

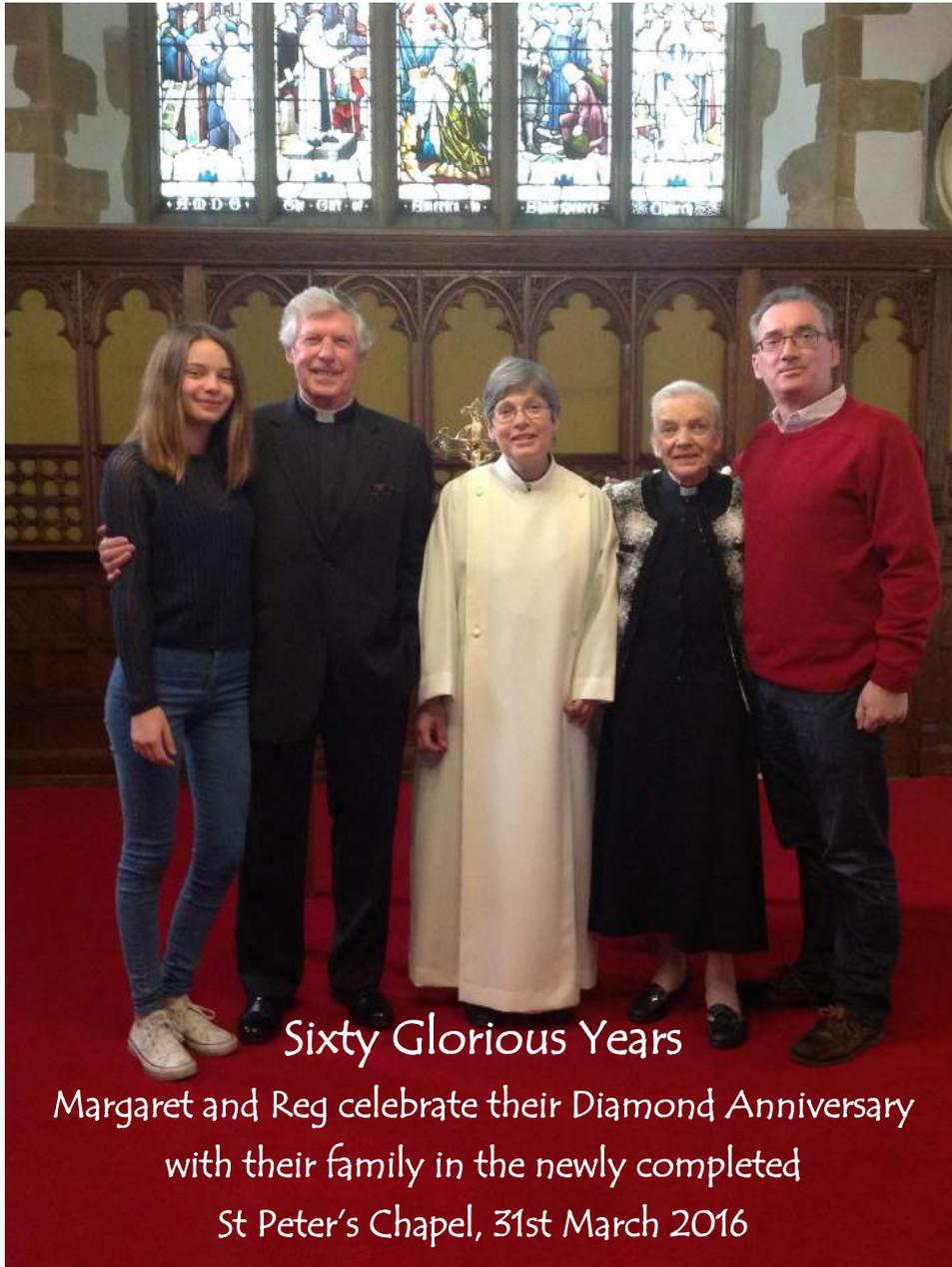


TRINITY TIMES

APRIL/MAY

£1

The Magazine For The Parish of Stratford-upon-Avon



Sixty Glorious Years

*Margaret and Reg celebrate their Diamond Anniversary
with their family in the newly completed
St Peter's Chapel, 31st March 2016*

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St Helen's Church, Clifford Chambers

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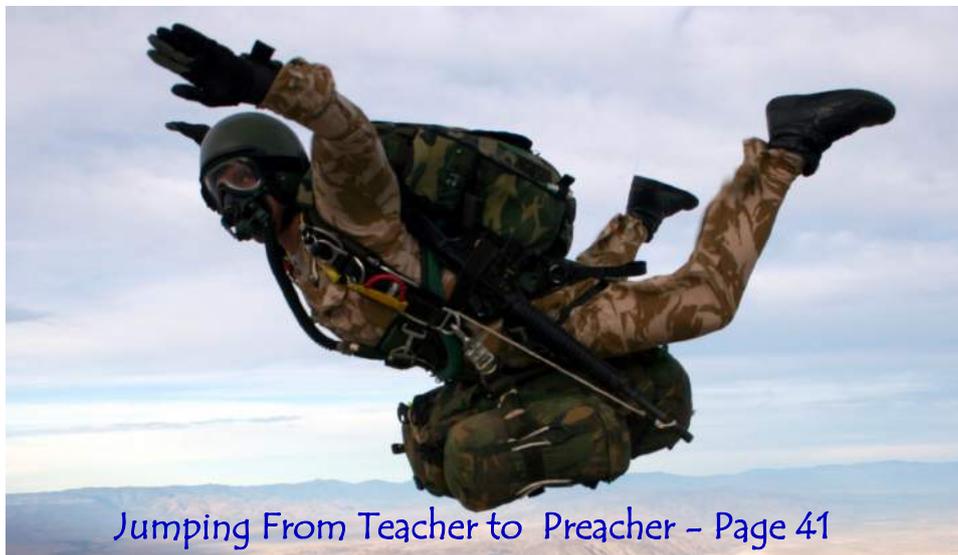
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Welcome To The April / May Issue



Jumping From Teacher to Preacher - Page 41

1616 APRIL AT HOLY TRINITY 2016



The Sounds of Shakespeare

Four FREE concerts in celebration
of the world's greatest playwright

Page 33

Steve & Hilary

Editorial Team

Steve & Hilary Newman 01789 296771

stevenewman.newman@gmail.com

Photography: Harry Lomax & John Burgess

Advertising: Brian Vince: 01789 299510 brian@vince51.fsnet.co.uk

Subscriptions & Distribution: Doreen & Geoffrey Lees; 01789 268667



The Holy Trinity Team



Revd Patrick Taylor
Vicar



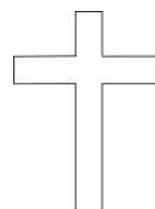
Revd Dr Steve Bate
Associate Vicar



Revd Nicki Chatterton
Curate



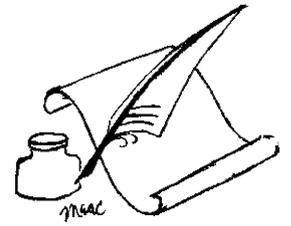
Mike Milburn
Reader





Steve Writes...

“ Live out our faith...”



Val and I recently received an invitation to the church that one of our daughters attends with her family. The invitation was to join their wider church family at a thanksgiving for the gift of our newest granddaughter. After arranging some changes to the Sunday rota we were delighted to accept the invitation.

At the end of February a group from Holy Trinity accepted an invitation to an event held at the United Reformed Church. The training day focussed on the ‘art of invitation’. Michael Harvey, who is the driving force behind events such as Back to Church Sunday inspired us to have more confidence in inviting people to church and church events. We can offer a warm welcome, we can hold uplifting services, we can have some great events for newcomers but first, they need to be invited! Michael gave us a formula for inviting people – ask!

Towards the end of 2015 I was inviting people from our congregation to join me as members of a new Nurture and Discipleship Team. I’m pleased to report that my invitations were accepted and the team has now met. We are working together to develop a culture that enables all of us to grow in living out our Christian faith – and that includes developing the art of invitation.

At Holy Trinity, All Saints’ and St Helen’s, we have plenty of opportunities to grow in living out our faith. Our Growing Together programme has something for everyone, including home groups, short courses and opportunities to serve God and others. A recent addition is the contemplative prayer group. Do take a look at the Summer Growing Together leaflet given out in church in April, or see <http://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/growing-together>. Perhaps you already belong to one of the activities listed in Growing Together. Why not invite someone else to give it a try?

There are so many more ways to live out our faith and play our part as members of the Church, the body of Christ – not only in our own church but together with others. In this edition of Trinity Times (pages 6 & 7) Nicki will share with us an initiative that involves local Christians living out God’s love among our townspeople and visitors to our town.

We also provide regular opportunities for people to explore the Christian faith for themselves. You might have noticed the posters and flyers inviting people to the next Alpha course. Alpha begins at the end of April – in the evening or afternoon. If you have questions about Christianity, if you are interested in being baptised or confirmed, if you are new to church or looking for a refresher course, you’re invited! Why not offer someone a personal invitation – and perhaps accompany them?

Jesus issued this invitation to his first followers: “Follow me.” As followers of Jesus Christ today, he invites us to keep on following, to keep on growing in loving God and loving others. What might that mean for you today and how will you respond to that invitation?

Steve

Worship Notes for April/May



In April we continue our joyful celebration of the gift of new life in Christ during Eastertide, moving onto the Ascension and then the feast of Pentecost in May, bringing the Easter season to a close.

3rd April at 10am is Food4thought (a week later than usual because of Easter Day). The theme is “Why go to church? To receive the Spirit our Enabler.”

4th April is the feast of the **Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary**. This normally takes place 9 months before Christmas (25th March) but has been transferred this year because of the clash with Good Friday. There will be a special 6pm Choral Evensong the evening before (Sunday 3rd April) and Holy Communion at 9.15am on 4th.

24th April Shakespeare Sunday.

The usual 8am Holy Communion will be replaced by a live Radio 4 broadcast of Sunday Worship. This is not a service of Holy Communion and will take place in the Chancel. Members of the congregation are welcome and details will be given nearer the time of practical arrangements.

The Shakespeare Service takes place at 11.15am. The preacher is the novelist, Salley Vickers.

The Parish Eucharist will take place at Holy Trinity at 6pm. We will be joined by a special choir from the Stratford Sister Cities conference.

For those who wish to receive Holy Communion in the morning, there are services at St. Helen's and All Saints, both starting at 9.15am.

Monday 25th April St. Mark the Evangelist. 9.15am Holy Communion St. Peter's Chapel.

2nd May St. Philip and St. James, Apostles. 9.15am Holy Communion St. Peter's Chapel.

Ascension Day is Thursday 5th May. There will be the traditional early morning service at 7am at Holy Trinity, followed by breakfast!

The days between Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday (15th May) have traditionally been a time of prayer and preparation for the gift of the Holy Spirit. This year, the Archbishop of Canterbury has called for every parish to hold a special week of prayer “for the evangelisation of our nation”, from 8th -15th May. At Holy Trinity there will be a **Day of Prayer on 12th May**, during which we will pray for lives to be changed through God's love.

22nd May Trinity Sunday (our Patronal Festival)

A very special occasion at Food4thought where 15 children will be admitted to First Holy Communion. This joyful celebration will be a special All Age service (FAB will join with the congregation in the church for the whole service), followed by cake and then a Parish Picnic!

26th May 7.30pm Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion (Corpus Christi). We celebrate the gift of Jesus present with us in bread and wine in this special Eucharist in the Chancel.



Patrick

Stratford Churches Together

Friendship & Faith

Nicki Chatterton



For many years I have been drawn to chaplaincy work and during my theological training I worked within the chaplaincy team at the Coventry University Hospital. Many of you know that in October I arranged a day of prayer for our retailers and linked with several of the shops with the Knitted Nativity scenes that were in their windows. This was fired by an interest in setting up some sort of town centre chaplaincy here in Stratford.

Over the last few months I have spent time finding out from 'Work Care', a work based chaplaincy service, and meeting with work place Chaplains to discover what forms Chaplaincy to town centres might take and what has worked for them.

Town Centre Chaplaincies are not new. Nuneaton has a thriving ministry to the shops around Rope Walk and the market, that has been running for a number of years and Redditch has a dedicated Chaplain to their main shopping complex, to name but two.

After visiting all the town centre shops with Andrea Blood and Annabel Shirt in preparation for the day of prayer, I noticed that those busy serving customers in shops could not really stop their work to talk to a chaplain. I therefore thought that a better idea would be to find a base to work from where people could pop in during their lunch break. I discussed this idea with friends in Stratford Churches Together and formed an ecumenical group of clergy and lay people interested in this idea.

The proprietor of The Hathaway Tea Rooms has offered the chaplaincy team a table near the front of the venue, where those passing by will be able to see whether someone is there for them to talk to. Space is available in other parts of the building for confidential conversations, or for the group to grow.

Several fund holders have been approached for their financial backing for this mission venture, so that the costs of publicity, buying coffees and ensuring that all team members have appropriate training and Vetting and Barring Certification can be covered. I am in the process of completing the final stages for a funding bid to cover the start-up costs, so the chaplaincy service can start from Tuesday 5th April.

There is a saying '*It's all in the name*' and a lot of thought has gone into considering a name that would suit the intention of the initiative. Each week a clergy person and a lay person from the team will be available to listen to those who would like to talk to someone about their concerns whatever they might be, or who would simply like to have a chat. They will also be available to pray with, or for someone, and for those who may not have time to stop there will be prayer cards that can be filled in.

To reflect this the name chosen is: Stratford Churches Together
Friendship & Faith

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

It will be a Christian presence and a listening ear, available for all people, those of faith, no faith and those exploring faith, meeting every Tuesday from 11am to 1pm in Hathaway Tea Rooms.



This venture is likely to grow and develop as we meet the various people in the Tea Rooms and discover what they most want to talk about. A supply of information of where to signpost people for specialist help will be gradually built up, so the chaplains can give out leaflets or contact details about where to find further help or support if needed. If the team begin to notice that some people return weekly for a chat, then a separate new group might be set up for them: so that there is always room for new people to be listened to.

The Street Pastors do a wonderful job in our town caring for people who need help in the evenings and night time, but we hope that this will be a useful addition in the daytime. Some members of the new Chaplaincy team do already volunteer with Street Pastors and we have valued their input and expertise whilst setting up this venture.



This is an initiative which is being supported by Stratford Churches Together, who put up the initial funding with Holy Trinity as the lead church for accessing Diocesan funding. If you are aware of any other churches or individuals who would like to offer support or a donation towards the funding needed to run this venture then we would be delighted to hear from them. I can be contacted on 07769871237 or by email nicki@stratford-upon-avon.org

Nicki

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Worship in April



SUNDAY April 3rd Holy Trinity *2nd Sunday of Easter*

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

10.00am Food4thought— Revd Canon Andrew Dow

Parish Centre Good News@10—with Revd Nicki Chatterton & Guest Speaker

6.00pm Choral Evensong—Preacher Revd Graham Wilcox

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Family Worship—with Revd Diane Patterson

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

SUNDAY April 10th Holy Trinity *3rd Sunday of Easter*

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Patrick Taylor

10.00am Parish Eucharist (Baptism Candles)—Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

6.00pm Evensong—Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—Revd Nicki Chatterton

Parish Centre 7pm Open To God—with Mike Milburn

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Holy Communion—Revd Dr Stephen Bate

All Saints' Luddington 9.15am Holy Communion—with Revd Canon Andrew Dow

SUNDAY April 17th Holy Trinity *4th Sunday of Easter*

8.00am Holy Communion—Preacher Mike Milburn

10.00am Parish Eucharist —Preacher Mike Milburn

6.00pm - Choral Evensong—Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

9.30am Holy Trinity@Rosebird—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—With Revd Patrick Taylor

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Morning Worship—with Revd Diane Patterson

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

SUNDAY April 24th Holy Trinity *5th Sunday of Easter. Shakespeare Sunday*

8.00am Holy Communion (Radio 4)—Revd Patrick Taylor

11.15am Shakespeare Service—Preacher Sally Vickers. Assistant: The Bishop

6.00pm Parish Eucharist—Preacher Revd Dr Stephen Bate

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—Revd Nicki Chatterton

St.Helen's Clifford Chambers—Traditional Holy Communion with Revd Canon John Graty

All Saints' Luddington—Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

“ Lives changed through God's Love”



Worship in May

SUNDAY May 1st Holy Trinity 6th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

10.00am Parish Eucharist—Preacher Revd Patrick Taylor

Parish Centre Good News@10—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

6.00pm Choral Evensong—Preacher Revd Graham Wilcox

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Family Worship—with Revd Diane Patterson

All Saints' Luddington 9.15am Holy Communion BCP—with Revd Canon Andrew Dow

SUNDAY May 8th Holy Trinity 7th Sunday of Easter. Sunday after Ascension Day

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

10.00am Parish Eucharist (Baptism Candles)—Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

6.00pm Choral Evensong (Visiting Choir)—with Revd Patrick Taylor

Parish Centre FAB—Revd Dr Stephen Bate

Parish Centre 7pm Open To God—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Holy Communion—Revd Patrick Taylor

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

SUNDAY May 15th Holy Trinity Pentecost—Whit Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

10.00am Parish Eucharist —Revd Dr Stephen Bate

6.00pm - Evensong—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

9.30am Holy Trinity@Rosebird—with Revd Patrick Taylor

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—With Revd Nicki Chatterton

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers 9.15am Morning Worship—with Revd Diane Patterson

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

SUNDAY May 22nd Holy Trinity Trinity Sunday. Patronal Festival

8.00am Holy Communion—Revd Patrick Taylor

10.00am Food4thought (Admittance to 1st Communion)—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

6.00pm Holy Communion BCP, and Compline—Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB (in Church Building)

St.Helen's Clifford Chambers—Trad Holy Communion with Revd Jenny Rowland

All Saints' Luddington—Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

SUNDAY May 29th Holy Trinity 5th of Month 1st Sunday after Trinity—Proper 4

8.00am Holy Communion—Preacher James Sorel-Cameron

10.00am Parish Eucharist—Preacher James Sorel-Cameron

6.00pm Choral Evensong (Visiting Choir) - with Revd Canon Andrew Dow

Parish Centre 10.00am FAB—Revd Nicki Chatterton

St.Helen's & All Saints' - No Services

“ Lives changed through God's Love ”

The Guild Chapel

Tim Raistrick

"The History of The Chapel is Fascinating..."



The Guild Chapel used to be a neglected building, which was falling into disrepair in the first half of the twentieth century. Recently it has been hitting the headlines with articles in the local and national press, has been used as a venue for radio and TV broadcasts, and has welcomed royal visitors including the Queen and, on more than one occasion, Prince Charles. In the intervening 60 years the building has been



transformed by the efforts of The Friends of the Guild Chapel with comprehensive restoration of the external stonework and the installation of the stylish panelling, collegiate-style pews and the tremendous new organ, to name but a few of the projects totalling a current worth of over a million pounds.

The Chapel hit the headlines last year when some of these internal fittings were damaged by a mindless vandal who let off a fire extinguisher. Most affected were the pew lights but this led to the KES caretaker, Jason Backes, trying to clean them. After the application of copious amounts of Brasso, it became obvious that the lamps could be turned from the dull appearance we were used to into the shining objects they had obviously once been. A professional restoration, funded by an insurance claim, followed and the result is stunning.

The history of the Chapel is fascinating as it was built by the Guild of the Holy Cross as its place of worship and so has never been under the control of the ecclesiastical parish. Indeed the custody of the building transferred in 1553 from the newly dissolved Guild to the Town Council and more recently to the Stratford-upon-Avon Town Trust. The first chapel was erected in 1269, almost certainly very similar in size to the chapel's chancel which probably contains stone from it. Sir Hugh Clopton was a prominent member of the Guild and later Lord Mayor of London. As well as paying for the stone bridge, which bears his name, over the river, he funded the building of the present chapel at the end of the fifteenth century. This and Holy Trinity Church were the only stone buildings in the town and would have stood out in sharp contrast to the other lower half-timbered shops and houses.

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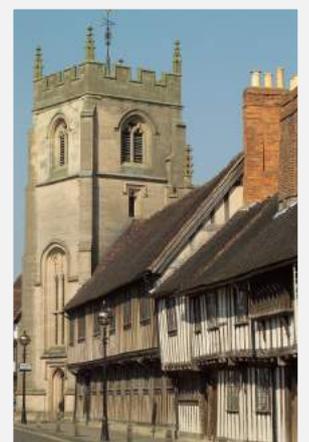


Another similarity between the chapel and the church were the internal wall-paintings but, while Holy Trinity's are all but lost, a fair proportion of the Guild Chapel's have survived, in differing degrees, the whitewashing of the reformation and subsequent applications of paint. Thus the chapel has hit the headlines again following the successful application by the Town Trust to the Heritage Lottery Fund to

obtain a £100,000 grant to fund a first phase of conservation and to present a better interpretation of the whole scheme of wall paintings, as illustrated by the above visualisation.

The Trust is also recruiting volunteers to man the chapel and improve the welcome given to its many visitors. This will help with the security but, following the vandalism, modern technology is also being employed with some discreet CCTV which is also going to provide a much-needed camera system to allow the organist to be able to see conductors of choirs and instrumentalists for the growing number of services and concerts which take place. Partly funded also out of the insurance claim, the rest of this will be paid for by the Friends.

Other improvements being looked at by the Friends include enhanced lighting, a heritage plaque, a better noticeboard, an adjustable organ bench, a glass entrance door and alterations to the chancel choir stalls to make them more practical. Some of this is immediately affordable out of the funds the Friends have already raised and from recent generous bequests and donations. The committee also organises fundraising events – the next being an organ recital given by Colin Druce at 7.30pm on Saturday 7th May. New committee members are always welcome and at the AGM in May a new Treasurer needs to be appointed. If you wish to join or help in other ways, please contact me, Tim Raistrick, I'm Chairman of the Friends of the Guild Chapel, on 01789 509885 or traistrick@aol.com.





Ascension to Pentecost

5th - 15th May 2016

The ten days between Ascension and Pentecost have often been regarded as a time for prayer and waiting for the Holy Spirit. This year Bishop Christopher and Bishop John are also calling Christians throughout Warwickshire and Coventry to come together for fellowship, witness and celebration.

Five different strands are being woven into the period from 5th to 15th May:

- **Pilgrimage of Prayer.** Our bishops are calling everyone in the diocese to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit and to meditate on scripture. They will be providing a booklet of prayers, reflections and other resources.
- **Pilgrimage Walk—Cloud and Fire.** Everyone is also encouraged to spend time walking with one of our bishops on a physical pilgrimage. There is a choice of five routes in the north, south, east, west and centre of the diocese.
- **Launch of the Diocesan Centenary.** The *Pilgrimage of Prayer* and the *Pilgrimage Walk* are both being used to launch the preparations for the Diocesan Centenary which takes place in two years' time.
- **Thy Kingdom Come.** The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting the whole Church of England to join them "in a week of prayer for the evangelisation of our nation".
- **Pentecost Beacon Event.** All the above will culminate in a special event at Coventry Cathedral at around 5:00 pm on Pentecost (15th May). This will include a live video link with the Archbishop of Canterbury and sung worship led by Noel Richards.

Further details about each of these strands are available on the diocesan website. Please encourage one another to participate as fully as possible, while together we wait expectantly for the Holy Spirit this Pentecost.



Photo: John Burgess

Procession to Holy Trinity on Palm Sunday

Bell Ringing Festival to Play Key Role in Shakespeare's 400th Anniversary



The bells of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford upon Avon, are to set to play a central role in the forthcoming Shakespeare celebrations in April. Bell ringers from across the country will be joining the team at Holy Trinity to participate in a ringing festival as the bells are rung out on several days to celebrate Shakespeare's birthday, and to also commemorate the 400 years since his death. Holy Trinity Church – where Shakespeare worshipped and is buried – has a particularly fine ring of ten bells and is one of only a handful of bell towers in the country to house more than six bells. The church's bell ringing team, with help from over forty ringing colleagues from the surrounding area, are to ring eight times in six days, at the start of special services and concerts at the church.

This ringing festival will allow residents of Stratford to hear the variety and beauty of the bells as they ring out full peals, quarter peals, and single bell tolls. Quarter peals will be rung to celebrate the 90th birthday of HM The Queen on 21st April, the church service for the visit of the Stratford's of the World, and to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's burial. Each quarter peal will last about 50 minutes.

One particularly poignant ringing event will last just five to ten minutes; this will be the tolling of the tenor bell at the conclusion of the RSC fireworks on the evening of Saturday, 23rd April. This toll will mark the day that Shakespeare died and will tie in with an informal procession from the theatre to the church, for the start of a candlelit vigil in church.

Jeanette Davey, Deputy Tower Captain, said:

“Our tenor bell will toll at around 11pm. After the excitement of the day's celebrations a single bell toll will remind everyone of the solemnity of the moment.

Jeanette continues:

“To fit this ringing festival into our church's already busy birthday weekend schedule has meant a great deal of coordination with many groups and organisations. We've been keen to accommodate the requests we have received and have had to co-ordinate with orchestral and choral rehearsals, performance times, and with BBC sound checks; we've even moved a church service.”

The ringing festival starts at lunchtime on Saturday 16th April when there will be a celebratory full peal of bells. Full peals are quite unusual and last about 3.5 hour's non-stop. The final and rarest ringing event will be on Monday 25th April, when a half-muffled quarter peal will be rung. Half-muffled ringing is a more solemn but beautiful sound, usually rung to mark a funeral. On this final occasion the ringing will be before the Evensong service being held to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's funeral.

Marion Homer

[See following page for timetable of events.](#)

Schedule of Bell Ringing Times

		Event	Ringing time
Saturday	16 th April	Full Peal of the Bells	10.00-c.14.00
Wednesday	20 th April	BBC Choral Evensong Live	14.45-15.25
Thursday	21 st April	Queen's 90th Birthday (prior to the Orchestra of the Swan concert)	18.15-19.25
Friday	22 nd April	Ex Cathedra Shakespeare Masque Concert	18.00-19.00
Saturday	23 rd April	Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations	11.00-11.30 (as the first flag is unfurled until the New Orleans Jazz Band arrives at the church)
Saturday	23 rd April	After RSC fireworks for church vigil	Approx 23.00-23.10
Sunday	24 th April	Shakespeare Service	10.30-11.10
Sunday	24 th April	Stratfords of the World	16.45-17.55
Monday	25 th April	Commemoration of Shakespeare's Funeral	16.45-17.55

Southside Development Nearly There—And Looking Good!





A newly discovered wall painting of John the Baptist at the Guildhall.



Join friends at the *new*
Trinity Coffee Stop
for coffee, or tea, and maybe a naughty
slice of homemade cake!



Saturday, 16th April 2016

Saturday, 21st May 2016

10am to 12 noon

and every 3rd Saturday of the month
at Holy Trinity Parish Centre

Film Night

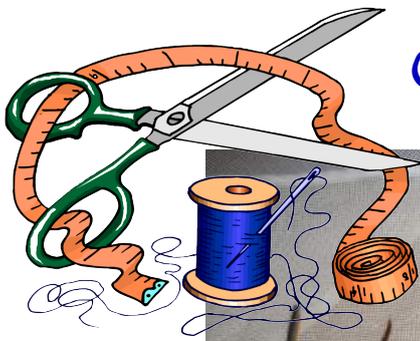
There is no Film Night in April, but
we continue in May with

Brooklyn

Parish Centre May 15th at 7.30pm



A Very Fond Farewell to Pauline Day
after many years of Devoted Service



Clergy Seat Cushions in The Making



This tapestry shows the central roundel for communion



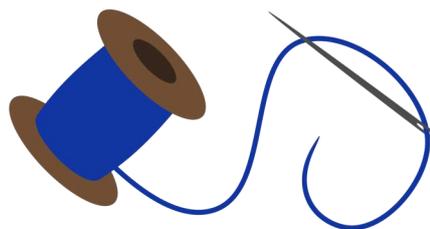
Will and Liz looking at the work so far

Margaret and Tina working on their tapestry



Gay and Hazel admiring their work

Continued on next page...



Margaret, Hester, Tina, Will and Liz

The work continues, and I will keep you informed of the progress. If you feel you would like to contribute to the materials please do contact me, Stella Webley, at church.



Stella Webley



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 Meetings 15th April and 20th May.**

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

Priscilla Henderson

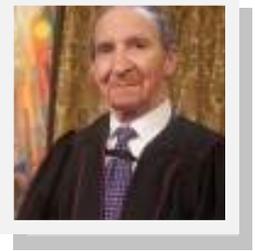
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Fireplace Revealed

Nigel Penn



Walking around the edge of the church have you ever wondered why there is a chimney stack on the east wall of the south transept?

St Peter's Chapel revealed a partial reason for this when an area of defective plaster was removed by the builders on the east wall. It revealed a disused fireplace. Looking at the photograph, it is evident that this was an added feature from around the 1700's.

To build the fireplace craftsmen formed an internal arched lintel of three courses of bricks laid as 'headers'; the bricks being of 75mm thickness. (Could these have been made in our own brickworks here in Stratford?) An interesting point now arises; was the fireplace bricked up and re-plastered over and then many years later, around the year 1818, a memorial plaque erected. Or were both jobs done at the same time? To erect the monument, this would have involved cutting into the two top courses of brickwork, see photo. The plaque was then inserted 225mm into the wall. This was followed by 75 cm by 50 cm x 22 cm deep front decorative moulding, all cut and worked from a single block of stone. The plaque reads

In Memory of
MARIA BYERLEY
MDCCCXVIII
“The spirit shall return to God”
“Who gave it” eccl XII

(Author adds King James v7)



Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

Externally the chimney stack is solidly constructed in stone and bears a full face inscription, some of which is illegible. The top section reads:

Sacred
To the memory of
ROBERT PHILLIPS HOBBS
Eldest son of Robert Hiorne and Emma Hobbes
He departed his life the 4th day of
January 1847 aged 15

Regarding the chimney stack, this appears to be too large to serve as just a fireplace. Did it in fact serve as a flue for a coal fired heating system for the church?

Nigel



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MUSIC FOR APRIL 2016

Sunday 3rd – the Second Sunday of Easter

10am Food4thought <i>Voluntary: Mendelssohn Allegro maestoso e vivace (Sonata 2)</i>	Special order of service
6pm Congregational Evensong <i>Voluntary: Cook Allegro Giojoso</i>	114 458 105
	Psalm 85

Sunday 10th – the Third Sunday of Easter

10am Parish Eucharist <i>Motet: Wood This joyful Eastertide</i> <i>Voluntary: Lang Tuba Tune</i>	351 115 393 HOAN 123 HOAN 752
6pm Congregational Evensong <i>Voluntary: Cook Scherzo (No.3 of Five Studies)</i>	345 317 103 (omit v.3) Psalm 86

Sunday 17th – the Fourth Sunday of Easter

10am Parish Eucharist <i>Motet: Goodhall The Lord is my shepherd</i> <i>Voluntary: Murrill Carrilon</i>	271 457 410 282 HOAN 695
6pm Choral Evensong <i>Introit: Dodsworth Be ye constant</i> <i>Responses: Radcliffe; Naylor</i> <i>Canticles: Murrill in E major</i> <i>Anthem: Goodhall The Lord is my shepherd</i> <i>Voluntary: Langlais Te deum</i>	112 123 375 Psalm 113

Wednesday 20th

3.30pm Choral Evensong broadcasted live on Radio 3 Performed by the Orchestra of the Swan and its Chamber Choir, and Holy Trinity Church Choir Scholars <i>Introit: Byrd Sing joyfully</i> <i>Responses: Tomkins; Stone</i> <i>Canticles: Tomkins Fifth Service</i> <i>Anthem: Gibbons O clap your hands</i> <i>Motet: Tallis O nata lux</i> <i>Voluntary: Dowland Pavane and Allemande</i>	Please be seated by 3.10pm 409 Psalm 67
---	--

Sunday 24th – Shakespeare Sunday

8.10am Sunday Worship broadcasted live on Radio 4 Performed by the Orchestra of the Swan and its Chamber Choir, and Holy Trinity Church Choir <i>Introit: Wilson Absent Child (First performance)</i> <i>Anthem: Stopford William Shakespeare 1616-2016 (First performance)</i> <i>Voluntary: Holst Finale from St Paul's Suite</i>	Please be seated by 8am Special order of service
11.15am Shakespeare Service <i>Introit: Wilson Absent Child</i> <i>Anthem: Stopford William Shakespeare 1616-2016</i> <i>Holst Finale from St Paul's Suite</i>	Special order of service
6pm Parish Eucharist Sung by the choir of Stratfords of the World Together <i>Voluntary: Handel (arr. Best) Overture to Occasional Oratorio</i>	124 437 137 342 205



Compiled
By John Cohen



Readings for Holy Trinity Stratford-upon-Avon, All Saints Luddington & St Helens Clifford Chambers

3rd April 2nd Sunday of Easter 1st Evening prayer after the Annunciation

8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Choral Evensong
Acts ch.5 v.27-32	Genesis ch.3 v.8-15
John ch.20 v.19-end	Galatians ch.4 v.1-5

10th April 3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Evensong
Acts ch.9 v.1-6	Isaiah ch.38 v.9-20
John ch.21 v.1-19	John ch.11 v.17-44

17th April 4th Sunday of Easter

8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Choral Evensong
Acts ch.9 v.36-end	Isaiah ch.63 v.7-14
John ch.10 v.22-30	Luke ch.24 v.36-49

24th April 5th Sunday of Easter

8.00 am	11.15 am	6.00 pm Parish Eucharist
Sunday Worship (Radio 4 live broadcast)	Shakespeare Service	Acts ch.11 v.1-18
		John ch.13 v.31-35

24th April 5th Sunday of Easter

Luddington & Clifford Chambers Holy Communion 9.15 am	
Acts ch.11 v. 1-18	
John ch.13 v.31-35	

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A Song for Issy Bradley

A Review by
Colin McDowell

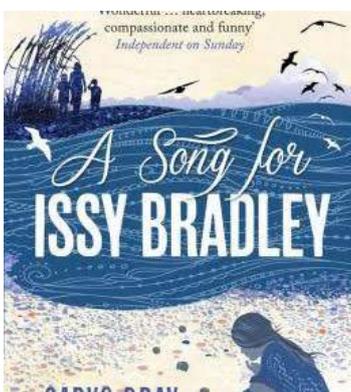


One of the benefits of belonging to Novel Theology (our church reading group) is finding yourself reading a really interesting book that you might not otherwise have discovered. One such novel was our recent February choice: *A Song for Issy Bradley* by Carys Bray. Usually our members are divided in their opinions about each month's book but this time everyone agreed that "A Song for Issy Bradley" was both well written and very well worth discussing.

Carys Bray, the author, was raised in a devout Mormon family, but in her early thirties left her church and replaced its very demanding regime with, arguably, a more arduous life writing novels. Her debut, semi-autobiographical, novel is a very moving, yet frequently amusing account of how the Bradleys, a highly structured Christian/Mormon family in Lancashire, deals with the death of its youngest four year old member.

Theoretically, this fictional Mormon family with a bishop of their church, no less, leading it, should have been well buttressed against such a trauma because the all-life consuming Mormon creed (demanding at least 10% of its members' incomes and nearly all of their spare time) should have enabled everyone involved to combine their faith, hope and love to ensure a very positive, perhaps even joyful, outlook on the untimely departure of an innocent youngster to Heaven. However, the novel skilfully shows the reader the differing viewpoints of the grief-stricken mother and bewildered siblings living with their over-confident father, bishop Bradley, failing to serve both the needs of his broken family and his ever controlling church.

The fact that "Issy Bradley" is so well written rescues it from being maudlin; and, as with many a good story, the reader becomes quite involved with the characters and on reaching the last page wonders how each one is going to progress in their future. Do put *A Song for Issy Bradley* on your reading list. I'm confident that any reader of *Trinity Times* would enjoy it.



Since this April/May edition of our parish magazine will be published after Lent I have no problem in recommending also the current Novel Theology chosen book *Acts and Omissions* by Catherine Fox. Along with the other members of the Novel Theology group I am required to read it during Lent, and since this exposé of all the follies and foibles of the Church of England is so deliciously clever, witty, hilarious, subtle and entertaining I feel sure that by reading it during Lent we are all guilty of venial sin. Nevertheless, if you cannot resist the temptation and manage

to read it before April 7 you are very welcome to join we happy sinners to discuss it at No. 1 Chestnut Walk that evening at 8.00pm.

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Ed Mulryne's Page...



“This is a public service announcement...”

What follows must be heeded. Some people who know me may snigger at the fact that I consider myself a fairly reasonable person. I try to go about my life with an open mind, trying to find beauty throughout the world and trying to accept people and the various quirks of everyday life for the way they are. However, I feel compelled to speak to you all today because recently I encountered something for which, despite my best efforts, I could find no redeeming factors.

It's called...No I can't bring myself to even say the name. It's a horror! The so-called child's play thing which looks like the head of one of those female action dolls, whose hair one is supposed to style. Has there ever existed such an artifice? The vacant expression in those cold, cold eyes. The harsh, limp hair which hangs from the scalp like the tail of a horse. It is a sight which looks like nothing on earth. Am I to believe that the disembodied head, neck and shoulders of this wannabee action doll is the perfect toy for a young child? Because I do not!

After discovering this wretched item I started to become more and more disturbed. The fixed smile and cadaver-like air surrounding it began to eat away at my mind. In the night, I even thought I could hear it talking to me. Then it dawned on me: what if this thing is more than just a toy? What if supernatural powers surround it? To find out, I set up an experiment. One night I left it in its box and placed next to it an unsolved Rubik's Cube. In the morning, I arose and discovered the box shredded to pieces and the Rubik's Cube solved, with the head and shoulders of the horror doll on its side smiling at me, yes, at me!

Now, there is only one possible explanation for this: the doll is possessed. Indeed, this supposed toy is closer to a Mephistopheles than it is to a toy. Can I really go that far? Yes. Yes I can. If any of you have one of these in your home then you and your family are in grave, grave danger and the time to act is now, before it's too late. Therefore I urge you: throw them away. Throw them into the river or burn them; banish them. This is your duty. We don't want to end up paying the price! We don't want them, yes them, to make a movie out of it. Aarggh no, thrice no!!

Phew! I'm sorry, forgive me. You may think I'm overreacting, and maybe you're right. In fact, most of what I have just related is fictitious. I apologise for this flight of fancy. Maybe I'm just trying to escape the tedium of the prosaic. In actual fact, I do rather enjoy styling the hair of my Girl's World – yes I've said its name, it's out in the open! Actually I've named mine Florence. On Saturday nights we sit in front of the TV watching Jools Holland, or Strictly, and I do her hair, then Florence does mine. I couldn't live without Florence now, although Florence is better at the piano than Jools. I think what I'm trying to communicate here is that my moment of frenzied panic was just that—panic. So fear not, kind reader, all is well, and I suppose this article has served to teach us not to take things at face value. **Hooray for Girl's World!**

A letter to Ed—page 26

Holy Trinity Church Launches Seven Ages of Man Painting Exhibition

Marion Homer



Holy Trinity Church is bringing a unique and free art exhibition to Stratford as part of their 2016 festivities. The first opportunity to view all seven pictures of the 'Seven Ages of Man' exhibition, will be held within the church itself at a free launch event on Wednesday 6th April at 6pm. All visitors are welcome and attendees will be able to meet the artist Jonathan Waller and hear more about the ideas behind this innovative project.

This free art exhibition runs from April 9th to the end of August and can be viewed anytime the church is open. Each of the seven paintings are inspired by one part of the 'Seven Ages of Man' speech from Shakespeare's play 'As You like It'. The collection sees artist Jonathan Waller creating a contemporary reworking of these well-known themes using bold images with global resonance.

Revd Patrick said:

"In this 400th anniversary year, we wanted to make a connection between the work of William Shakespeare and the message of the Christian faith. Through these striking pictures we hope to communicate the fact that the good news of Jesus Christ is for all people, for all time, in every stage of life. No matter what our background, age or status, each of us is known and loved by the God who created us.

At Holy Trinity our vision is to see lives changed through God's love. We hope that by pausing awhile to ponder these pictures, visitors will know something of the transformative love of God in their lives."

The launch event runs from 6pm to 8pm on Wednesday 6th April, is free to enter and refreshments will be available, all visitors can be sure of a warm welcome.

Jonathan Waller was born in Stratford and christened at Holy Trinity Church. He has work in collections at both the Tate Gallery and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. As well as being a practicing artist, Jonathan is also a senior lecturer in Fine Art at Coventry University.

The Stratford Concert Band 2016 Spring Concert

Saturday 14th May 2016 at 7:30pm

The Stratford Arts House

Rother Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6LU



The Stratford Concert Band, conducted by Musical Director Jonathan Earle, will be presenting their popular Spring Concert with a program covering a selection of music from film and shows including **Lord of the Rings**, **Les Miserables** and **Miss Saigon**. There will also be pieces specifically written for wind bands like Philip Sparke's **A Yorkshire Overture** and Malcom Arnold's concert march **The Padstow Lifeboat**.

Tickets are £8 (under 16s free) in advance from the ArtsHouse Box Office 01789 207100 or online at <http://stratfordartshouse.co.uk/> or on the door. www.stratfordconcertband.org.uk

A letter to Ed Mulryne...



Dear Ed

How I do enjoy your monthly article in Trinity times, it is a breath of fresh air and a study of a young man making his way in the world.

The one in the March issue about all the worries of "Making the Grade" is - along with many other young people - obviously taking up a lot of your time.

You say you like it where you are now, but you see Ed, none of us can stay where we are now, we have to always move on and when we get to somewhere else I am sure you will like that too.

Good luck with University, keep travelling on, life is full of lovely things.

As an ancient member of Holy Trinity I still try to make the grade and move on, be it ever so small.

Good luck in all you do and keep the page going if you can from University, it does us old ones good.

God Bless

Win Smith

Ventnor

Isle of Wight



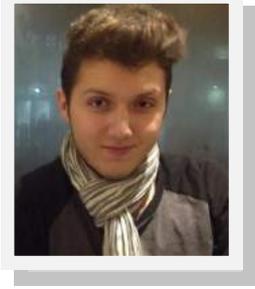
A Packed Good Friday Walk of Witness



Photos: John Burgess

Syrian Refugees

Aboude's Story told by Paul Lageu



On 4th February, two young Syrian refugees, Maya and Aboude, spoke at a meeting, organised by The Church of England Children's Society, in Holy Trinity Church. In last month's issue of Trinity Times we printed Maya's story. This month we bring you Aboude's story.

Aboude was 18 years old, living with his family in Damascus and beginning his studies to become a dentist. However, with civil war raging all over Syria, life in Damascus was both difficult and dangerous. Food and water were being rationed, electricity could be cut off at any time, without notice, and there was the ever present danger of bombings. When someone left the house the rest of the family could never be sure whether or not that would be the last time they would see them. In addition to all this, as Aboude was now 18, there was the risk of being conscripted into the army and made to fight.

Aboude's parents wanted him to leave Syria but he didn't want to go, leaving his family, friends and life behind. His parents sent him on holiday to Turkey. Two days after he arrived he received a heartbreaking phone call from his father, telling him that he wouldn't be coming home.

In the area where he was in Turkey there were a number of Syrians, so he tried to begin to make a new life for himself. However, over the next few months, it became clear that Syrians were not being welcomed by the locals and life became unbearable for Aboude. His parents sent him money so he could try to escape to Europe.

After trying to find a safe way out of Turkey, he was eventually left with only one choice, to make contact with an 'agent' (what we would call a smuggler) who could arrange for him to make the 90 minute boat crossing from Turkey to Greece. After paying the 'agent' \$1200, he found himself on an 8 metre boat with sixty other people. At one point, during the terrifying crossing, a fight broke out.

After arriving in Greece he eventually made contact with another 'agent' who, for a significant payment, could get him to the UK. When he finally arrived in London he was subjected to hours of questioning by the UK Border Agency before he was finally granted asylum and allowed to move on to Birmingham, where he had relatives.

Aboude found the first few months after his arrival particularly difficult as his English was limited, he knew very few people, had no school or work to go to and was, understandably, worried about his parents still living in Syria. Also, because of his limited English and the difference in education systems between Syria and the UK, he felt that he was not able to make use of the skills he gained in his homeland (as mentioned above, he was studying to become a dentist). However, he was introduced to The Children's Society's 'My Place' Project in Birmingham, where he could go along and meet other young people in similar situations to himself, enjoy social interaction and have staff from the Society available to help and advise him.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

Whilst Aboude would love to be back in his home country, surrounded by his family and friends, he knows that this is not going to be possible in the foreseeable future. However, with the help of The Children's Society, he is now planning and working towards a productive and fulfilling future in the UK. He is currently taking courses in English, maths and science in the hope that this will open up other opportunities for him and enable him to gain a place at university in the autumn.

What is clear from listening to Aboude and Maya is that people like them, and a large proportion of the Syrian refugees, whilst being extremely grateful to the UK for giving them sanctuary, would much rather be back in their own countries. They are trying to make the best of their new lives but always with the hope that peace will eventually return to Syria.

In your prayers, please pray for peace in Syria and other countries torn by war, so that people like Aboude and Maya may one day be able to return to their own homes.

Finally, on a lighter note, Aboude told me that one thing that had surprised him about life in Birmingham was that, before he arrived, he'd expected to be walking in snow all winter!

If anyone would like more information about the work of The Children's Society or how to support that work, please go to www.childrenssociety.org.uk or contact Paul Lageu (01789 298302 or paullageu@hotmail.co.uk).



Paul



Trinity Ladies

"If you weren't there you missed it!"

What a lovely afternoon we shared on Wednesday the 16th of March. We had cakes of every kind, were well supported, and had a good natter! The raffle was a great success, with lots of different prizes and a good laugh whilst we were eagerly awaiting to see if we had won anything. The new Cancer and Eye Unit at Stratford Hospital benefitted from our afternoon by £176.00. This will be presented to the representative of the appeal at our October meeting.

Ann Morris

Each Wednesday at 1.00pm
Refreshments from 12.30pm



Soundbites For April

6th—Peter Summers

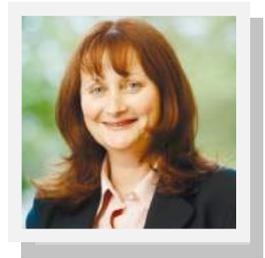
13th—Art Musica Trio

27th—Marion Fleetwood



St Helen's Clifford Chambers

Pauline Newbury Writes...



A Busy March for St Helen's

There was a lot to celebrate at St Helen's during March.

We started the month with 125 people attending our Mothering Sunday service during which Isaac, Rory, and Matilda Hayman were baptised. The family have been regular worshippers at St Helen's since they moved to the area and as well as family and friends it was good to see many of the community present to welcome the children into our family church.

It was particularly encouraging to hear a guest comment that if all church services were like ours then they would attend every week - we took that as a huge compliment as at St Helen's we pride ourselves on the warm welcome given to everyone.

There was more good news when Liz and Peter Ordway announced the birth of their daughter, Emily Katherine who was born on the 8th March - a sister for Charlotte and Alexandria. We're all looking forward to meeting her.



And finally, Janet and Tony Reason celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on the 24th. Patrick invited them to receive a blessing at the front of the church following Morning Worship. After this we toasted them with a glass of champagne and plenty of home-made cakes. During a thankyou speech Tony commented "when I first laid eyes on Janet I knew she would be alright for me." There was no reply from Janet!!

STOP PRESS!

I've just heard that Fay Simmonds has given birth this morning, at 8.15 (23rd March) to a lovely baby girl called Elspeth. Congratulations to Fay and her partner Harry.



All Saints' Luddington

Jane Beeley Writes...

"Tim and Jane's Head Scratcher..."



As usual All Saints' looked lovely for the Easter Sunday service and we are grateful to the Flower Team for all their work. Also thanks to Roger and Valerie Dopson for the Easter eggs to enjoy on the way home after the service and for the hot cross buns following the Good Friday Meditation.

Elsewhere in the Village, the Village Hall Team have been busy with a March Quiz Night and Coffee Mornings. Fund raising has enabled repairs to the steps and side gate to keep the Village Hall safe and looking smart.

The next Quiz Night will be "Tim and Jane's Head Scratcher" on 16th April. Tickets £7 to include a fish and chip supper. There will be a Spring Coffee Morning on Wednesday 20th April to which everyone is welcome for coffee, cake and chat.

The Village Hall Team are currently working hard to establish the Luddington Film club and new members are very welcome. Saturday 30th April is the launch date and first film.

The Queen's birthday will be celebrated with a party on Luddington Village Green on Saturday 11th June. There will be Barn Dancing and a BBQ.

For details of any of the events and information about membership of the Film Club please phone Sue Brayshay on 01789 750674 or 07969 697063. For Hall hire bookings, private or a regular function please ring 07803 575090.

Luddington Village Fund, which organizes fund raising events for charities, will be holding their AGM on 19th April after the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall.

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HOWLERS!

Compiled by Pat Pilton



ONE-LINERS...

Why was the Easter Bunny so upset? He was having a bad hare day!

What would you get if you crossed the Easter Bunny with Chinese food? Hop – Suey!

What happened to the egg when he was tickled too much. He cracked up!

What happened when the Easter bunny met the rabbit of his dreams? They lived hoppily ever after!



“...and when it comes to ‘the peace’, I want all those who want to stay in Europe to shake hands with all those who want to leave.”

We just couldn't resist this story which appeared in *The Independent* newspaper and was spotted by a listener to Radio 4's News Quiz. "Maverick teenage footballer Brian Garruto has been dismissed from the North Side Co-Ed Soccer League in Ohio. The reasons were conveyed in an email which read: 'Hello Mr Garruto. After a meeting of our management committee we have banned you from the league because of your behaviour, such as — wearing a cowboy hat during the game; pretending to give birth to the ball after scoring; pretending to shoot a bow and arrow at opposing players; making phone calls during the match and, finally, getting sent off and then changing jerseys in an attempt to play the rest of the match while pretending to be someone else.

A Baptist newsletter reported that Mr and Mrs Brown had gone on holiday for 10 days. It continued to say that: "the two daughters are starving with relatives during their absence."

A primary school teacher has been banned from classroom teaching after turning up to work drunk, slurring her words, swaying and playing Pacman on her mobile during class. The teacher has denied playing Pacman.

Daily Mirror

OUT OF THE MOUTHS ...

My daughter Lindsey, aged six, came home from school and told me the story of Lent. Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days and nights, she said. The Devil came to tempt him and asked if he wanted any food, to which Jesus replied: "No thank you, I'm full. I've just had loads of pancakes."

Letter to the Daily Mail

AND FINALLY

Many old music hall fans were present at the funeral of Fred "Chuckles" Jenkins, Britain's oldest and un-funniest comedian. In tribute the Vicar read out one of Fred's jokes, and the congregation had two minutes silence.

Ronnie Barker



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Shakespeare Song Recital

with **Isabella Gage** and **Rohan Stewart-MacDonald**



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SATURDAY APRIL 9



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7.30pm FREE entry with retiring collection

SATURDAY APRIL 16

Shakespeare-themed Instrumental and Choral Works

With **Clive Letchford** and **Friends**



7.30pm FREE entry with retiring collection

SATURDAY APRIL 23

Shakespeare Organ Recital

with **DAVID BRIGGS**

The internationally renowned organist plays his arrangements of Shakespeare-related orchestral works

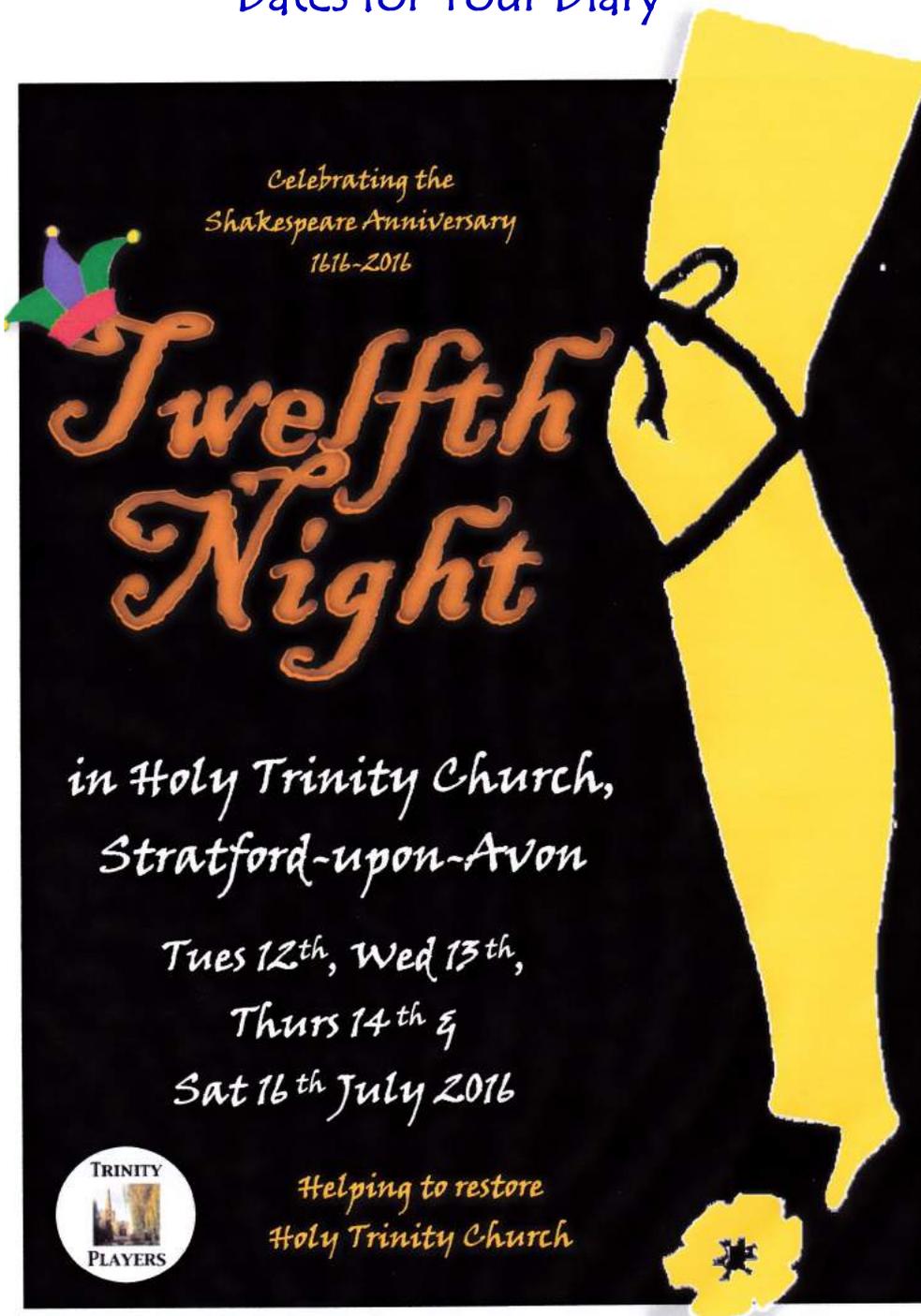


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Trinity Players

Dates for Your Diary



April 22nd at 11am in Holy Trinity Church – COFFEE, CAKE AND SONNETS our traditional Celebration of Shakespeare's Birthday with Readings from his Plays and Sonnets followed by Birthday Cake.

April 25th at 7.30pm in Stratford School – UNHAND ME, SQUIRE by Richard Tydeman. The Players will perform this short melodrama (you may remember it as our contribution to the RSC Open House in 2014) as part of the Concert which will bring the visit of The Stratfords of the World to a grand finale.

The Religious Characters in Shakespeare's Plays

Tony Boyd-Williams



Part 7: "Come, reverend fathers bestow your counsels on me."

Enter two vergers ...after them the Archbishop of Canterbury alone, after him the Bishops of Lincoln, Ely, Rochester and Saint Asaph... then two priests bearing each a silver cross ...after them, side by side the two cardinals, Wolsey and Campeius...as judges...).

This edited stage direction from the beginning of Act 2 scene 4 of Henry VIII refers to nine clerical characters but another three are included in the Persons of the Play—Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, Stokesley, Bishop of London and Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. The fact that seven have no lines matters not. Their presence is all important in the one play where Shakespeare reminded his original audience of the importance and relevance of the clergy during a time of religious tension, diplomacy and change—the Reformation. In **Shakespeare's Religious Frontier**, Robert Stevenson rightly comments that "*more prelates appear in Henry VIII than in any of the other plays attributed to Shakespeare*".

Act 2 scene 4 is the most spectacular scene as suggested above because it shows the consistory or church court in session at Blackfriars on the occasion of the divorce proceedings in respect of the marriage between Henry and Queen Katherine of Aragon. Apart from Cardinals Wolsey and Campeius, the only other cleric who speaks is the Bishop of Lincoln and he is only given eight lines. Even so, he briefly confirms, on behalf of the bench of Bishops, the grave and weighty matter which they are being asked to resolve.

The main clergy contributions in this scene are from Wolsey and Campeius. Although the latter has only 53 lines in the play, his appearance in three scenes underlines the importance of the Pope's representative in England at this time. When Queen Katherine refuses to accept the authority of the court and leaves after declaring she will appeal to the Pope himself to decide the matter, it is Campeius as the ecclesiastical lawyer from the Vatican who gives the King advice as to how to proceed:

*So please your Highness,
The Queen being absent, 'tis a needful fitness
That we adjourn this court till further day.
Meanwhile must be an earnest motion
Made to the Queen to call back her appeal
She intends unto his Holiness.*

Henry VIII

William Shakespeare



This play is the only one in the Shakespearean Canon where a cleric is given the second largest number of lines. To Henry's 461, Wolsey is given 439 – a reminder of the importance of the historical Wolsey and the power he exercised. Like the historical Cardinal, Shakespeare's Wolsey is swept from the dramatic chess board of intrigue, diplomacy and advancement. In his **Prefaces to Shakespeare**, Tony Tanner suggests that:

"Wolsey is the most marked and distinctive character in the play; evil (or ruthless ambition combined with insatiable pride)".

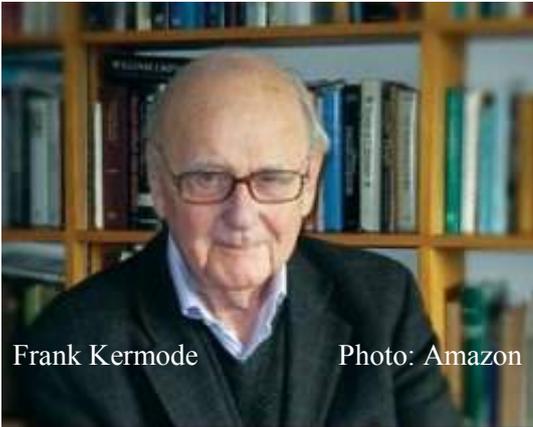
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He is then given two powerful speeches which include some of the best known lines in the play:

*Farewell! A long farewell to all my greatness!
And
Had I but served my God with half the zeal
I served my King, He would not in mine age
Have left me naked to mine enemies.*

Once Wolsey has quit the stage, another cleric dominates the action—Thomas Cranmer, now Archbishop of Canterbury. When the court proceedings at Blackfriars are about to come to an abrupt end, Henry (in an aside) shares with the audience that Cranmer is the one on whom Henry really relies:

*I may perceive these cardinals trifle with me ...
My learned and well –beloved servant ,Cranmer,
Prithee return.*



Frank Kermode

Photo: Amazon

With 136 lines (including a speech of 42) in the final scene of the play, one can appreciate Clare Asquith's observations in **Shadowplay** that:

“Archbishop Cranmer, architect of England's Reformation is the play's hero...”

In his **Shakespeare's Language**, Frank Kermode takes a similar view when he suggests

“The twist to the plot lies in the treatment of Cranmer, who by the King's grace survives the plot against him; he survives to christen the Princess Elizabeth and reform the liturgy.”

The plot against Cranmer gives the character of Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester an opportunity to show the pragmatic and ruthless side of his nature (like his namesake in the **Henry VI** plays):

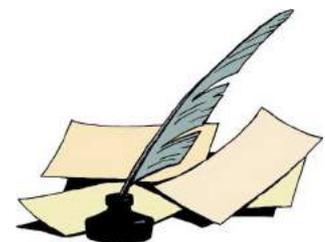
*...you are strangely troublesome.
Let some o'th' guard be ready there...
Receive him, and see him safe l'th'Tower.*

Returning to Frank Kermode, he sums up the importance of the character of Cranmer when he comments on the long speech referred to above:

“The effect is of a sermon preached before the monarch by his archbishop ...the speech is full of appropriately biblical references and has a quasi-liturgical grandeur...”

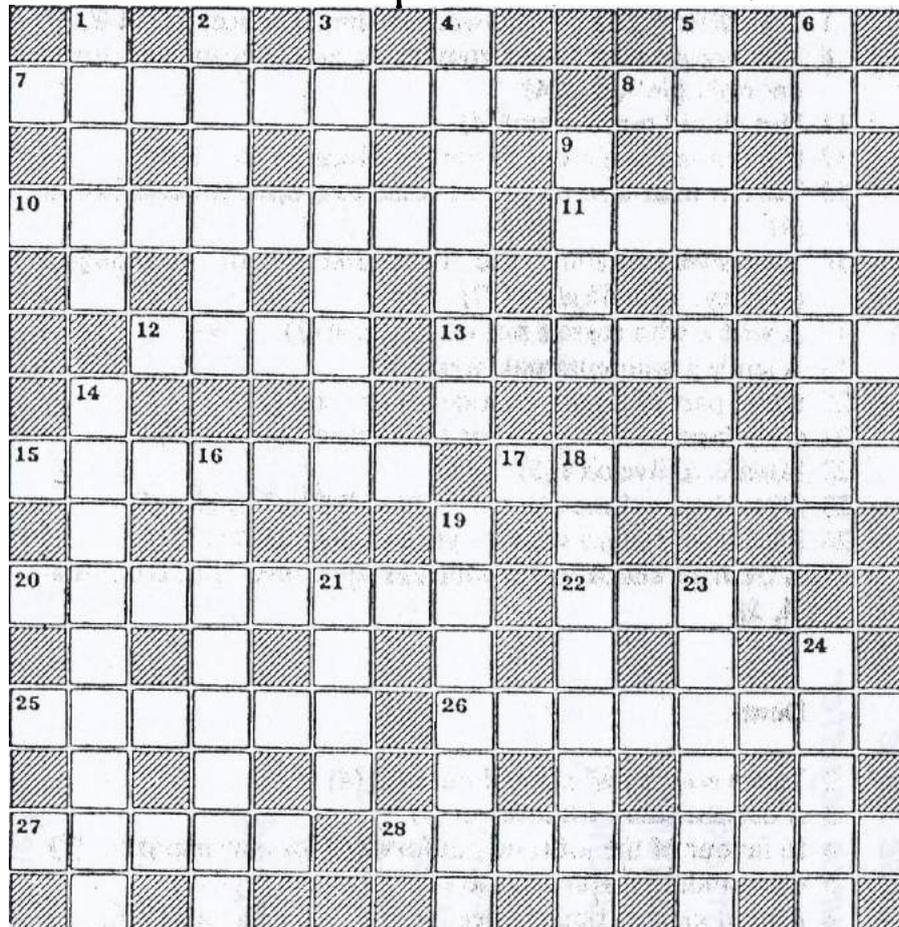
One might say another important speech for another important clergy character and a reminder that without such characters as have been discussed in this series, dramatic and comic situations in a number of plays would not exist. Thanks to a great playwright, they do.

Tony





The Shakespeare Crossword



ACROSS

- 7 Fellowship meeting – very special if 22 arrives first. (9)
 8 Sounds like I'll walk that way before I say I will. (5)
 10 Primitive yet avant-garde. Like first folios? (8)
 11 Could describe Christ or Henry V in France. (6)
 12 She is the daughter of Phanuel , coming and going (4)
 13 Could describe a royal barge belonging to Jesus or Lear. (8)
 15 and 27 Former adjunct of HT whither Shakespeare apparently spurned being cast. (7, 5)
 17 Shared by Lear and the man from Gadara.(7)
 20 Suggestion regarding alliances later ratified at HT and RST. (8)
 22 Sounds entirely devout like half our church. (4)
 25 Introit with the right key? (6)
 26 Probably the slowest way of getting from RST to HT like Edgar's frog (*King Lear III.4*) (8)
 27 See 15
 28 The indulgent Falstaff must win the prize for being this. (9)



DOWN

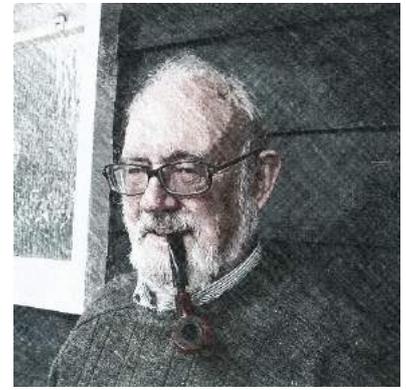
- 1 Invite into the king's company? (5)
 2 Information regarding the International Maritime Organisation can be found in *Cymbeline* (6)
 3 Baptise , perhaps , in a French engagement. (8)
 4 Superhuman - the kind of reason Hamlet says should not go unused (*Hamlet IV.4*) (7)
 5 Churches can't shift much without this approval. (8)
 6 Of all the plays *Titus Andronicus* wins the accolade for this superlative. (9)
 9 HT and RST are on the same side regarding this. (4)
 14 Tom's Eddy when led by the foul fiend (*King Lear III.4*) (9)
 16 This maturity means everything according to Shakespeare. (8)
 18 As it's the zany infidels Shakespeare never names them. (8)
 19 Flower spied by love in Dumain's ode (*Love's Labour's Lost IV.3*) (7)
 21 The king's former address. (4)
 23 This personal proof of a walking handicap is clear. (6)
 24 Hangs about for something to do with one's teeth? (5)

Compiled by David Ellis

Anthony Woollard's

Window on the World

"Passionate Intensity..."



This spring is not only the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, but also the centenary of the Easter Rising in Dublin; a fairly momentous event in the history of the United Kingdom. Meditating on that brought my thoughts to that great Irish poet, W B Yeats, and some of the most famous lines in the history of 20th century poetry..

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world.....
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Those words, actually written in 1919, do not refer specifically to Ireland. They seem to be based more on the general political and cultural situation across Europe – and, in that, they were all too prophetic, with the rise of Hitler just round the corner. But Ireland, struggling to come to birth as a Free State independent of the UK, was in a fair old mess as well. Today, after the years of Troubles in the North, it has largely come to terms with its divisions, but still faces at least as many social ills as the rest of us – and some very spiritual ills with the crisis of the Roman Catholic Church there.

Yeats' poem however has a yet wider reference, as indicated in its title *The Second Coming*. He appears to have believed, as so many have believed, that the travails of his age were "the beginning of sorrows", the birth pangs of a new age. He was not an orthodox Christian believer, but Christian imagery about the end of the world had clearly sunk deep into his soul.

There was, of course, no new age – in either a Christian or a secular sense. Like some of his contemporaries, Yeats flirted with Fascism as a new source of hope – and look what happened to that. There have been odd moments of more hopeful stability over the past century, yet the words of that poem appear to be more and more relevant. Today we need only think of the bizarre possibilities emerging in the US Presidential election, the muddles over the EU referendum, and, yet more darkly, all that goes on in the Middle East, and the wider impacts of that such as the flows of refugees which in turn have affected the political situation in Germany. "Passionate intensity" indeed.

It is tempting to look back to those moments I referred to earlier, when it seemed that the centre actually was holding for a little while. Many of us remember life in our earlier years when, it seemed, things were far less extreme, and there was more of a consensus (about everything from polite behaviour to the virtues of the Welfare State) instead of the present growing social and political polarisation. We now know that that consensus concealed a good deal of prejudice and injustice, and was very much to the advantage of particular classes and groups in society. It needed to be broken. Yet we have lost something in the process, and sometimes might wonder how much we have really gained.

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“Keep calm and carry on”. A good slogan for most of us most of the time. For those who take a really apocalyptic view of these grim days, it may seem faithless; surely we should be going out there with passionate intensity to change everything? But there is a case – in Church and society alike – for a quieter approach, which is more ready to listen than to speak, more ready to wait than to act prematurely. A cultivation of more calm and consensus would not itself usher in the Kingdom, but it might do rather better than the sort of frantic, noisy, extremist activism which characterizes so much of our public life and solves so little.



CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

The first meeting of the newly formed contemplative prayer group will be on Tuesday April 5th in the Parish Centre Lounge at **7.30 pm**.

Contemplative prayer is focussed on attentively waiting in God’s presence; listening and being open, thankfully and trustingly, to whatever God wants to give us. It is not the same as intercession or petition, and uses few or no words. After an introduction at the meeting, there will be a short reading followed by an extended period of silent prayer.

There will be an opportunity, after the prayer time, for some brief sharing if we wish to. Trained prayer guides are available for individual support if wanted.

Anyone who feels drawn to join us will be very welcome. No previous experience of this way of praying is necessary, and no special knowledge is needed! Why not give it a try?

[John and Tricia Hall-Matthews \(414182\)](#) and [Jenny Rowland \(415548\)](#)

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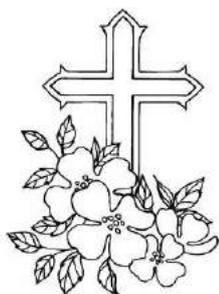


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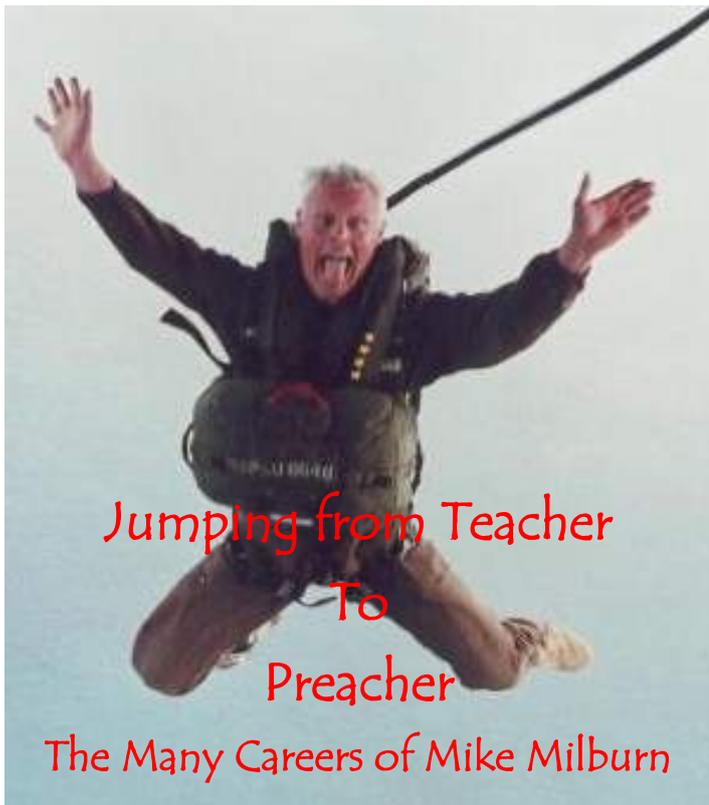
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The Judith Dorricott Interview



In 1979, Mike Milburn had an epiphany! A teacher, he was sitting in the staff room of his school and listening to two other older teachers chatting. Suddenly he thought "I might be here doing just that in forty years time" and the thought filled him with horror. His life seemed to be mapped out and it was not an exciting map for a young man with so much energy and zeal. Pondering his career prospects, he opened the newspaper on the table in front of him and as he picked it up, the page fell open at an advertisement with the words "ROYAL AIR FORCE - PHYSICAL EDUCATION OFFICERS NEEDED TO BECOME PARACHUTE JUMP INSTRUCTORS". Thrilled by this opportunity, Mike applied immediately and was sent to Biggin Hill in

Kent for three days of intensive assessments, including medical examinations, interviews and tests to judge both leadership and team-building skills. With his fitness, drive and enthusiasm it's no surprise that he passed these examinations, so instead of in the classroom, Mike suddenly found himself at RAF College, Cranwell in Lincolnshire for Initial Officer Training.

Let's Backtrack to Career Number One.

Mike was born in Hartlepool and his identical twin brother, Tony, remains his closest friend. This was a rugby-orientated household as their father was President of the local Rugby Club and the boys played rugby all winter. Both Mike and Tony, as fit and ambitious teenagers, wanted to be physical education teachers and Mike chose to go to Alsager Teacher Training College in Cheshire, where he played rugby for England Colleges, as well as studying mathematics and physical education.

During his first year in Alsager, Mike met Val who was training to become a primary school teacher. They married in 1974 and while Mike continued his Bachelor of Education degree at Keele University, Val taught in Leek in Staffordshire. Their first home was a very simple caretaker's cottage at Val's school with no bathroom and no indoor toilet! However life improved and the young couple moved to Harrogate where Mike taught physical education and mathematics in a large Senior School - and indulged his passion for rugby by playing in, and captaining, the first team of Harrogate Rugby Club. But life in the classroom ended suddenly when he saw the advertisement in the paper for RAF parachutists. Little did Val realise how many house-moves and how many RAF bases, her husband's new passion would involve!

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Now to Career Number Two.

Mike accepted a short term commission with the RAF, and, his training complete, he and Val moved to Wyton in Huntingdonshire where he ran the physical education programme for over 2,000 men and women. Life became very exhilarating in 1981 when they moved to Brize Norton for Mike to carry out parachute training, and during these early years of married life, both their daughters Anna and Kate were born while Mike taught parachute jumping to airborne forces.

More thrills followed as Mike joined the Falcons Freefall Display Team from 1983 to 1985. These parachutists jump out of aircraft at about 12,000 feet and pull their cords at a height of about 3,000 feet - not an occupation for the faint-hearted! Mike, now a Flight Lieutenant, travelled all over the world as team leader of the twelve-man display team. He then turned to military operational freefall parachuting, jumping from heights up to 25,000 feet wearing full equipment (often 200 pounds of military kit) and instructing elements of the Special Forces.

After a couple of 'ground tours' at Cranwell and at Biggin Hill, Mike, now a Squadron Leader, became the Officer Commanding Free Fall Training Squadron at Brize Norton. This post involved organising rigorous training for elements of the Airborne Forces in high altitude freefall and high altitude static line, as well as sports parachuting and the RAF Falcons. Mike then went on to work for the Directorate of Special Forces, advising on all training and 'air-insertion' matters.

Mike's leadership skills then took him to Farnborough as Wing Commander. As the Station Commander, he hosted official delegations of Russians to the United Kingdom and was in return invited to Moscow, where he visited the Russian Space Agency and marched in Red Square in full dress uniform to lay a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Warrior, and was a guest of honour at the Bolshoi Ballet.



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A move back to Brize Norton followed as Officer Commanding the Parachute Training School, followed by a post at RAF Insworth in Gloucestershire where, as Group Captain, he was head of the Physical Education Branch and Personal Development Training. Mike's long and illustrious career, in which he had indulged his passions for both parachuting and rugby, ended when he retired in 2007, at the age of 55. Having represented the RAF and Combined Services many times at rugby, including playing at Twickenham, he also left as Chairman Combined Services Rugby

So when does Holy Trinity Church come in Mike's life? Well, this is Career Number Three! While Val became a committed member of the church in the 1990's, Mike always found the Christian message of reconciliation difficult to comprehend, particularly after a career in the RAF, doing his work. It was not until he was shown some

verses from the Bible, including Romans 13:4, when he understood that while evil must be stopped, we should love our enemies once the battle is won. Here was a second epiphany in his life! He was confirmed at St John's Church in Carterton, near Brize Norton, and, with his undimmed determination and enthusiasm, went on follow a three-year course through Holy Trinity, culminating in obtaining a Bishop's Certificate in Readership, Mission and Ministry. Mike underwent the Reader discernment process and was accepted to become a Reader in the Church of England, 'graduating' at a ceremony at Coventry Cathedral. This was another special moment in his life. He is delighted with his new duties which include leading worship and preaching sermons. His leadership skills, shown through his involvement in Holy Trinity in the Community, are admired by all and he works closely with the various agencies around Stratford to help those in need.



Mike's life has been so full, church members may wonder if he has any time for hobbies. However Mike assures me that he is still an avid rugby fan and follows all the matches. He and Val have been married for nearly 42 years now and they particularly enjoy playing a close part in the lives of their two daughters and their four growing grandchildren.

"Why did you move to Stratford?" was my final question. Mike laughed "We just put a pin in the map" he joked. "It's central, we can reach our daughters easily and still go back to my roots in Hartlepool to see my twin brother and his family when we want." Mike feels he is very blessed to have found such a strong church community at Holy Trinity, but I am sure all our church members feel we are very blessed to have Mike in our midst.



Rock The Walls! & The Spiders

Kids Rule, Okay?



Okay! They're also hugely talented and work extraordinarily hard, at least the very enthusiastic bunch I saw at Holy Trinity Church on the evening of Thursday the 17th March did, as they rip-roared their way through Sheila Wilson's little gem of a rock'n'roll musical *Rock the Walls!* The brilliant ensemble singing, and the performers energy, blasted a few Holy Trinity spiders (one landed on my shoulder looking rather bemused) either into oblivion or down a few organ pipes.

The solo singing was also very good, with Matthew Allcock's interpretation of Joshua a real treat, as was Edmund Taylor's introduction to the show. If you saw the production and were not familiar with the story of Joshua and the destruction of the walls of Jericho - you are now! Great costumes too!

The first half of the evening's entertainment was devoted to solo spots, and they were good too, with some of them very good. There isn't room here to mention everyone (and everyone deserves a mention) but I will single out Theo Sampson's rendition of William Squire's *Minuet for Cello*, and Isaac Rogers' and Will Poulten's trumpet duet—a Miles Davis and Dizzy Gillespie in the making. But for me the highlight of this solo section was Charlotte Mulryne's beautiful version of *The Boat to Inverie*, with her violin drawing out the wonder and depth of that lovely melody.

Rebecca Sampson and Benedict Wilson were quite good too! Well done everyone.

Steve Newman

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PCC Report for March 2016

Compiled
By Ruth Poulton

An inspiring 5-year plan was presented to the PCC, with a clear direction as to how Holy Trinity, All Saints' and St. Helens should go about achieving our vision – “Lives changed through God’s Love.”

The Reverend Patrick Taylor spoke passionately about the next steps. “We’ve established our vision, now we need the strategy to establish our goals. What do we want to achieve? Where should the action lie? The goals need to turn into projects and tasks and these must in turn be measurable, so that we can see what progress has been made.” Patrick went on to explain more about the three goals, asking for PCC approval.

Parish Goals – three key areas

Contact: we would like our church communities to reflect more closely the broader range of people that is in our parish. We need to make contact with new people in order for our churches to grow.

Nurture: how do we nurture people once we have made contact, so that they have a deeper understanding of the Christian faith?

Commitment: we want people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ – are we inspiring people to reach out, follow Jesus and make a commitment?

The PCC unanimously agreed to the three goals for achieving the vision.

Programme

Patrick also elaborated on the proposed programme for turning the goals into action. This includes consulting with all 3 churches in the parish about the goals. “I would like you all to try and think about what you can do to help deliver the three goals. What role can you play in helping to achieve the vision?”

A meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th May (venue to be confirmed), where Patrick will provide a detailed overview of the goals and an opportunity for Parish members to understand how they can get involved.

Buildings Update

Church Warden Mike Warrillow updated the PCC on timescales for the building work. “We’re a little later than we expected to be on the South Side, but the building will be handed over to us on the 20th March. Everything should be back in the South Side and being used by Maundy Thursday – and completely ready by Easter.

Art Exhibition - Launch

The picture unveiling for the ‘Seven Ages of Man’ exhibition will take place on Wednesday 6 April. The two hour event starts at 6pm and everyone is welcome.

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Children's Guide

The new Children's Guide, made in collaboration with children from Broad Street School, has gone to print and will be ready for the SBT "Shakespeare Week" (14th -18th March). The fold out guide explains about Holy Trinity and its history, and has a walking trail map.

News in brief

Sue Holt has been appointed the new Parish Secretary, replacing Pauline Day who is leaving the post on 16th March. Sue, previously with the Arden group of Parishes in Wootton Wawen, will start on Mon 21 March. Paul Talbot has been appointed as the new Retail Assistant. Interviews for the post of Children and Families Minister will take place on Tuesday 15 March.

The PCC is looking for a volunteer to become a "Cathedral Parish Partner". The role requires attending four meetings a year at Coventry Cathedral or in other parishes.

All those wishing to book a place on the coach for Rachel Saum's ordination on Sunday 3rd July should do so with Kath Parrington. A payment of £5 is requested in advance. The coach will leave at 9.30am for the 10.30am service start at Coventry Cathedral.

The annual meeting of parishioners (APCM) will take place on Sunday 10th April where new PCC members and Church Wardens will be voted in. There will be a Vicar's address instead of a sermon at the 8am and 10am services, with voting in the Parish Centre afterwards. Patrick thanked all those coming to the end of their time on the PCC, for their time, support and hard work.

Mike Baker



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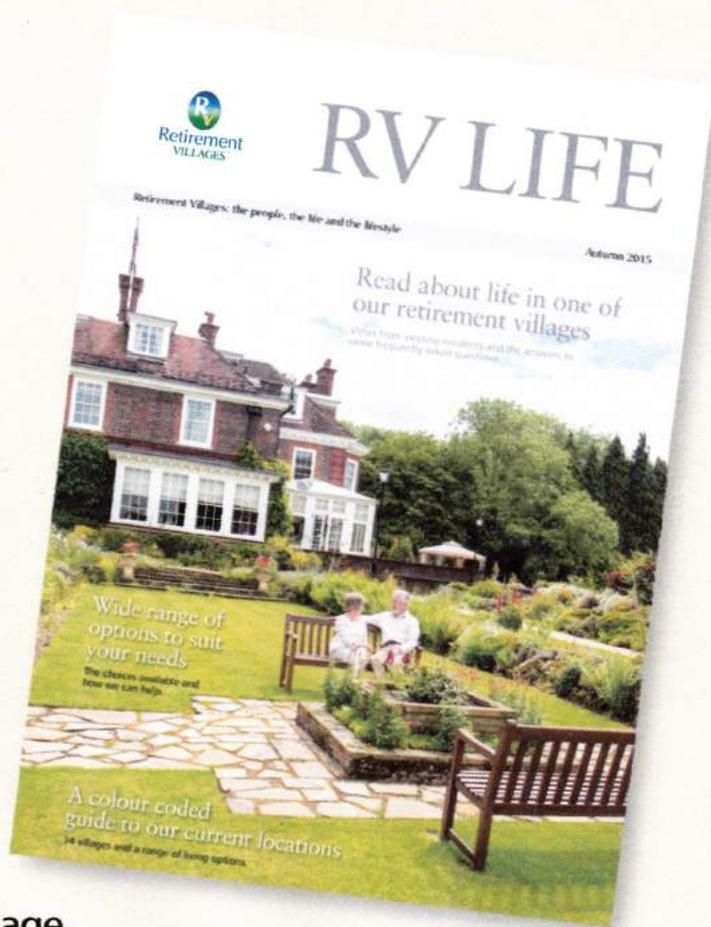
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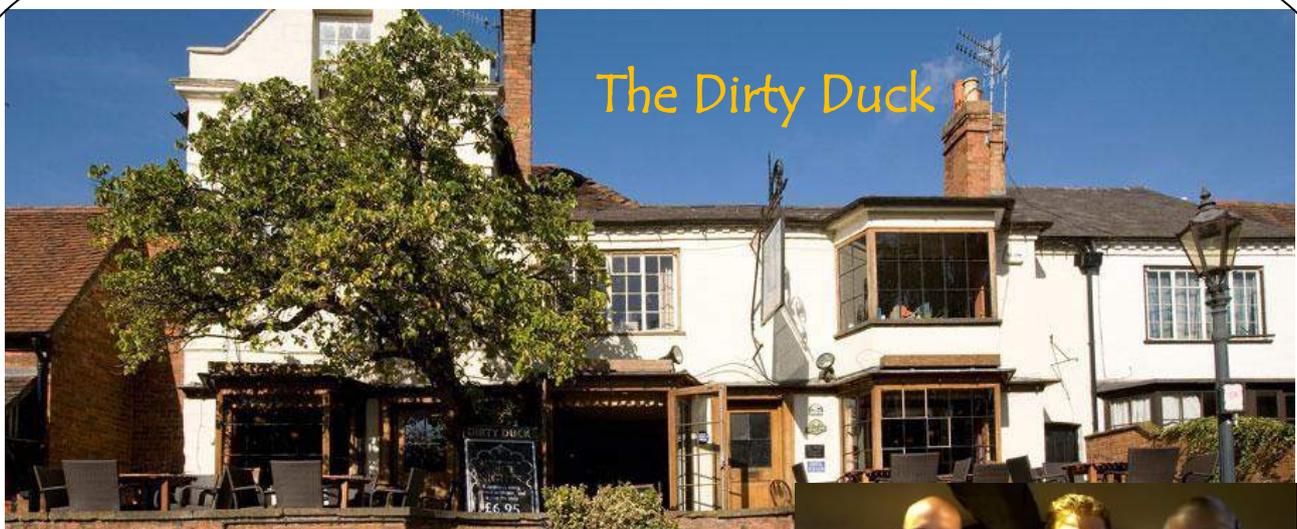
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Associate Vicar	The Revd Dr Stephen Bate	01789 299195
Curate	The Revd Nicki Chatterton	07769871237
Reader	Mike Milburn	01789 262264



Assistant Ministers (Hon)

The Revd Canon Andrew Dow, 01789 417852	The Revd Neville Beamer 01789 263435
The Revd Margaret Sweet, 01789 297395	The Revd Diane Patterson 01789 266453
The Revd Canon John Graty, 01789 298856	The Revd Jenny Rowland 1789 415548
	The Revd Graham Wilcox, 01789 551759

Director of Music - Benedict Wilson, 01789 266316

Head Verger - Paul Harris 266316

Vergers - Nigel Penn 01789 266316

Parish Manager - Linda MacDermott - 266316

Parish Secretaries - Sue Holt; Helen Holland

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Church Wardens

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Lynne McCarthy - 01926 642054

Tim Raistrick - 01789 509885

Mike Warrillow - 01789 298928

Village Wardens All Saints, Luddington - *Vacant* (Paul Stanton, PCC member)

St Helens, Clifford Chambers - Ann Simons 01789 261558 and Pauline Newbury 01789 415603

Baptism Team - Nicki Chatterton 01789 266316

Bell Ringers - Charles Wilson - 01789 295467

Bereavement Support Team Gina Lodge

01789 204850

Safeguarding Officer Mike Warrillow

01789 298928

Junior Church - Sherron Guise - 01789 551086

Trinity Ladies - Ann Morris - 01789 266226

Electoral Roll Officer Tim Raistrick

01789 509885

Friends of the Music Jane Hornby

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Friends of Shakespeare's Church

Ronnie Mulryne 01789 205774

Holy Trinity in the Community Mike Milburn

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Andrea Blood 01789 266825

PCC Secretary Kath Parrington

01789 268492

PCC Treasurer Anthony Woollard

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Home Groups The Revd Dr Steve Bate

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Home Communion The Revd Nicki Chatterton

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Stewardship Officer Chris Kennedy

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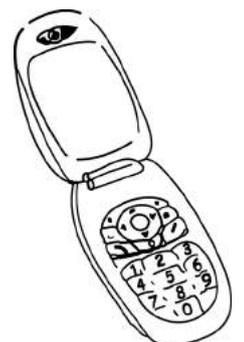
Trinity Tots Val & Steve Bate

01789 299195

Pastoral Contact Co-ordinator Gillian Nunn

01789 415830

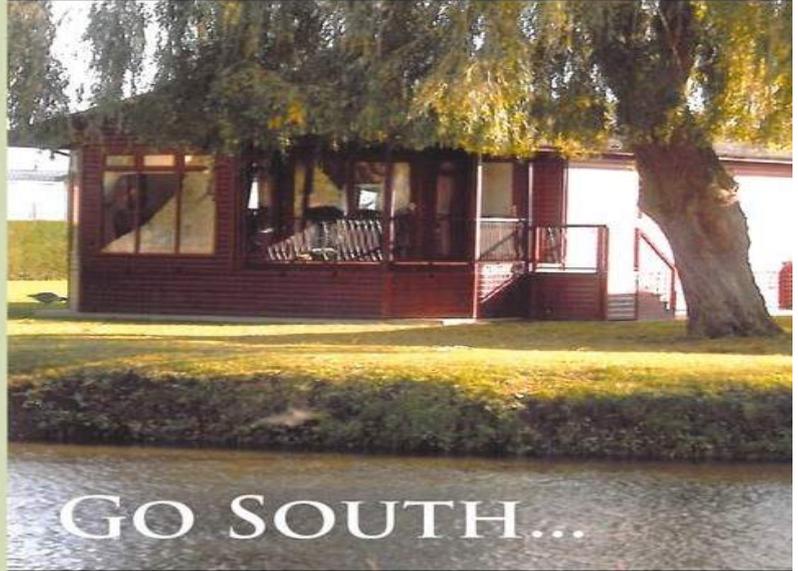
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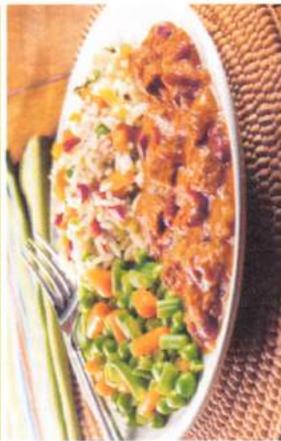
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