one grille in the north tomb in the chancel.

In December 1986 a new gas-fired hot-air system was installed, with vents over the Adye screen in the tower arch. A new boiler house was

built on the north wall of the tower; most of the old boiler house being converted to a kitchen and toilet.

Canon Jones gave a graphic account of the lighting in the church in 1850. '*We were lighted by simple dips, which of a winter evening just made darkness visible. The noise made by creaking old snuffers was at times distracting; the poorer folk used a simpler apparatus for snuffing the dips*'. He does not mention the brass chandelier, bought around 1795 and hung in the centre of the church. Judging by the picture of the interior of the church, probably dating from the 1850s, this chandelier was similar to the one now hanging in the nave at Steeple Ashton. Two well-known chandelier makers of the period were James and Henry Mist, sons of Thomas Mist who was born in Amesbury, and worked in London. One of Thomas's chandeliers is at Wollaston Parish Church, Northamptonshire, and bears a resemblance to the Holy Trinity chandelier.

By 1857 the church was lighted by gas installed at a cost of £97, and the chandelier may have been converted to gas. The luxury of gas lighting was not extended to the tower until 1887; previously the ringing room had been lit only by a four-candle lantern, which had cost 3/10d [19p] in 1804. Lantern, gas pipe and burners in the ringing room and on the stairs are still *in situ*, though now disused.

In 1929 there was electricity in the church and on October 4th electric light, using the Holophane system was used for the first time and found to be 'most effective'. Once again the church was thoroughly up to date. Holophane, who are still in business, was founded in 1898 and was one of the first electrical lighting companies to study lighting 'scientifically'. The company developed the use of glass

refractors to distribute light to the areas where it was required which led to improved and more efficient lighting. A 'system' could have comprised the whole installation: tungsten lamps, lanterns with glass refractors, wiring, fusing, switches. A Holophane representative would have helped plan the lighting³, and there is a blue-print of the system in the History Centre at Chippenham. The result was a church well lit with hanging tungsten lanterns in picturesque glass refractors. The lamps can be made out in a photo taken by Adam Tegetmeier in September 1966, but they are not the lamps I remember in the church when I first came in the early 1980s. Does anyone know when and why the successor to the Holophane system was installed? The current lights date from 1995, and were installed when the church was re-wired after the roof had been renewed.

Coal, candles and gas all produce soot which is why regular entries for lime for whitewashing the church appear in churchwardens' accounts. In 1778 John Pearce's bill for whitewashing *etc* came to £15 3s.3d [£15.16]. Lime was also used for burials beneath the church floor to minimise the smell of decomposing bodies; not a problem we face today.

Heating is one of the church's biggest expenses, and we are also being encouraged to think about our



*Interior of Holy Trinity in Sept 1966. The Holophane lanterns are indicated by arrows.
Photo by Adam Tegetmeier.*

carbon footprint and the balance of efficiency and cost with warmth. We also have to consider the organ which I am told prefers a temperature of around 10°C. Great Chalfield uses storage heaters which are kept on very low during the week and turned up for the Sunday service; a good system for a small church, but probably impractical for Holy Trinity. Should we be thinking in terms of lowering the temperature in church, and making sure we are clad in our warmest clothes with woolly hats and gloves? How would the clergy and servers cope? Should we be thinking of solar panels? Holy Trinity's heating saga is by no means over.

© Anne Willis

Notes:

1. A website on the Haden family can be found at http://www.hevac-heritage.org/victorian_engineers/haden/haden.htm
2. *A Few Words to Churchwardens on Churches and Church Ornaments, No 1, suited to Country Parishes*. First published in 1841 by the Cambridge Camden Society, and reprinted by the Ecclesiological Society.
3. I am grateful to Simon Cornwell for providing this information.

“TO BE A PILGRIM”

Canon Richard and Mrs Margaret Askew will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land next March, 17th to 27th inclusive, (this will be our 20th pilgrimage, not all to Israel). We shall spend five days in Galilee and six in Jerusalem. The theme of our pilgrimage is provided by Jesus’s quotation: “Who do men say that I am?” A daily talk within worship, and visits to sites linked with Jesus, enable us to pursue this theme.



*The Garden Tomb outside Jerusalem's
Damascus Gate*

We travel with McCabe Pilgrimages, a Christian specialist firm which is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The tour is on a full-board basis (bar one lunch) and the all-in price is £1,660 (this includes £15 for the recent tax increase: travel insurance, if required, is extra). There are still places available for couples and those willing to share: limited single-room availability. To receive a copy of the brochure or for further information ring us on 01225 863350 or e-mail margaret.askew@gmail.com

We would love to have your company!

Richard and Margaret Askew

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Dorothy House, Winsley

December 3rd and 4th, 10.30am to 3pm

Holiday gifts, ornaments, candles, plants, toys, plants,
jam, and more!

for prayer in December

We pray for:

- ◆ Refugees, asylum seekers and the homeless
- ◆ St Laurence School
- ◆ The Junior Church
- ◆ Our ringers

and in January

- ◆ Those starting at school for the first time
- ◆ The *mainly music* group and their team
- ◆ The new Faith Explored groups
- ◆ Bradford Area Churches Together

Saxon Club Programme for December/January

*We meet in the Old Church Hall at 2 pm on Tuesdays.
You are very welcome to join us.*

December 7th:	Unexpected hospitality — Ann Holland
14th:	Childhood memories
21st:	Christmas lunch
28th:	No meeting
January 4th:	Narrow boats — Kate and Karl Wiggins
11th:	Quiz afternoon
18th:	Glastonbury Festival — Judith Holland
25th:	Favourite poems or music

West Wiltshire Interfaith Group

Wiltshire Observing National Interfaith Week

20th November to 4th December

Bradford on Avon Library

There will be a poster display and an opportunity to speak to people from different faiths on Thursday 25th November 2010 from 10am to 2.00pm

Free refreshments available from 10am to 2.00pm

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers

The Revd Joanna Abecassis, Chair
Joan Finch (Churchwarden) Trevor Ford (Churchwarden)
Graham Dove (Hon. Secretary) Jeremy Lavis (Hon. Treasurer)

Members

Anne Carter	Sue Platt
Graham Dove	David Rawstron
Marlene Haffenden*	Edward Shaw
Pam Harman	Kathryn Swift
June Harrison*	Anthony Swift
Ann Holland	Dr Malcolm Walsh*
Cecilia Hynes-Higman	Anne Willis**
Dr Nick Nutt	John Woods*

* Deanery Synod representative

† Diocesan Synod representative

STANDING/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair, Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer

CHURCHWARDENS EMERITI

Norman Hanney, Jeremy Lavis, Mike Fuller, Anne Carter, Tony Haffenden

FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Patron: Dr Alex Moulton	Chairman: John Cox
Secretary: Mike and Jenny Fuller	Treasurer: John Woods
Committee:	Anne Carter; Bryan Harris; Jeremy Lavis; Rev Angela Onions; Raymond Winrow
Ex officio:	Joan Finch; Trevor Ford

PARISH NEWS

Editors:	Ann Holland (862731) & Bryan Harris (863011) e-mail: HT.ParishNews@gmail.com
Distribution:	John and Beryl Cox (864270)
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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
	email: secretary@brad-avon-ht.org.uk	
PCC Treasurer	Jeremy Lavis	863600
Bellringers	Phil Gaisford	863538
Bookstall	Rev Angela Onions	309001
Brass Cleaning	Chris Hodge	866220
Brownies	Jennifer Hazell	863860
Director of Music	Gareth Bennett	01380 728772
Church Stewards	David Milne	864341
Coffee on Sunday	Elaine Giles	868654
Display Co-ordinator	Revd Angela Onions	309001
Electoral Roll Officer	Alan Knight	860991
Flowers	Jonquil Burgess	868905
Guides	Judith Holland	866215
Junior Church	Alison Cook	864116
	June Harrison	863745
Mothers' Union	Chris Hodge	866220
MU Prayer Circle	Chris Hodge	866220
Publicity Officer	Ann Holland	862731
Servers	Mary Ford	862240
Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trustees		
Chairman	Anna Tanfield (all bookings)	863819
Secretary	Diana Shaw Stewart	863253
Treasurer	Jeremy Lavis	863600
Sidesmen Rota	Joan Finch	863878
Stewardship Secretary	Pam Harman	866995
Street Market	John Cox (Community Stalls)	864270
	Colin Johnston (Church Stalls)	868132
	Jackie Easby (Communications)	07708 331389
Verger	Peter Wills	867593

Parish Representatives on other organisations:

Bradford Group Council:	The Churchwardens
Children's Society:	Anne Carter
Christian Aid:	Jonquil Burgess
Deanery Synod:	June Harrison, Marlene Haffenden, Dr Malcolm Walsh; John Woods; Anne Willis (Deanery Information Officer)
Diocesan Synod:	Anne Willis
Churches Together:	David Rawstron
St Laurence School:	The Revd Joanna Abecassis and Dr Heather Knight, (Foundation Governors)

*The cover picture on the printed version of Parish News is from a drawing by Jonathan Pomroy.
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Parish News also appears (in colour) on the Holy Trinity website www.brad-avon-ht.org.uk/
Previous issues of the magazine can also be found in the magazine archive at this address.



The Saxon Church of Saint Laurence



The Chapel of Saint Mary Tory