

SEPTEMBER
2016

TRINITY TIMES

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Welcome To The September Issue



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Mike Milburn
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Phil Harper
Children & Families Minister



Steve Writes...



“ I'm so thankful to God for the way in which He led us here...”

A piece of advice was given to me many years ago by a curate whose wise counsel I valued: "Go with the peace." This advice is something I've put into practice particularly when facing a major decision. I'll pray and reflect on the matter and ask myself whether I have a sense of peace that comes from God. Conversely, there have been times when there's been an idea that just won't go away and I have no sense of God's peace until I've pursued it further.

This was my experience as events unfolded that led to my arrival here four years ago. I'd lived in the same area for almost all my adult life and belonged to the same church. I never imagined being ordained but after a day of prayer asking the question "Who might God be calling to serve as an Ordained Local Minister here" it was explained to me that many people had suggested me. I was enjoying Reader ministry but I couldn't ignore the advice of many prayerful people. Moreover, although I had no idea how I'd find the time, I experienced that sense of God's peace surrounding the selection process and training.

But there was more to come. There was a certain restlessness that followed a few years later and the idea wouldn't go away. After one of my regular conversations with my spiritual director in 2010, it became clear that I needed to be more focussed. And where was that focus to be? It was to be in full-time ordained ministry - a change of focus that involved further discernment by three interviewers around the country whose task was to identify whether God was really calling me now to full-time ministry. Finally, after this new focus was confirmed by the wider church, I was able to apply for full-time posts. I first saw the post of Associate Vicar advertised on the Internet. I phoned Martin Gorick who said it would be quite different to St Margaret's, so it would be a good idea to come and see a typical service and see what I thought before applying. So, one Sunday in June 2012, Val and I came as 'mystery worshippers' and received a wonderfully warm welcome. It **was** very different but Val and I said to each other that we had a real sense of God's peace. The rest is history!

We have enjoyed an amazing four years serving here at Holy Trinity, All Saints' and St Helen's. We love being in this amazing church and playing our part in the way that the renewed vision is being fulfilled - seeing lives changed through God's love.

Once again, though, reflecting and praying with people whose wisdom I value, I knew I would only experience God's peace if I identified whether God was now calling me to a new Parish as an Incumbent. To cut a long story short, this is how I ended up with my new appointment in the Ash and Quin Valleys Group ministry. Once again, Val and I both have that sense of God's peace about this new venture in a part of the world we didn't know of until a few months ago.

Continued on next page...

I'm so thankful to God for the way in which He led us here and for so many people - too many to name - who have made this ministry so fulfilling.

As we move on, can I take this opportunity to invite you to reflect and pray on how God is calling you on your own Christian journey?

How has God guided you in the past? How might God be guiding you now? Is there anyone who could help you as you reflect and pray?

We're going to miss everyone enormously and we'll continue to pray for you. Do call by if you're ever in the East Hertfordshire area. For now, I'd like to close with the words of the collect for the Holy Spirit's guidance - a prayer that I've found helpful.

God, who from of old taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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The Judith Dorricott Interview

A BIG MAN – A BIG LAUGH – A BIG HEART

I met Phil Harper, our new Children and Families Minister, and asked him about his life so far and his hopes for the future.



Judith: Tell me about your childhood.

Phil: I was brought up in the Midlands as my father worked as a Chartered Accountant but then became a Vicar when I was still a child.

Judith: What's your happiest childhood memory?

Phil: We lived in Cuddesdon, while my father was studying at Ripon College and I remember many happy long school holidays playing in the Oxfordshire countryside with my sister.

Judith: Did you enjoy school?

Phil: I loved my Junior School, but we moved to Tamworth in Staffordshire where I went to an enormous Senior School with several thousand pupils. It was an examining area with a lot of unemployment so life was very challenging for some students.

Judith: Did you have a career plan at that stage?

Phil: Well, I really wanted to be an actor so I did masses of drama at school and when my family moved to Codsall near Wolverhampton, I took a drama degree at Wolverhampton University. But we all know that acting is a precarious profession so I decided to keep acting as a hobby, and went in search of some "proper" work. My first job was as a bouncer at a nightclub! I am quite a big bloke so I might appear intimidating, but my friends know that I am just a gentle giant! I'm good at reading people and I don't lose my cool in difficult situations. Then I ended up working for four years in a Building Society. I was quite good at maths so I enjoyed treating each mortgage case like a puzzle to be solved.

Judith: You must be a very patient person. When did the Church come into your life?

Phil: The Church really helped me through some difficult personal times. In Wolverhampton, I started going to a Quiet Service on Thursdays, and then became more involved with the Youth Groups on Sundays. I then got the job of Youth Worker, dealing both with children and with families. We organised toddler services, mums and tots groups, a monthly after-school service for the under 10 year olds, Messy Church and many more events. My favourite was the weekly all-age service, when we sometimes had 80 to 100 people attending. That was amazing! The service was quite casual and the congregation felt they had 'ownership' of it. My ministry in Codsall was a ministry of cakes and crafts - that was very rewarding in many ways!

Judith: What an impressive list of activities! You obviously love working with children and have a natural gift for it. Anything else you did there?

Phil: Yes. I started studying to become a Lay Reader while I was there. I really began to feel that I was part of the family of the Church and that I could open the gospel to future generations. I also became a sort of "Chaplain" at our local pub in Wolverhampton. We would have beer and hymns, and beer and carols at Christmas. I think I am a good listener and I felt this was part of my outreach commitment.

Judith: So what brought you to Stratford-upon-Avon?

Phil: My mum showed me the advertisement in the Church Times and thought I could do some good in Stratford. The theatre on the doorstep is of course a bonus - I absolutely love it and you can often find me in the front row at the RSC on preview nights!

Judith: What is the most important aspect of your new job?

Phil: I'm passionate about nurturing and developing children's spirituality. An awareness of God's presence is natural and common in childhood but rarer in adulthood. All children have active spiritual abilities and we are created with an instinctive capability of responding to our creator. Honing these skills at an early age will lead to more adults connecting with God. If we instil the foundations of Christianity in children, this will keep them on the right track in life. It's so important to establish worship and then carry on this ministry to young people and their families and the Church should act as our broader family. In the end we need to maintain a society where people care for one another.

Judith: How will you do this?

Phil: I want to build on the already popular FAB service, and the Good News at Ten. Then I'm looking forward to working with the all-age service at Rosebird. I really want to be more involved in the local schools, and get to know the families around here. There should be a strong link between schools and church I think. Of course I am also a Lay Reader so will be involved in other services.

Judith: And how do you imagine your life in ten years time?



Phil: I'm not worried about that as I'm sure God has a plan for me and at the moment I am just enjoying Stratford. My greatest pleasure is getting to know the local families and then watching the children growing up within the Church.



Judith

Worship in September



SUNDAY September 4th Holy Trinity 15th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Steve Bate

**10.00am Parish Eucharist— Revd Dr Steve Bate—Steve's last Service
Parish Centre—No Service**

6.00pm Congregational Evensong —Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 10.15am Baptism—Revd Diane Patterson

All Saints' Luddington 9.15am Holy Communion BCP—with Revd Graham Wilcox

SUNDAY September 11th Holy Trinity 16th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Patrick Taylor

10.00am Parish Eucharist— Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

6.00pm Evensong—Preacher James Sorel-Cameron

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—Phil Harper

Parish Centre 7pm Open To God—with Mike Milburn

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Holy Communion—Revd Nicki Chatterton

All Saints' Luddington 9.15am Holy Communion—with Revd Canon John Grady

SUNDAY September 18th Holy Trinity 17th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion—Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

10.00am Parish Eucharist - Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

6.00pm - Choral Evensong—Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

9.30am Holy Trinity@Rosebird—with Phil Harper

Parish Centre—FAB

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers—Morning Worship, with Revd Patrick Taylor

All Saints' Luddington 9.15am Holy Communion— with Revd Jenny Rowland

SUNDAY September 25th Holy Trinity 18th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion —Revd Patrick Taylor

10.00am Food4thought—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

6.00pm Holy Communion BCP & Compline—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—with Phil Harper

St.Helen's Clifford Chambers—Trad Holy Communion with Revd Diane Patterson

All Saints' Luddington—HC/Harvest Festival—with Revd Patrick Taylor

Food4thought

"A Divine Summons!"

Andrew Dow



I wonder if, at school, you were ever “called out” by the Head Teacher? I was once: “I want to see Dow after this assembly!” Quite a scary experience, to be summoned by someone with such authority (although it turned out I wasn’t in trouble!)

Now we learn from the Bible that the One with the greatest authority in the whole universe – our Creator God – he is a caller! Not only has he called well known individuals such as Abraham, Moses, David, Paul, and Mother Theresa to serve him in a unique way; more generally he has called, or called out, every follower of the Lord Jesus Christ to be his witness, or ambassador, in the world. St Peter put it like this, “You are a chosen people that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Peter 2: 9)

A divine summons! And this is to be the theme of the next three “Food4thought” services, (10.00am on the fourth Sunday of the month) under the overall heading: “Divine Callings!” On September 25, the title will be: “Called to be Salt & Light”, with the subtitle: “*confronting the challenge of our day to day mission.*” An obvious Bible passage would be Jesus’ teaching as part of the Sermon on the Mount, from St Matthew 5: 13-16. What does it mean to be “salty” for Christ, at our place of work, for example?

23 October is both Bible Sunday and Readers’ Sunday, when the service title will be: “Called to Share God’s Word” – “*celebrating the ministry of Readers and Home Group Leaders.*” Colossians 1: 28-29 could guide us here.

Finally, 27 November – Advent Sunday. Christ our great High Priest will return in glory, but in the meantime, we hear his.....“Called to be...Priests?!”, subtitled: “*considering our stance....between God and the world.*” What me, a priest? Yes, all of us in one sense, some of us in a particular sense. Let 1 Peter 2: 9 and Revelation 1: 5-6 proclaim the summons.

Confronting Celebrating Considering
It should prove a thought provoking series!

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Photo: Hilary Newman

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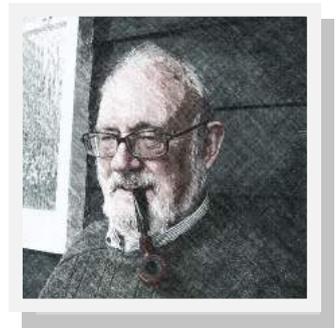
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Anthony Woollard's Window on the World



"But will the tourists still love us tomorrow?"

It has been quite a summer so far in Stratford. The effects of the 400th anniversary celebrations seem to have lasted. Combined perhaps with exchange rate movements, they have ensured a very busy time indeed for those who run tourist-related and other businesses in the town. These, of course, include Holy Trinity, where visitor numbers are markedly up. But will the tourists still love us tomorrow?

Being a business person, especially if you employ people, must be pretty terrifying with current levels of uncertainty about the future. We hear a lot in the media about the handful of very big employers who exploit their workers and/or their customers, and we may feel that there are areas of big business which are frankly unhealthy and need reform. We hear much less about those, especially the small employers and the self-employed, who struggle to make a living for themselves, to provide a decent living for others, and to contribute to society as honourably as they know how.

We at Holy Trinity should understand the spiritual cost of this, perhaps more easily than many churches can. For, as already noted, we are a small business, and quite a complex one for our size. As a charity, we may not face the tax challenges that some small employers experience (apart from VAT, from which we are not exempt!) But we do face quite big challenges, not least from recent changes in pensions legislation, which have to be applied to quite a number of mostly part-time staff. We have always aimed to reflect best practice, for example in paying at least the Living Wage (more than the Government's minimum wage) to all employees, and avoiding controversial practices like zero-hours contracts. But all that is not always easy, and we too face our temptations, our pressures and our uncertainties.

We have a foothold in the retail world, for both customers and employers, through the Friendship and Faith initiative which offers a listening ear in a neutral environment. As we heard at a recent Deanery Synod, some local churches, such as St Nicholas in Alcester, are able to go further than that in relating to the small business world and offering support, because they have members with the right contacts and gifts. It would be a mistake, probably, for us to try to do more, when we are already very stretched in so many aspects of our life and mission.

Continued on next page....

Continued from previous page

But it would be good to know that all employers in the town – not just the big ones like the RSC, the Birthplace Trust and NFU Mutual, but the many smaller ones – can feel that this is “their” church, that we know where they are coming from, and that at least they have our prayers.

Oh, and don't forget to support the many small businesses who advertise in these pages!



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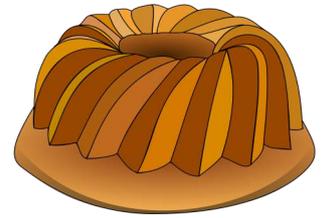
For more information, contact Maureen Green:

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Do try this at Home



Apple Cake

170g/6oz sultanas. 150ml/5oz dry cider. 225g/8oz caster sugar. 170g/6oz unsalted butter. 2 large eggs.

285g/10oz plain flour. 1 1/2 tsp baking powder. 1 tsp cinnamon. Zest of 1 lemon. 2 bramley apples, peeled and thinly sliced.

Soak the sultanas in the cider for 30 minutes. Preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas3. Cream the sugar and butter thoroughly, then add the eggs, one at a time, beating as you go. Fold in the dry ingredients, the lemon zest and the thinly sliced apples. Add the sultanas, soaked in cider, along with any remaining cider. Bake in a greased lined 20cm/8in springform tin for 45-50 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean. Cool in the tin, then remove the cake to a rack.

Enjoy

Ann Morris

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How Are We Now?



Martin Gorick and Family



Leaving Holy Trinity back in 2013, and the town that had been our home for twelve years was a real wrench. We had been very happy as a family in Stratford but it was time to move on and three years later we have settled into our new life.

I'm very much enjoying my job as Archdeacon of Oxford. Living at Christ Church gives me a good base, with prayers at 7.15am every morning in the cathedral, and regular opportunities to preach. I look after the student Drama Society which is a nice link with my time in Stratford! I have been busy in the Archdeaconry as we've had no Bishop of Oxford for two years. I enjoy connecting with all the parishes, especially helping with appointments when their clergy leave. Further afield as Interfaith Advisor I lead our work with people of other faiths across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, and have just completed an excellent residential course at Windsor with Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders. I look after our 100+ Chaplains (education, prisons, hospitals and military) and lead our response as a diocese to major new housing developments or New Communities. We have a population the size of Edinburgh moving into the diocese over a ten year period so that certainly presents us with a challenge!

Katharine works very hard as County Lead for the Visual Impairment Team, managing her staff and serving the educational needs of about 180 blind and visually impaired children across Oxfordshire. It doesn't leave her with much free time and is certainly the most demanding job she has done so far, but at the same time she feels very fortunate that the team leadership role became vacant at just the right time for her.

Sam has been working at Barclays head office in Canary Wharf for the last three years, gaining experience in many different areas. He lives with friends in Brixton and is on the PCC of his local church, playing bass guitar in their music group. Lydia graduated from York University last summer and has just completed a PGCE in Primary Education at Cambridge. She starts work as a teacher in a Catholic primary school in Marylebone, London in September.

Continued from previous page

Anna finished her A levels last summer and after a month spent travelling round Eastern Europe has spent most of the year working as an au pair near Toulouse in France. She is currently working at Scargill House in North Yorkshire as part of the community there and is looking forward to starting at Durham University this autumn where she will be reading French and Arabic.

We often think of you all and have the fondest memories of our time in Stratford. We're always happy to see people in Oxford and enjoy being kept up to date with developments, not least through *Trinity Times*!

”



Martin



This module explores how God's invitation to Praise and Lament through music is an invitation to journey to a place of healing. Expect to find connections between music and the Psalms, to be challenged to listen to new styles, discuss your musical tastes, and to hear some great tunes!

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ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE DELL

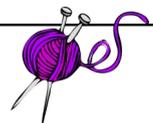


David Ellis

For ten years Barbara and I lived in a very large Victorian vicarage in Halifax, West Yorkshire in a parish where Pakistan immigrants had replaced the millworkers. We pioneered the survival of a living church where the building had been demolished, worshipping in the school hall and using the ground floor of our home as a centre for community outreach. Since then the entire vicarage, marked with a huge white cross, has become a centre for asylum seekers involving 150 volunteers working week in, week out, with about a thousand asylum seekers and immigrants. The work involves language classes, cookery, IT training, drama, music and dance, playgroups, etc. through which the Gospel is communicated through a loving, infectious fellowship. The congregation, comprising people from many different nations, still meets in the school hall with no desire for a new church building. St Augustine's Centre has received the Queen's Award for its remarkable contribution to community life in West Yorkshire.

One Sunday afternoon recently a group came to Stratford from that centre to perform their own multicultural version of *As You Like it* in the Dell. Parts of the script were in Farsi, Pushto and Romanian. Cultural songs and dances were inserted while the audience clapped to the rhythms in encouragement. We welcomed them and were much heartened to see in action the living Church which has developed in our former home.

Click & Chatter



Do you enjoy knitting or other handicrafts? Would you like to join with others, doing the same thing? Come to the Parish Lounge, Holy Trinity Church Parish Centre, Old Town, on the 3rd Friday of each month, except December, between 2.15pm and 3.45pm. In May and November there is a Bring & Share lunch so the meetings begin at 1.00pm.
Next Meeting September 16th.

For more information contact **Andrea Blood on 01789 266825, or Gillian Nunn on 01789 415830**

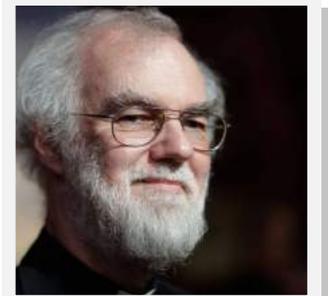


SHAKESHAFTE - A Play

Ursula Russell

Earlier this year, Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, was the speaker at a supper in Holy Trinity arranged by the Friends of Shakespeare's Church.

He explained that he had written a Play, which he describes as a 'Fantasia', imagining how young Shakespeare might have spent some of 'lost' years before we know that he was in London.



There has long been speculation that for a time he worked as a tutor with a Catholic family in Lancashire. The will of Alexander Hoghton of Lea and Hoghton Tower in Lancashire makes many bequests to his large household including one to William Shakeshafte who was involved in providing entertainment.

The family were loyal to the 'old religion' and so when Edmund Campion, the Jesuit priest and scholar, toured the north of England, he would have stayed with members of the Hoghton family.

What might a Campion and a Shakespeare have had to say to one another: the intelligence of the martyr and the intelligence of the poet?

Rowan Williams has graciously allowed Trinity Players to perform the English première of his Play on **Thursday 3rd and on Saturday 5th November** when there will be a matinée and an evening performance.



Hoghton Tower

Ed Mulryne's Page ...

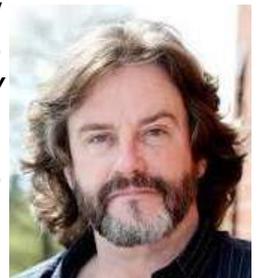


I'm going to go into Drama Student mode. Don't panic. What I must point out at this stage is that I write with absolutely no sense of authority; these are my views at the present time based on what I have experienced so far. I expect that if I were to return to this article in a few years' time my views will be different.

In Edinburgh I saw a three-person production of *Timon of Athens*. It was a minimalist production, with the actors relying on a multitude of hats and their performances to tell the story of the play. This, needless to say, was an impressive feat, and it solidified in my mind a view of theatre which I hadn't thought about before: more and more, over the course of the past year, I have come to realise that I much prefer minimalist productions to productions which try to create the whole world of the play physically on stage.

My reason behind thinking this is that I believe that the shows I have seen which have left a lasting impression on me have always had at their heart a sense of storytelling; a sense that the production is a two way process between the audience and the people on stage. I can cite one example in particular to justify this view:

Last year, I saw the RSC production of *Henry V*, directed by Gregory Doran. I loved it more than words can tell. I know that's odd because the play isn't looked on as one of the bard's best works – *Henry IV Part I* is generally regarded a much better play – but I'm afraid I cannot control what I like and don't like. Say what you will about its overall merits, but nothing that I have seen at the RSC so far has had such an overwhelming emotional effect on me than the moment when Oliver Ford Davies stepped out onto the stage and began the



immortal 'O for a muse of fire' speech, in which the Chorus invites the audience to imagine the world of the play and suspend their disbelief. The back of the stage was left open, a hole in the wall of the theatre, with bits of scenery and props visible to the audience. Before the show began, Davies could be seen at the back of the stage, wandering around and inspecting the stage and the props with mild curiosity. What I found so effective was the fact that the speech, together with the Brechtian direction, called for the audience

to use their imaginations, something which I feel is so much more powerful than showing every possible detail on stage. Once you get the audience to do some work themselves to imagine the world of the play they become involved in the production. Brecht was violently opposed to productions which encouraged passivity in their audiences, and asking an audience to enter into a production with the actors – the 'come with us' approach – ensures that they are actively engaged in the play, as well as building trust between the audience and the actors.

I realise this article is getting long and I didn't really anticipate where it would lead so I'll end it here with a few recommendations of plays which I feel have moved me greatly over the past year, largely for the reasons I have just gone into – *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams, *Cymbeline* by William Shakespeare, *Doctor Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe, *Mercury Fur* by Philip Ridley and *Trainspotting* (the play of the film of the novel) by Irvine Welsh.



...Comes To Stratford & Holy Trinity

Every five years the World Shakespeare Congress meets in various places around the world and in this quarter-centenary year of the Bard's death the Congress came to Stratford from 31 July until 4 August before moving to London.

A record number of delegates attended in both locations to take advantage of a unique range of cultural and intellectual opportunities in the places where Shakespeare was born, acted, wrote and died.

On Monday 1st August delegates met in Holy Trinity Church where, after being served tea, they were taken on guided tours of the church in an event hosted by The Shakespeare Club of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Roger Pringle, Shakespearean lecturer, writer, publisher, poet and President of the Club in 1993-4 and now Life Vice-President gave the welcome address. He spoke of the work of the Club and invited those present to examine some sample pages of a new book by Dr Susan Brock, formerly Head of Library and Academic Resource Development at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, and Sylvia Morris, also a former Head of Library there. Their book, which will be published in November, tells the rich history of The Shakespeare Club of Stratford. This club was founded in 1824 making it the oldest of its kind in the world. It organised the first local celebrations of Shakespeare's Birthday in the town and played an important part in saving Shakespeare's Birthplace for the nation and setting up the Birthplace Trust. It worked towards preserving the Shakespeare Monuments and Graves in Holy Trinity Church and it played a huge part in setting up the theatres in Stratford so that his plays have a permanent home for their performance outside London. It is a fascinating story and there are no better equipped tellers than Sylvia and Susan, both of whom are long standing members of the Club.

New members are always welcome and the first meeting of the 2016-17 season is on Tuesday 11 October at 7.45pm in Mason Croft in Church St.. Meetings take place there on the second Tuesday of each month from October to May when eminent guests speak on a wide range of topics. Further information is available at www.stratfordshakespeareclub.org. Speakers for next season include Sir Richard Eyre who is the new President of the Club and Alan Smith who is Head of Armoury at the RST. In April Tim Raistrick will speak about the mediaeval wall paintings in Stratford's Guild Chapel and the Shakespeare connection.

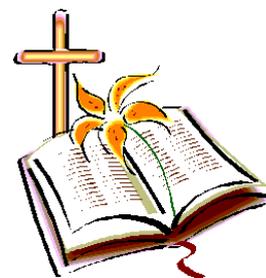
The Shakespeare Club members wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to Patrick and the rest of the staff at Holy Trinity for allowing us to use the church as it made such a fitting venue for this event. Great thanks are also due to those ladies of the church who helped Club members to set up, serve tea and clear away afterwards.

Jane Taylor



Readings for September

Compiled
By John Cohen



4th Sept 15th Sunday after Trinity

8.00 & 10.00 am		6.00 pm Congregational Evensong	
Philemon v.1-21	Isaiah ch.43 v.14-ch.44 v.5	Psalm 121	
Luke ch.14 v.25-33	John ch.5 v.30-end		

11th Sept 16th Sunday after Trinity

8.00 & 10.00 am		6.00 pm Evensong	
1 Timothy ch.1 v.12-17	Isaiah ch.60	Psalms 124,125	
Luke ch.15 v.1-10	John ch.6 v.51-69		

18th Sept 17th Sunday after Trinity

8.00 & 10.00 am		6.00 pm Choral Evensong	
Timothy ch.2 v.1-7	Ezra ch.1	Psalm 129	
Luke ch.16 v.1-13	John ch.7 v.14-36		

25th Sept 18th Sunday after Trinity

8.00 [10.00 am TBA]		6.00 pm BCP Communion	
1 Timothy ch.6 v.6-19	1 Timothy ch.6 v.6-19		
Luke ch.16 v.19-end	Luke ch.16 v.19-end		

LUDDINGTON

25th Sept 18th Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival

A Canadian Adventure

Chris Kingdom and Juliette Carter



Our tour began with the majority of the choir meeting at the Parish Hall bright and early at 7:00 am. However, before we could begin we faced the daunting prospect of a three-and-a-half-hour coach journey, which in the end took far longer. And things only got worse; once we arrived at the airport we were greeted by a three-hour delay and the possibility of a cancelled flight! Eventually we were called to our gate, almost six hours after we had arrived at the airport, boarded the plane and set off on our adventure. We arrived in Toronto at 10:00 pm local time and everyone was shattered. Most finally met their hosts while others set off for the first instalment of ‘find the hotel’.

In the morning the choir regrouped at the cathedral for the first concert of our tour, which took place at 1:00 pm and was well attended, despite the blistering heat—we had plenty of water! The concert was split into two halves, the first was a sample of the music we regularly perform in church, and the second a selection of pieces from the Shakespeare services or related to Shakespeare. After the concert we headed for the ‘Hot House’ (a local restaurant) where we all enjoyed a late but well-deserved lunch before going our separate ways. With our families and other members of choir, we then went to see the aquarium. The CN Tower was also a must see for everyone, and what a view!

The next morning, on the way to Kingston, we stopped at Fort Henry...



We split up here, with some choosing to walk around the walls of the old colonial fort and look in the barracks. Some of us went for a Victorian school lesson where one member of the choir was publicly humiliated for not being able to spell. After a much needed spelling lesson, and some much needed eating, we all got back on the coach and finished the journey to Kingston where we met the host families for our stay there, while those staying in hotels embarked on their second attempt at ‘find the hotel’.

The next day we were free until 5:00 pm. Most members of the choir went into the centre of Kingston while the youngest in the group went to the penitentiary. There were no tickets for the tour of the prison as it had just opened to the public and was very popular, but we were able to get into the museum. Inside there were many interesting devices such as ‘the box’. The younger members of the choir had great fun placing each other into these devices and the cells in the museum. After this we caught the bus into town, had a good-old Starbucks and wandered around the market where there was a pen containing goats. That evening we had our first appearance in Kingston with an hour long concert ending with a standing ovation.

Continued from previous page

At 9:00 the next morning we met at the church to rehearse for the morning mass, in which we sang Darke in F, before we went off for a group lunch in the centre of Kingston. Later that day the authors and Jim Fellows went for a less than successful swimming trip while many stayed in town. During the evening the small group headed off to the docks to go on the famous Thousand Island Cruise, which was a great way to end the day.

The following day we headed off to Upper Canada Village for a choir day out. It was a scorching day but thankfully there was lots of shelter from the hottest part of the day in the various buildings. There was lots to do and see but the unanimous favourite of the day was the Travelling Tiltos, an all-singing all-dancing group of entertainers. Other entertainment like the train ride was also widely enjoyed. After this exciting time, we all headed back to our places of rest with many of the tour party transferring to a university campus, unfortunately lacking any air conditioning.

Fatigue was beginning to set in, but spirits were still high due to the opportunity to sing in the Ottawa parliament building. The choir was a spectacle before we even started singing as we ran through the street in cassocks. After the concert (which thankfully started on time, I might add), the choir split off into smaller groups to explore the city. Many used this free time to buy gifts for their family and friends in the markets, as well as for themselves, while others went to the local museums.

After a decent night's sleep, we were once again back on the road, this time heading to the main event. The journey to Stratford took seven hours, almost as long as the flight! However this boring journey was broken up by two stops, one of which was an apple farm called the 'Big Apple', with a shop selling their apple-based products. Many tour members purchased apple bread while others enjoyed the sun and what the sweet shop had to offer! The most exciting feature of the journey was the petting zoo here containing yet more goats.

When we finally arrived in Stratford Ontario we met our hosts along with Patrick and his family (who would be with us for the remainder of the tour). We went with hosts or to B&B's before having a dinner kindly provided by St James Church. We enjoyed the meal before going back to our various accommodation for the night..

The next day we met at the church around 10:00 am to rehearse and then walk down to the Rotary Club where, as well as singing our national anthem, and the Cook 'Fear No More' we also sang a piece called 'Under the Greenwood Tree' by the local Canadian composer Berthold Carriere. Once we had sung we were provided with yet another free lunch which consisted of delicious wraps and tarts.

Later that day, at 7:00 pm in St James Church, we had another concert. This went down incredibly well, with a similar repertoire to most of the other concerts. This was reported to be the best concert we did despite the stifling heat.

The following day we went to Niagara Falls.



First, we were taken to the Skylon Tower where we took a group photo falling over the Falls before heading up to the top of the tower. The view was nothing short of spectacular with both Falls and a rainbow to accompany them. After the Tower we went for a drive through the parks (which were beautiful, and maintained by the money the tourists donate). Following this we went behind the Horseshoe Falls and looked through the portals to view the immense power of the water. We then ventured out onto the viewing decks where we got a better view of the incredible Falls. Later we went on the boat and I think it's safe to say it was the experience of a lifetime. We all stood right at the front with our bright red ponchos on and got absolutely drenched by the mist and Falls' water. We were all amazed by the power of both the water and the boat. That night there were fireworks and illuminations of the Falls. These were quite a spectacle as they showed the Falls in their best light, if you'll pardon the pun. After this amazing day we piled onto the coach and set off, arriving back at 1:00 am.

The next day we went to a tree planting ceremony to celebrate the relationship between our two towns. During this the choir sang Under the Greenwood Tree in the presence of the composer which was an honour. After we had sung we heard a series of speeches, including speeches by the mayor and by Patrick the Vicar. After this we had some free time, during which many of the choir went into town while a small group went onto the river on pedalos and then into the outdoor pool nearby. I believe that swimming pools played a huge part in our tour, with the younger participants visiting a pool pretty much every day, especially the outdoor pool in Stratford. That evening we sung a Shakespeare themed concert as our last concert of the tour.

The next day we sung two services, the morning with other local choirs where Patrick preached, and the evening on our own, officiated by Patrick. During the free time between the services the choir split up and went into town or to the pool. After the evensong we all went to a lovely barbeque on a farm just outside Stratford. It was one of the best meals of the tour and the large amount of land, coupled with the small swimming pool, provided ample entertainment for all. To finish the night speeches were made, farewells said and presents given.



Continued from previous page

The next morning, we departed for Toronto, where we had two free days. People visited locations they had failed to get to at the start of the tour while waiting for the flights. Back in England we all found it comparatively cold but this was a nice change.

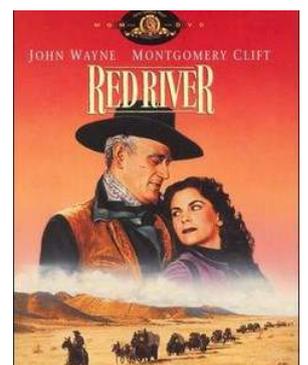
Overall the tour was the experience of a lifetime and definitely will not be forgotten. A huge thank you to Melissa, Steven, Rebecca, and Benedict for making the trip possible as well as to the congregation for their generous donations, and to the whole choir for making it so enjoyable. Huge thanks also go to the churches we visited and people of Stratford Music, for inviting the choir to Canada and allowing the tour to happen.

Chris & Juliette



Film Night

Please note there will be no film in September. Film Night kicks off again on Sunday October 16th at 7.30pm at the Parish Centre Lounge with the 1948 John Wayne classic *Red River*, which also stars Montgomery Clift.





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Holy Trinity Parish Centre

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Saturday 17th September

10am—12 Noon

Everyone Welcome!

Soundbites

Free Concerts every Wednesday at 1.00pm in Holy Trinity Church.

Refreshments available from 12.30

Programme for September

- 7th - Solomon Hayes, countertenor
- 14th - Fumi Otsuki and Petra Hajduchova, violin and piano
- 21st - Robert Peel, baritone
- 28th - Benedict Wilson, organ

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HOWLERS!



Compiled by Pat Pilton

Sir, Many congratulations to Mr & Mrs Peel on the birth of their daughter, Isabella (Births, Marriages and Deaths, Aug 16). My response was: "Only if rung with others."

Letter from Lady Morris, Risby, Suffolk to The Times

Seen in the classified advertisements of the Workop Guardian: "Exorcise bike £30".

An example of local newspaper journalism at its finest spotted by a listener to Radio 4's *News Quiz*: Headlined "Break in at Shed", the story read: "A shed in Warnham Road, Crawley, was broken into at some point last Wednesday night or Thursday morning. It is unsure at this stage what, or if anything was stolen."

Her Majesty arrived at the event in a horse drawn carriage accompanied by her husband the Duke of Edinburgh wearing a sea green dress with matching jacket.



Daily Mail website

How do you tell a kebab to be quiet? Shhh, kebab.

Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-bye.

I needed a new password eight characters long, so I picked Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Nick Helm

Surely every car's a people carrier

Adam Hess

Just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?.



"It's Mrs Filby with her hard-as-concrete home-made rock cakes for the Harvest Festival. Let's pretend we're not in."



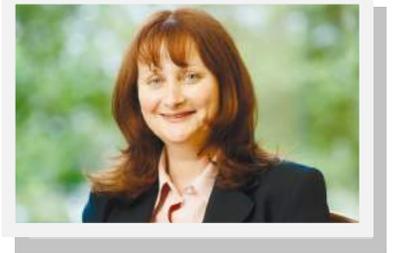
**" I didn't lose the gold,
I won the silver."**

*Olympic figure skater
Michelle Kwan*



St Helen's Clifford Chambers

Pauline Newbury Writes...



If you go down to St Helen's soon
You'll be sure of a pleasant surprise
If you go down to St Helen's soon
You'd better not go in disguise.
For everyone who ever there was
Will gather there for certain because...

St Helen's is embarking on an exciting journey and Reaching Out For a New Vision

Our **#Reach Out** initiative is being developed after months of hard work producing a vision for St Helen's. Part of our vision is to reach out to the community. You'll soon be hearing about the Champions of St Helen's who will be appearing around the parish of Clifford Chambers – their main objective will be to **Reach Out** to those around them, welcoming new residents to the parish and presenting them with our new Welcome leaflet. The 'Champions' will also act as a link between the community and St Helen's providing a much needed communication channel and support where necessary.

We are also setting up a 'Friends of St Helen's'. Friends put their energies into raising funds to pass over to the Vicar to ensure we can all still have a church where we can enjoy our Christmas and Easter festivals, our Remembrance Day ceremony, weddings, baptisms, and funerals. We know there is wonderful support in Clifford for the continuance of the church here.

**Please come and see us at the Community Tent at Apple Day on 8th October or
contact Pauline – 415603 or Angela – 268156**



All Saints' Luddington

Jane Beeley Writes...

" Calming Measures..."



The Harvest Festival will be on the 25th September at 11.00 a.m. at All Saints' followed by lunch in the Village Hall. Please phone 750636 if you would like to come for the lunch.

Luddington is hoping to introduce traffic calming measures.

The Next film night is on Saturday 30th September in the Village Hall. New members for the film club are always welcome! Not sure what the film is yet.

Coffee Morning on Wednesday 14th September with Bring and Buy table. Quiz nights on 12th November and 3rd December with fish and chip suppers.

Luddington Village Fete raised £3000 to be divided between All Saints' Church, Stratford Hospital Cancer and eye Appeal, and support for SRAG on the SW relief road.



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St Chad's Alumni Choir's Shakespeare 400 Evensong

Lucinda Murphy



It seems like only yesterday I was boarding the train for my first ever visit to Durham to see whether St. Chad's College might fit the bill. Having climbed on board what genuinely felt like the Hogwarts Express (admittedly minus an owl and wand), I had the thrill of my life as I stumbled onto that cold, bright platform to the tumultuous roar of cheering and warm sea of colourful banners, costumes and mascots. Before I knew it, I had been swept up by friendly green-clad Chadsians, excitedly embraced, and lovingly bundled across Palace Green, past the Cathedral and into college. It was

an instant fit. I feel truly blessed to have been able to call the wonderful community of St. Chad's College my home during my university years. Being able to live, work and grow in such an inclusive, supportive and vibrant atmosphere (and I might add, being practically able to lean out of my window and touch Durham Cathedral!) was a privilege for which I will be forever thankful.

St. Chad's is one of the oldest and certainly the smallest of Durham University's sixteen colleges, having a reputation for its friendly and tight knit intergenerational community. Made up of 388 undergraduates, 180 postgraduates, and an active Senior Common Room of academics, leading community figures and businesspeople, it is located right in the heart of Durham opposite the east end of the Cathedral. The college's motto is 'Non vestra sed vos', meaning 'not yours, but you': in other words, 'not what you own, but who you are'. This, for me, represents the real strength of the Chads community. It was a place in which I could really just be myself, and perhaps more importantly, further uncover what this self might actually be like.

Many of us cherish special places in which we can be ourselves and feel somehow instantly at home. For me, St. Chad's is one of these places; and Holy Trinity is another. Peering through that choir vestry door, seeing all those familiar faces and gazing up at our stunning windows really does always feel like coming home for me. I am therefore really delighted to be able to unite these two homes of mine together on **Saturday 17th September at 4pm.**

Holy Trinity is kindly welcoming members of the St. Chad's alumni community to sing an evensong in honour of Shakespeare 400. The choir is made up of St. Chad's College alumni and friends, and aims to give Chadsians of all generations a chance to sing together in new exciting locations across the country and maintain their connection with the college community. We are really thrilled to be able to come and sing in Holy Trinity, and look forward to embracing Shakespeare 400 by singing our way through a selection of music appropriate to his day.

The Music

Introit: Prayer of King Henry VI, Henry Ley

Preces & Responses: William Smith of Durham

Psalm: 66, Plainsong with Fauxbourdons (Thomas Morley arr. David Lewis)

Setting: Short Service, Orlando Gibbons

Anthem: Agnus Dei from the Mass for Five Voices, William Byrd

Prayers: O Lord make thy Servant Elizabeth, William Byrd

The service will be led by Chads alumnus, David Rushton (Head of Chaplaincy Service at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust) and conducted by recent graduate, David Lewis (Choral Scholar at Bradford Cathedral). With a touch of Durham and a nod to Shakespeare, I hope that this service may provide a chance to bless our shared connections and communities which allow us to learn and grow together. If you fancy coming along, it would be lovely to see you and welcome you for what we hope will be a really enjoyable celebration evensong.

Patrick's father and grandfather both attended St. Chad's College. His grandfather rowed for his college and the university in 1937 and his blade is now proudly hanging in Patrick's study!



Queen Mother's Clothing Guild

a clothing and linen charity since 1882

This year's Coffee Morning will be on **Thursday, September 10th, from 10.00am to 12 noon**, in Holy Trinity Parish Centre, in the lounge. I am very much looking forward to seeing all our members there – and we are always delighted to welcome new faces! Please do come along if you are a knitter, a sewer, or if you would like to donate any bought article of new household linen or new clothing (for both sexes and all ages). Every year, the Clothing Guild distributes thousands of garments amongst some 60 other charities within the British Isles, providing for countless needy recipients.

For further information, please telephone Eithne Mulryne on (01789) 205774.

Eve Parnell Irish Artist

Eve Parnell is one of Ireland's pre-eminent artists who exhibits across her native island and throughout Europe.

I first met her six years ago when I curated her first exhibition here in Stratford.

At that time Eve was working for the RSC and has, ever since, maintained strong links with Stratford.

Her work, which has huge depth, takes on many forms, from photography to pencil drawings.



This chalk and pastel of the Virgin Mary was presented to HRH Prince Charles and The Duchess of Cornwall

Eve's most recent exhibition 'Souls of the Slain', was held at Saint Anne's Cathedral Belfast, and consisted of a series of eight pencil drawings on tissue paper commemorating the dead of the 2016 centenaries.



Eve Parnell

The following is part of my contribution to her Rome exhibition catalogue...

Eve's new collection of extraordinary pencil drawings has that same quality of disorientating changeability, which therefore needs to be absorbed slowly in the same way one might read the poetry of Whitman, or the work of D. H. Lawrence and James Joyce to discover the multiplicity of themes and meanings, the passions and the fears, the sensuality and the heartaches within their work.

Such passions, fears, heartaches and sensualities also lie deep within Eve's art.

Bernini's sculptures are huge pieces of definitive story-telling that leaves little or nothing to the imagination: they are bold and sure in their purpose. They have, through the sureness of Bernini's brilliance, the very mark of God in every frozen curve, every marbled glance and gesture. There is no hesitation, no contradiction, only confidence, beauty, weight and conviction. As a consequence there is no argument. All is statement.



Woman Cutting Bread



Study of Bernini's Gabriele Fonseca

Eve's exquisite drawings have, by particularity, put breath into Bernini, made both him and his gigantic works, more in tune with humanity as a whole and not just museum pieces. Eve has turned marble into a kind of flesh with genuine movement, desires, vices, sin, and a huge capacity for life and love.

If you get the chance look at Eve's work it may change how you look at the future—and Christianity—because Eve Parnell's art is itself a journey where we must be brave enough to look it clearly in the eye and say, "Yes, yes, this is life."

Steve Newman

Recently Assistant Verger David White took a group of children from Sandcross Primary School Reigate

Around Holy Trinity Church

Here are some of their responses...

Thanks
Kids



Sandcross Primary
Sandcross Lane, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 8HH
01737 245467
01737 244703
www.sandcross.surrey.sch.uk
office@sandcross.surrey.sch.uk

Dear David,
Thank you for telling us about the church it was really fascinating to listen to you. It must have been really boring for the priests just praying and chanting all day!

Thank you
From Alex

Sandcross Primary
Sandcross Lane, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 8HH
01737 245467
01737 244703
www.sandcross.surrey.sch.uk
office@sandcross.surrey.sch.uk

Dear David,
Thank you for letting us looking around the church and telling us about how the church used to be very important and about the Sanctuary Knocker. Also for showing us Shakespears grave and his curse he wrote before he died!

Don Hammond
Sandcross School

Sandcross Primary
Sandcross Lane, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 8HH
01737 245467
01737 244703
www.sandcross.surrey.sch.uk
office@sandcross.surrey.sch.uk

Dear David
Thank you for showing us around the church it was cool I liked all of the glass on the window it was sooo colourfull and pretty but I Really liked it all so much. I was so excited to see his grave it was Really intresting and soo cool fank you for leting us come. the chairs were so cool.

lots of love
Kaitlyn



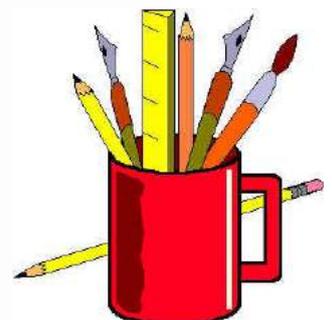
Sandcross Primary
Sandcross Lane, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 8HH
01737 245467
01737 244703
www.sandcross.surrey.sch.uk
office@sandcross.surrey.sch.uk

Dear David,
Thank you for:

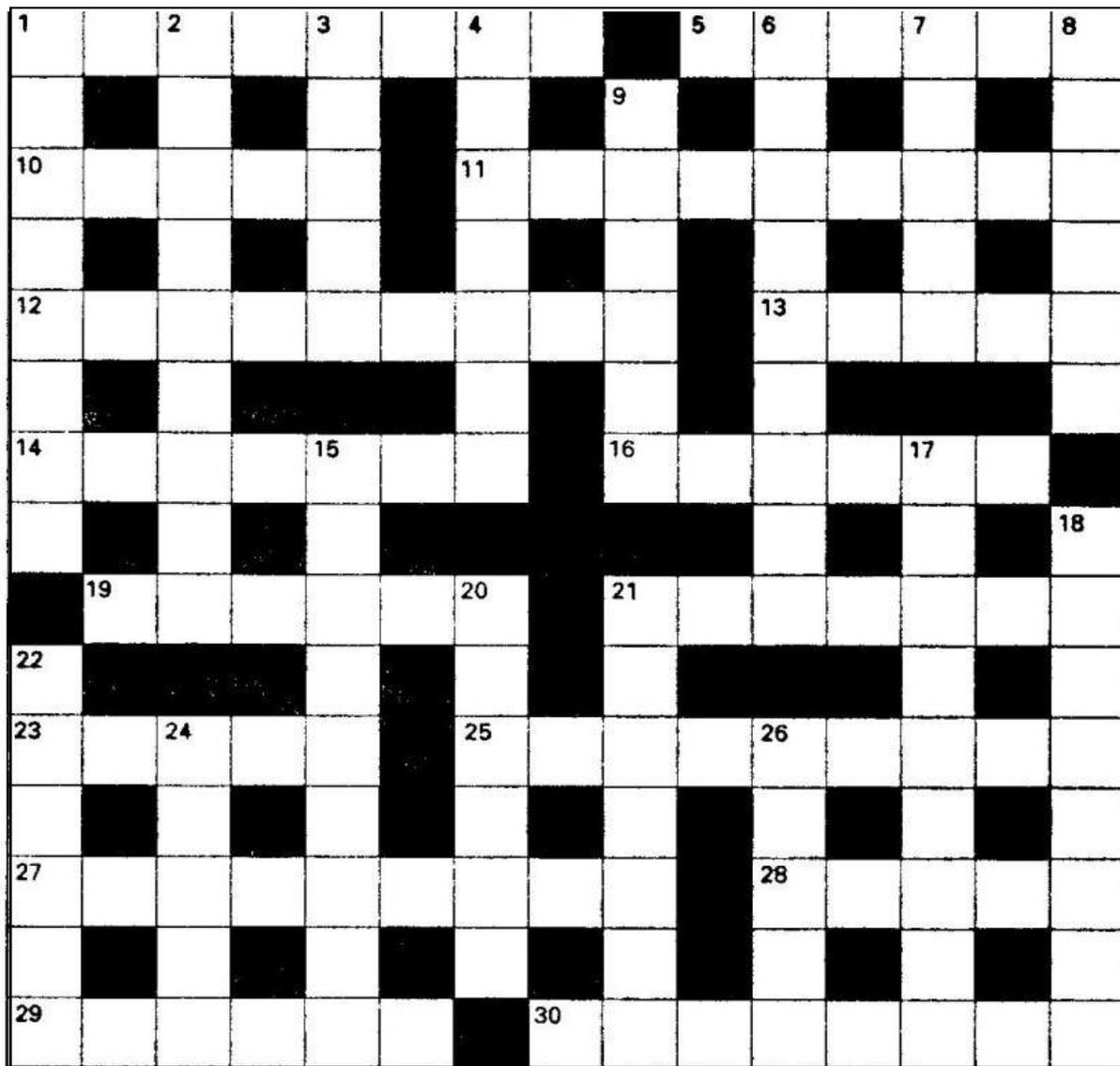
- Showing us the church.
- Letting us see Shakespeare's grave.
- Telling us cool facts

love from Charlotte.

(P.S. my parents got married there.)



A MUSICAL CROSSWORD



ACROSS 1 Sound units (8) 5 Small harpsicord (6) 10 Portly (5) 11 Plainsong type (9) 12 Composer famed for his Canon in D (9) 13 Beginning (5) 14 Nerve cell connection (7) 16 Coil (6) 19 Music chiefly for solo instrument (6) 21 Filled pastas (7) 23 Hungarian composer (5) 25 Music making (9) 27 American composer (9) 28 English composer (5) 29 Hobbling the most (6) 30 Event causing change (8)

DOWN 1 Entrance stanchion (8) 2 Gradual sound increase (9) 3 Rarely used whole note (5) 4 Readable (7) 6 Russian composer (20th century) (9) 7 Spikes (5) 8 Principles (6) 9 Stringed instruments (6) 15 Exercises (9) 17 Admiringly (9) 18 Stepped tower (8) 20 Curved structures (6) 21 Eastern European country (7) 22 Universal (6) 24 Plunk (5) 26 Musical drama (5)

A MOVING EXPERIENCE: RIVER FESTIVAL 2016

It hadn't rained during the day – in fact, the sun even showed its face during our afternoon run-through – and I just hoped that the ominous-looking clouds (which in fact greatly enhanced the atmosphere and mood of the opera to come) would keep at bay until our third River Serenade had come to an end. Luckily for the audience and performers, they did.



The first half consisted of vocal solos and ensembles performed wonderfully by Alice Meixner, Ben Dennes, Zak Price, Edward Mulryne, Rebecca Fredrickson and Juliette Carter to a vast audience spread right across the churchyard. This year's River Serenade was an opportunity to raise funds for the Church Choir's forthcoming tour to Canada, and, as has been done in the past, the evening was free, with summer refreshments on offer. The first half set the scene of the evening most perfectly, with performances including a lively, entertaining and ever-so-slick rendition of *Kiss the girl* from *The Little Mermaid*; beautifully mesmerising arias and songs given by Alice, Ben and Juliette (in fact, we were ever-so-fortunate to hear Juliette perform two pieces); and a humorous, witty song written, sung and accompanied by Edward Mulryne (with Ben on tambourine).

Tony Guy very kindly provided the lighting and Philip Miles organised and manned the sound system, enabling those sitting right at the back of the churchyard to see and hear everything. Philip's sound effects were so realistic that, to announce the arrival of the witches in *Dido and Aeneas*, his thunder noises caused a number of the audience to put on their coats and to get out their brollies! My thanks go to all those who came to support the evening, and to those who gave up their time to make the evening possible and so successful.

Benedict Wilson



Saturday 9th July – some weeks ago now – saw Eithne and I barrelling (by car) down motorways and minor roads from the North of England in the hope of catching the Stratford summer's must-see and must-hear event: Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* performed on the banks of the Avon by a cast of Holy Trinity regulars and assorted friends, and preceded by many of the same performers giving a selection of individual items.

The aim of attending the whole event proved impossible within the permitted speed limit, so that the programme's first half was over and the audience thoroughly stirred before we arrived. It was encouraging however to join the large audience as the 18-strong chorus was lustily singing the well-known if misconceived 'Fear no danger to ensue, the hero loves as well as you' and then listen to Clive Letchford's strong-voiced Aeneas before Rebecca Sampson as Belinda coquettishly invited him to 'Pursue thy conquest, love' and the witches (Rebecca Fredrickson and Heidi McElwrath) danced their threatening dance – there's an undertow of menace throughout the piece, later expressed convincingly by the witches' iterated shrieking as counterpoint to the melodious tones of the other principals.

Counter tenor Solomon Hayes, now an émigré, sang the part of the Sorceress with his usual flair and subtlety, making the witches' eventual triumph a foregone conclusion.

Much of the success of the performance depends on Dido (Eleanor Wilson) who we all know as an occasional member of Holy Trinity's choir. As the opera reaches its tragic climax the Queen sings her famous lament 'When I am laid in earth', an opportunity for emotional engagement which can hardly fail but which Miss Wilson made especially moving. Perhaps it was an effect of the weather, which on the night grew colder, darker and more unsettling but it was undoubtedly also the dramatic insight of all the singers which made the opera, so superficially absurd, such a tragic success.



The chamber orchestra of 11 strings and woodwinds, and the chorus -- featuring many a familiar face, including the Vicar and Laura Taylor, both accomplished singers -- drew the musical experience convincingly together under Benedict Wilson's enthusiastic direction. This was the third River Festival the church has staged, with the assistance of Holy Trinity Choir and the Friends of the Music. We may hope for many more.

Ronnie Mulryne

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From the August Registers...



Baptisms

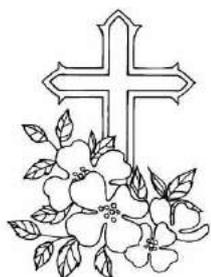
August

- 14th Eira Etheridge; Emily Louise James; and Thomas James Clayton
28th Sienna Berry; and Robin Sampson-Marr

August

- 6th Mark and Fei Hutchinson
(Wedding Blessing)
13th Joseph Lingard and Catherine Hazell
Jonathan Bartlett and Kristal Marie Procter
27th Benjamin Withers and Emma Malczewski
(Wedding Blessing, St Peter's Chapel)

Weddings



Funerals

August

- 11th Leslie Hamilton
12th Beryl Dowing (Thanksgiving Service)

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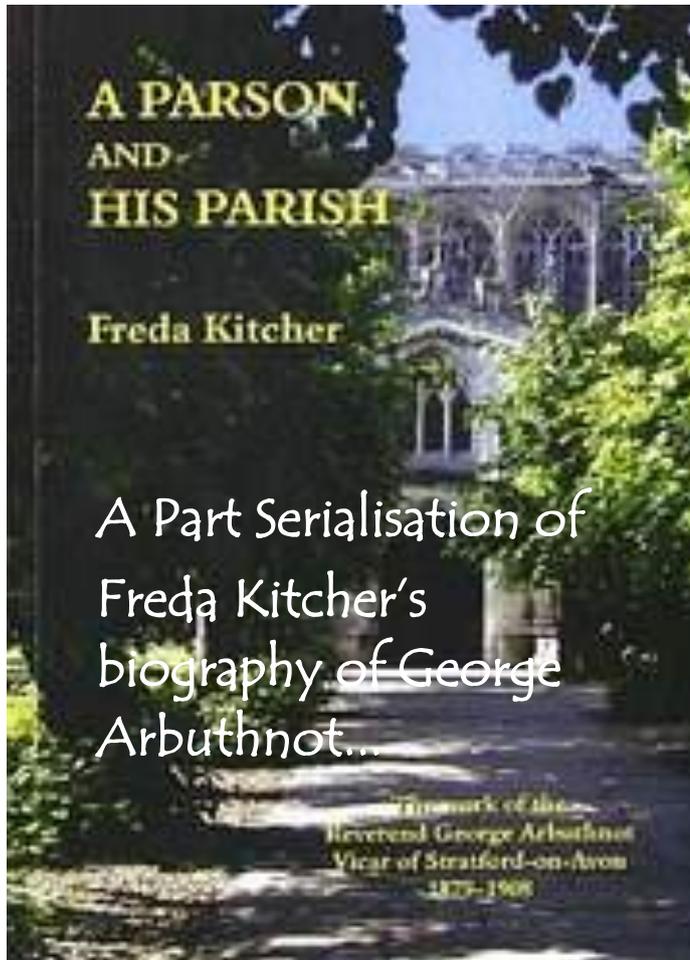
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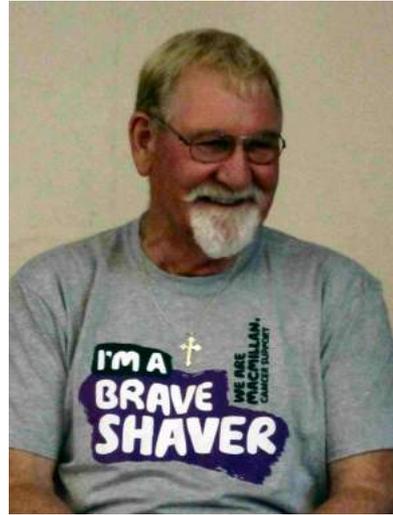


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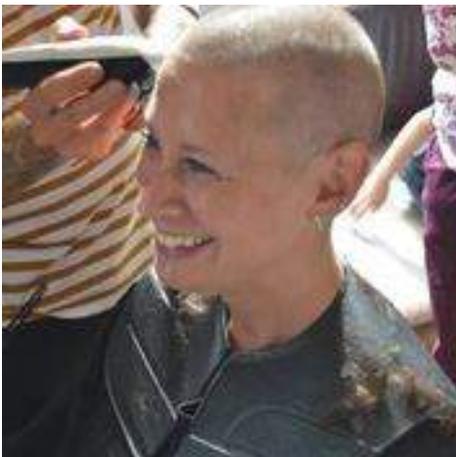
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**Andrea Blood's daughter Abi Chapleo
and Holy Trinity's Assistant Verger David
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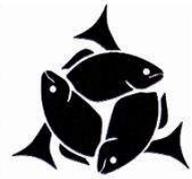
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In December we look at Sarah Perry's *The Essex Serpent*.

The group normally meets on the first Thursday of each month but some changes may have to be made. Please contact Anthony on 01789 204923 for more info.



Reflection of window in chalice

Photo: Harry Lomax

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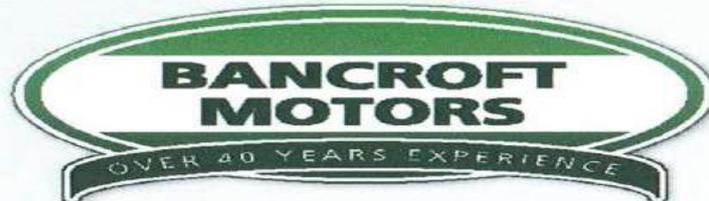
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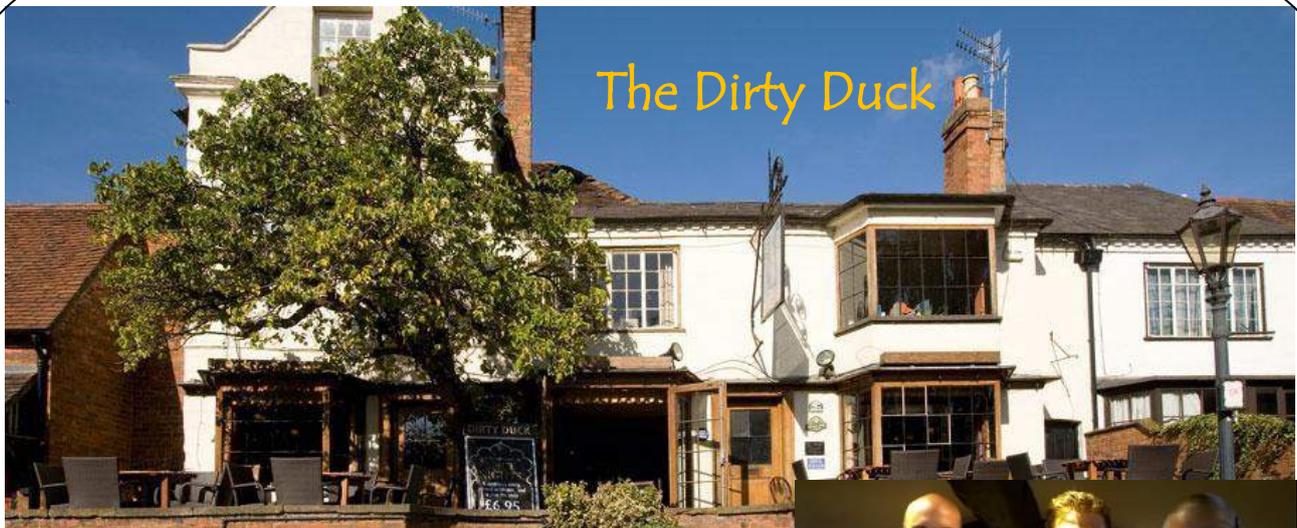
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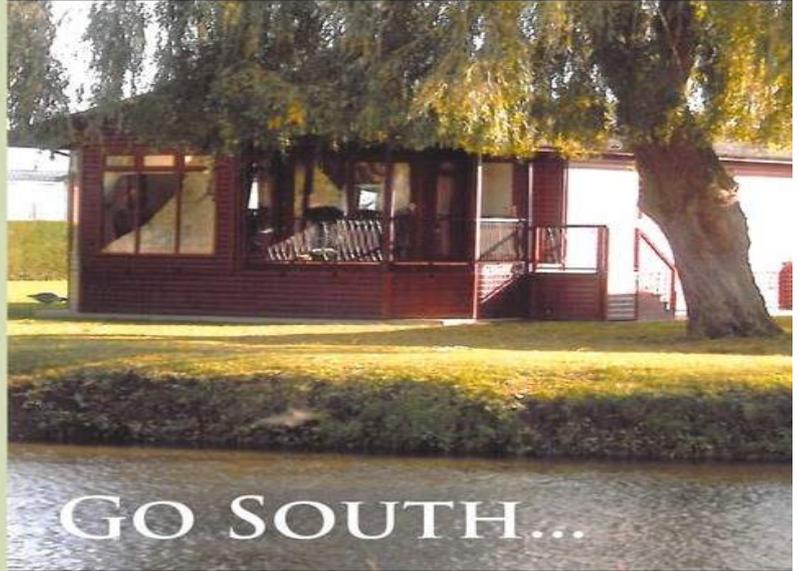
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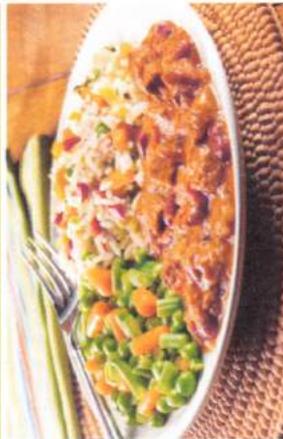
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