

TRINITY TIMES

AUGUST
2016

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Steve & Val say Farewell



Photo: Harry Lomax

See Pages 9 & 10



See Page 4



See Page 17



See Page 15

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Welcome To The August Issue



Photo: John Burgess

Phil Harper

Our Children & Families Minister

[Read Judith Dorricott's interview](#)

[In September's Trinity Times](#)

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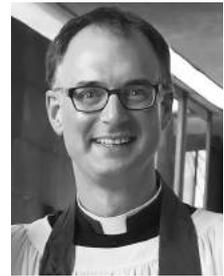
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Nicki Writes...

A Season of Invitation



"Would you like to come to church with me?"

That will be a question asked repeatedly, as Christians invite family, friends and neighbours to 'Back To Church Sunday' on 18th September. Since 2004 a quarter of a million people have said 'yes' to that invitation and Back to Church Sunday has caught on in churches everywhere because it is so simple. At its heart is the oldest idea of all, the one that made shepherds leave their flocks, fishermen leave their nets, and tax collectors climb out of trees. Someone invited them!

But, we don't need a special Sunday to approach friends and invite them to church. We can invite them any Sunday. However, I know how difficult saying those words can be. To 'wear your heart (Christian Faith) on your sleeve' can feel quite vulnerable.

I may have told some of you this before, but one Christmas I invited a friend, who was staying with us, to come to church. Dean seemed interested, but declined. Thinking that he may be unfamiliar with the service, I explained it would be a simple service with a few hymns, a reading, prayers and there would be a service sheet he could follow. However, he wasn't just unfamiliar with the service, he'd never even been in a church before!

He made a counter invitation. If I went with him to a local Ladbrokes and put a bet on a horse he would come to church with me. This was crazy. I'd never done that before. But that was exactly the point. He wanted me to understand how he felt. I accepted the challenge. The whole experience was quite alien. The building was strange and it was as if they were speaking a different language. Without Dean I wouldn't have known what to do, say, or how to put a bet on. It was very enlightening and highlighted how alien church must seem to the unfamiliar eye.

So, remembering this, I have a challenge for you! It has two parts. One to help you feel less vulnerable when inviting someone new to church and another to help you understand a little of how it feels to attend church when you're not used to it.

- 1 Invite a friend from our congregation to come with you to a service they are not used to attending. This should be less daunting and give you the courage to invite a friend from outside church to a service.
- 2 Go to a service in church that you're not familiar with. You might find you really enjoy it!

Continued on next page...

To quote two people who did this recently:

"I have not been to the Good Friday Liturgy before since, to be honest, I thought it would be too 'high church' for me! However, it was fabulous, I genuinely didn't want it to finish and will endeavour not to miss it in future years!!"

"As traditionalists we value the sanctity and reverence of the Eucharist celebrated in the church, but, although a little out of our comfort zone, GoodNews@10 today was an experience not to be missed."



"Would you like to come to church with me?" Make that something you feel comfortable saying. Who will you invite?

~~~~~



## Soundbites

Free Concerts every Wednesday at 1.00pm in Holy Trinity Church.  
Refreshments available from 12.30

### Programme for the next Two Months

#### August

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Andrew Henderson, organ
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Samuel Bridges, tenor
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Peter Summers, piano
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Elliott Rooney, jazz
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Clive Letchford, tenor



#### September

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



## PCC Report of the July Meeting Ruth Poulten

Phil Harper, who recently joined Holy Trinity's Leadership Team from St Nicholas & St John's Churches Codsall, near Wolverhampton, received a warm welcome from members at his inaugural meeting at All Saints', Luddington.

Our new Children and Families Minister shared his vision for integrating children and families as part of the whole church community.

Phil brings with him nine and half years experience as a Children, Youth and Families Worker and is looking forward to developing and progressing the work in this area. PCC also agreed to support Phil to be licenced to the Diocese as a Reader.

### **Appointment of new Associate Vicar**

With Steve Bates last service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September, plans are in place to recruit a new Associate Vicar. The special "all age" celebration will be followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in the Parish Centre. The Reverend Patrick Taylor said "We're all going to miss Steve and Val very much and thank them for all their hard work - but we understand why they are going and wish them all the very best in their new parish."

Interviews for a new Associate Vicar will take place on 11 October, with shortlisting on 26<sup>th</sup> September. The role will oversee adult nurture and discipleship, pastoral care and All Saints', Luddington.

### **Parish Vision Update**

Patrick updated PCC about the next steps towards our Parish Vision: *'Lives changed through God's Love'*. A Healthy Churches survey – which is a set of questions we can ask about our own church to give a broad picture of Holy Trinity's health – will be given to 40 participants from our congregation to complete.

Patrick said, "We've made sure we included a range of ages in the survey group from teenagers to older people, as well as representation from Rosebird to FAB and from across the variety of services in the Church building. It's crucial that we get views from the spectrum of our congregation, to inform how we take our work forward."

The 40 participants will be written to and invited to take part in the survey on 7<sup>th</sup> September. The Diocesan Consultant will discuss the results at September's PCC.

### **Finance**

"The report at the half year stage is very encouraging - but there are real financial challenges in the villages" warned treasurer Anthony Woollard. Anthony pledged to keep a close eye on the detail and to work closely with All Saints', Luddington and St Helen's, Clifford Chambers.

Continued on next page...

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### **Buildings Update**

PCC authorised Church Warden Mike Warrillow to go ahead with a feasibility study for a kitchen area in the west end corner of the Church. If successful and the finances are secured, the kitchen will be used for hospitality teas, catering and post service coffee etc.

### **News in brief**

Mike Milburn has been approved to take funerals in this parish. Mike completed the 6 week, clergy-led course in Coventry which included liturgical work and mock interviews with the bereaved.

Mike Warrillow has been elected as vice-chair of PCC.

John Cohen has been elected to serve on the Friends of Shakespeare Church committee.



Photo: Harry Lomax

# *Worship in August*



## **SUNDAY August 7th Holy Trinity** *11th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Nicki Chatterton

10.00am Parish Eucharist— Revd Graham Wilcox

**Parish Centre** GoodNews@10—Phil Harper

6.00pm Choral —Preacher James Sorel-Cameron

**St. Helen's Clifford Chambers** 9.15am Family Worship—Revd Jenny Rowland

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

## **SUNDAY August 14th Holy Trinity** *12th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

10.00am Parish Eucharist— Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

6.00pm Evensong—Preacher Revd Nicki Chatterton

**Parish Centre** 10.00am FAB—Phil Harper

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

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

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

## **SUNDAY August 21st Holy Trinity** *13th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion—Preacher Revd Dr Stephen Bate

10.00am Parish Eucharist - Preacher Revd Dr Stephen Bate

6.00pm - Choral Evensong—with Revd Graham Wilcox

**9.30am Holy Trinity@Rosebird**—with Phil Harper

**Parish Centre** No Service

**St. Helen's Clifford Chambers**—Morning Worship, with Heather Turner

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

## **SUNDAY August 28th Holy Trinity** *14th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion —Revd Patrick Taylor

10.00am Food4thought—Preacher Revd Canon Andrew Dow

6.00pm Holy Communion BCP & Compline—with Revd Patrick Taylor

**Parish Centre** 10.00am FAB—with Revd Dr Stephen Bate

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

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

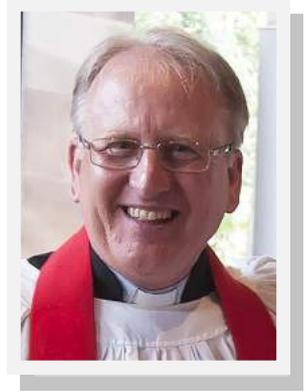
Lives changed through God's love





## The Judith Dorricott Interview

### Revd Dr Steve Bate



## TWO CAREERS BUT ONE FAITH

***"I'm finding it hard to imagine Holy Trinity Church without Steve: he was here to guide me in when I arrived as Vicar, and he has been a loyal and hardworking colleague ever since. His cheerful presence and personal approach to ministry in the parish will be greatly missed by all of us".***

These are the words of our Vicar, Patrick Taylor, and his sentiments are echoed by members of our congregation, all saddened to learn that Steve Bate will leave our parish at the end of August.

Steve has been Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity since 2012 now and it is natural that he should wish to run his own parish. His new post covers three villages in East Hertfordshire, where he will be Rector of Much Hadham, together with Little Hadham and Albury. The population is around 4,000 so much smaller than Stratford, but there are two church schools which Steve is delighted about. As in Stratford, both Steve and Val hope to become involved with children and youth work and no doubt, with their warmth and commitment, they will quickly become part of the local community.

Of course the Parish Office there is very small and Steve will have to rely on one part-time parish administrator and one lay leader of worship for assistance. However, both he and Val are looking forward to their new house in Much Hadham, which at the moment is being extended for them. Their new garden ( I saw a sneak preview photo) looked gorgeous and will please Val, who is a keen gardener.

One unusual facet of this new parish is that Roman Catholics and Protestants worship in the same church building, and Steve says he is pleased to have the chance of working with the Roman Catholic Priesthood and congregation. Another little know fact about the Much Hadham parish is that there is another church, St. Thomas in nearby Perry Green, where the famous sculptor Henry Moore lived and died and where his body is buried.

Steve says that God has been working gradually on him, and certainly Steve's route to the priesthood has been gentle. He was born in Cheshire but spent his school years in Shropshire. An early sign of his ability in communications showed itself when he built his first radio at the age of eleven! He attended Sheffield University, first studying maths, then electrical engineering and it was during this time that he became an committed Christian.

Continued on next page...

He met Val when they both volunteered for a Pathfinder Venture, leading a holiday involving eighty school-children. Val has been a staunch support for Steve during their long marriage, working as a primary school teacher and bringing up their three daughters. All their daughters are now happily married and Steve and Val enjoy being involved with their four grand-children.

Steve first worked for GEC Telecommunications, but after completing his PhD in electrical engineering communication systems, he became a lecturer at Coventry University, where he taught happily for twenty-five years. While there, Steve spent a year following a course that explored the Christian Ministry, and subsequently became a lay reader for ten years. Coventry Diocese encouraged him to offer himself for ordination, so after a selection conference in 2002, he pursued a course for "Ordained Local Ministry". For three years Steve combined his lectureship at the University with theological studies at Queens College in Birmingham. Once he had finished this course and completed his curacy, he became Associate Minister in Whitnash. He also joined the Chaplaincy Team at Coventry University after his ordination.

But by 2010 Steve felt that God was calling him to focus on ministry within the Church so a complete career change beckoned. He applied to become a full-time minister, and in October 2012 he started his current post of Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity. He tells me that he was particularly attracted by the sheer breadth of worship styles, embracing both traditional and contemporary forms of worship. This first position turned out to be a baptism of fire though as Reverend Martin Gorick left only five months later! Steve says that the interregnum was hard work but simultaneously rewarding - he was even successful in re-starting the "Open to God" services during those months. The main task he found during this period was identifying his priorities, by deciding which matters were urgent, and which aspects could be left until the incoming Vicar arrived. Steve's commitment to the church community and in particular his and Val's work with children and young people will be much missed, and the church community is most grateful for all their efforts.



*Steve and Val are looking forward to the exciting new challenge in their lives. Steve's institution (installation?) by the Diocesan Bishop of St. Albans will be on 24 September, and his final service at Holy Trinity Church will be on Sunday 4 September. No doubt, our regular congregation members will be there to say good-bye to Steve as he moves to another parish, and to offer our thanks for all his hard work and commitment during his time with us.*

*Judith*

# Anthony Woollard's

## Window on the World

"Just a robust knockabout comedy...?"



Sam Beckett

A few weeks ago, a certain Professor Ronnie Mulryne spoke at the Modern Church conference on Shakespeare and faith. His subject was *King Lear*, of all the Bard's plays surely the most tragic and nihilistic about the human condition, with the constant repetition of the word "Nothing" seeming to offer as little hope as the more recent plays of Samuel Beckett. Hardly fruitful ground for seeing anything of the Christian message. And yet, as he and others pointed out, its brutal realism can prepare us to receive the Gospel, by reminding us that we are broken people who break up the world around us, and that nevertheless, in a tragic figure like Cordelia, there is some possibility of genuine love which somehow breaks the barriers of death.

Whatever our views about Brexit, we can surely see, in Lear's division of his kingdom and the chaos that followed, some reflection of our current age. An age in which both our own nation and the nations of continental Europe are put at risk. An age in which strange political events seem to follow hard on one another, and any certainties we once had no longer seem valid. A less purely gloomy reaction perhaps is found in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, when Puck says "Lord, what fools these mortals be!" Have you found yourself saying that as you read, hear or watch the news?

Other plays, including the *Dream* itself and also *The Tempest* and *Measure for Measure*, were the subjects of other speakers' presentations. Here, the possibility of reconciliation and healing, which is only barely present at the end of *Lear*, comes into much sharper focus. Yet, in most of these plays, such reconciliation is far from certain, and we were reminded how different directors would present the final scenes in ways which rejected that possibility.

And then, here in church, we had *Twelfth Night*. Just a robust knockabout comedy, with mistaken identities, drunken uncles and fools? Hardly. The figure of Malvolio came across as one of tragedy rather than comedy – someone trapped in his own self-importance, who needed to be taken down several pegs, but was brutalised in the process, demanded revenge, and yet was offered reconciliation at the end. Did he accept it? Shakespeare does not say. In our production, he came back on stage at the end, and not simply to take a bow. But he had a choice. And those who called him back into their fellowship could have done so half-heartedly, but in our production they did so with genuine feeling. All the more so, perhaps, because some of them knew that they "were not what they seemed" and only in that great final scene did they discover, to themselves and others, who they really were.

Continued on next page...

Much of this was pointed up in Paul Edmondson's sermon on the Sunday before the play. But Paul – who went from that service to be an outstanding chaplain to the Modern Church conference, as well as contributing his scholarship – would be the first to say that there is no substitute for engaging with a play in performance. Do we then discover in performance who we really are, in ourselves and in relation to our neighbours? And do the latter mean **all** our neighbours including the most unlikely ones – the Good Samaritan in that Sunday's Gospel reading, our political opponents in the referendum and elsewhere, those of different nations and cultures and lifestyles? Shakespeare was very far indeed from being a dogmatic theologian or evangelist, but he challenges us with these questions.



As Lear says, nothing can come of nothing – or so it seems. But as St Paul says, what can come out of an apparent Nothing is new creation. For Britain? For Europe? For ourselves?

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Do try this at Home



## Spring Roast Chicken

8 chicken thighs, on the bone, skin on. 2tbsp olive oil. 1 lemon, zested and cut into wedges. 4 shallots, thickly sliced. 4 rosemary sprigs, small pack tarragon. 450g asparagus spears, trimmed. 2 courgettes, thickly sliced on the diagonal. 250g peas, (preferably fresh, not frozen). 100g feta cheese crumbled.

Heat oven to 200c 180c fan, gas 6.

Put the chicken thighs in a large shallow roasting tin, and toss with the olive oil, lemon zest and wedges, shallots, rosemary and tarragon. Arrange the chicken thighs, skin side up, and roast for 40-50 minutes until the skin is crisp and golden. Meanwhile, bring a large pan of water to the boil and cook the asparagus for 3 mins or until tender, adding the courgettes and peas for the final minute. Drain the vegetables and toss in with the chicken, coating well with the cooking juices. Crumble over the feta and serve.

Ann

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## Trinity Mead Housegroup Bids Farewell to Rachel Saum

On 14<sup>th</sup> July, the Trinity Mead Housegroup gathered together for dinner to express their gratitude and bid farewell to the group's founder, Rachel Saum. Brenda and Paul Lageu explain the background to forming of TMHG:

'Shortly after we moved to Stratford in January 2012 we were asked by Rachel, whom we'd got to know on previous visits and lived a few doors from us, if we would be willing to host a new Housegroup she was setting up. It is difficult to resist Rachel's enthusiasm, when beamed directly at you, so we agreed, with some trepidation (we'd only just moved to Stratford, didn't really know anyone, didn't know anything about Housegroups and Paul had only recently started going to church, after decades in the wilderness!).

At our first meeting, 6 of us came together to study Mark's Gospel because, as Rachel pointed out, it's the shortest Gospel. Initially we didn't know each other and were cautious about what we said. But, with Rachel's encouragement, we quickly started to trust each other and our discussions opened up, to the point where people felt able to talk about their innermost thoughts and feelings, knowing that others in the group would treat these in total confidence.

Since then our group has grown to 10 (not including Rachel) and have studied Galatians, Prayer, Grace and 'Stepping out of the boat'. Paul now leads the group (something neither of us could have envisaged at that first meeting) and we are currently studying Acts (using Tom Wright's 'For Everyone' book as a basis).

Rachel brought together a group of strangers. She leaves behind a group of good friends. We cannot thank her enough for her spiritual leadership, giving us a better understanding of what it means to be a Christian and helping our lives to be changed through God's Love. Our prayers go with her into all her future ministry.'

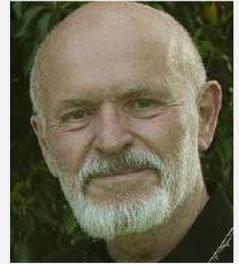
*Paul Lageu*



# A View from the Inside

## Trinity Players' Twelfth Night

Steve Newman



Coming back to Ursula Russell's commemorative production of Twelfth Night, just one week after finishing our London Show (see page 17) and just over a week before opening night, felt like a challenge too far at a time when Shakespeare was everywhere, including prime time television. Would it work? Could it work? Plus could I learn my lines with my head still stuffed full of Samuel Pepys and other 17th century luminaries!

Well it did work, and I did learn my lines too with the help of Daisy Russell, Ursula's granddaughter, whose characterisation of Viola was a wonderful piece of dramatic art that took my breath away. It was a joy and an education to open the show alongside her each night as the Captain.

Only having that opening scene with Daisy in the first half left me plenty of time to read all the commemorative and funeral plaques in the east end of the church as well as watch the performances from a corner behind the set. It dawned on me by the second show that many people lived much longer in the 16th and 17th centuries than I had normally thought, and that I was experiencing a show of extraordinary theatrical quality. We were all part of something a bit special, not least Tim Raistrick's superb yellow-stockinged Malvolio. Tim brought an added dimension of real hurt and damaged emotions to this often glibly played character. It was a triumph of re-invention. Hilary Newman as the maid was pretty good too.



In the second half I played the part of the First Officer with two small scenes, consequently I was able to see the play from the front, and what a difference it made, with the cruel mad cap comings and goings of Tim Guest's brilliant Sir Toby Belch, Margo McCleary's extraordinarily effective Sir Andrew Aguecheek and John Ryder's energetically, yet dark, Feste. This trio really gelled, reminding me of the muddled headed Three Stooges at times.



Wayne Bartlett played Sebastian as a woolly brained young man who had little idea of what was really going on. Well timed acting that was a good counter to the mayhem going on around him.

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Orion Johnson's Olivia was wholly believable and delivered with a warmth, honesty and sensuality that was hugely satisfying. What a good actor she is. Ruthie Copeman's Maria came straight out of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party: very dark, menacing, and quite bonkers. Lovely stuff. Roger Taylor's Priest was a quiet heartbeat of morality and faith in this turbulent play, with a small speech that was pitch perfect.

Richard Sandle-Keynes is an actor of spirit, depth and originality who brought to his interpretation of Orsino, Duke of Illyria, a potency and impatient irritability that was hugely endearing. When Richard was on stage Tony Guy's hugely effective lighting was ever so slightly dimmed by this vibrant actor's brilliance.

Bob Macvie played Antonio with a wearied grace that never lost its instinctiveness and colour. It was good working alongside him too.

All the above were supported well by Helen Warrillow as the Second Officer (always getting tied in knots) and Valentine. Claire Starkie played the other Servant well.



Assistant Director, Chris Cornford, had his knee-knocking moment when, at the last minute, due to illness, he had to step in to play Aguecheek one night with book in hand. Chris triumphed!

The singing of Sarah Cushing, the facility of musicians Angela Farr, Sue Olver, Roxanne Bennis and Jasmin Earnshaw-Brown, brought added warmth and contrast to Ursula Russell's wonderfully conceived production.

But a final mention must go to those who made some of the costumes, notably Jude Methuen, Cilla Burgess, Maggie Mullings and Gay Gott, plus Jill McDowell, Pam Cheshire and Anne Blair who helped dress the cast. Front of House manager Jane Armitage must be congratulated, plus the gang of people who helped move the set.



Photos: John Burgess

A Life in the Week of...  
The Great Fire of London Remembered:  
An Evening with Samuel Pepys  
June 2016



Hilary Newman

Our 'Great Fire' adventure began in early Spring, when Steve received a request (*quite out of the blue!*) to write and perform, over five nights, a play commemorating the 350th anniversary of The Great Fire of London for The Worshipful Company of Bakers, one of the oldest of the City of London's livery companies, and in one of whose baker's shops (*the King's, no less!*) the fire is purported to have begun!

The request came from a former Master of the Bakers who had been given Steve's name by one Steve Jakeman, formerly of Stratford, and now a Methodist Minister in Boston Spa, Yorkshire. And so it all began...

A period of frantic writing followed, as the first draft of the play was required within two weeks, with a concurrent search for someone to take on the role of Samuel Pepys. Having discovered that an acting friend who had moved abroad several years before, had recently returned to Stratford, Steve approached him and he agreed to take up the challenge of the character - we had our Pepys! Next, logistics kicked in, and off to London we went to check out the venue. The Baker's Hall is located in Harp Lane in the City of London, and has been on the same site for over 500 years. The current building was constructed in the 1960s after previous Halls had been destroyed, originally by the Great Fire, and the last time by wartime bombs. It contains three beautiful stained glass windows by John Piper, commemorating the three times the Hall has been razed to the ground. It is also almost opposite All Hallows church, from the tower of which Pepys watched the Fire spread. We were now beginning to become immersed in the world of seventeenth century London! But first, accommodation had to be found and, by a stroke of luck, a very 21<sup>st</sup> century hotel had been recently opened within 50 yds of the Hall – everything, it seemed, was now in place! All that remained was line-learning, months of rehearsal, and five performances in a world that seemed a million miles away from life in Stratford!

Eventually, knees knocking, the time came – no escape now!! The event, the first of many commemorations of the Great Fire, had been advertised throughout the City of London and guests came from many of its livery companies. One request Steve had on the first night was that we mention all the companies represented each night, which of course meant re-writing part of the script every day!! However, as the original request was for a play that 'entertained', the re-writes proved to be highly amusing, and very well received!!

Continued on next page...

Each scene of the play took place between courses of a sumptuous dinner, with Mr and 'Mrs' Pepys played by Steve Devey and Kay Whittaker and their servants, Mr and Mrs Wilkins, played by yours truly and the author. As well as the principal characters and mainly by 'hat change' - sometimes by 'cloak' - several other characters appeared, including King Charles II, Christopher Wren, the Town Cryer, etc, etc! We also had great support for lighting, music and special effects from Tony and Joyce Guy.

Clearly there had to be a serious side to our play, and of course there was. During a 'conversation' with the King, Pepys gave the numbers of buildings destroyed—over thirteen thousand houses, eighty seven parish churches, two prisons and three city gates. In all, forty four livery halls were also destroyed - the Town Cryer's 'Proclamation' mentioning them all! Despite the original blame being laid at the door of Mr Farrynor, the King's baker of Pudding Lane, further blame was attributed to the 'Woodmongers and Coal Sellers' who had stockpiles of fuel on many street corners in the city, and who, as a result, lost their livery status for over three hundred years. They eventually returned to the movement in the latter half of the 20th century as the Worshipful Company of Fuellers—our first audience!!

We couldn't, in our wildest dreams, have asked for better audiences – they were warm, responsive (*more often than not, raucously reactive!*) and utterly charming! Below are some quotes from guests taken from the Bakers website, on which you can read their review of our week – [www.bakers.co.uk/news](http://www.bakers.co.uk/news) – 'Great Fire Dinner Plays - five great nights'.

*"What a fun night: everyone we spoke to voted it a great success"*

*"Everyone enjoyed it and the Bakers made us very welcome"*

*"All the guests enjoyed it"*

*"A simply cracking evening"*

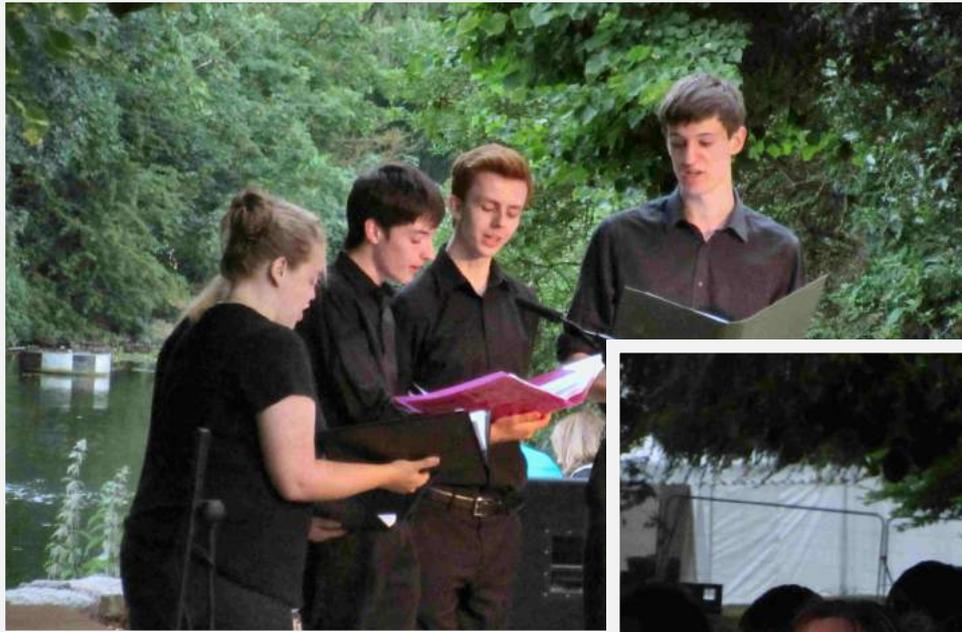
*"What a good night!"*

Our week was one that we will always remember, a week of learning about a world of which we knew nothing at the beginning of the year, and, in the words of a late Stratford RSC actor, Joe Melia, 'I think we got away with it!'

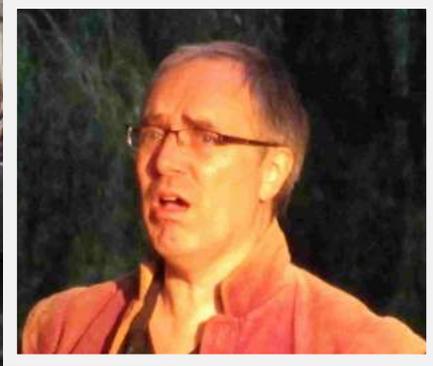
**The play is to be performed at the Dirty Duck as a dinner party play on Sunday evening, 6th November.**



# River Serenade 9th July



Holy Trinity Choir sing  
Purcell's  
***Dido and Aeneas***  
Full Review  
*In September's Trinity Times*



Photos: John Burgess

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di-hibbs@btinternet.com



## Brave The Shave

Abi Chapleo, daughter of Andrea Blood, is having her head  
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If you would like to sponsor her go to

<https://bravetheshave.org/shavers/abigail-chapleo>

## F.A.B

**Faith at Breakfast** is held, for children & young people, at Holy Trinity Parish  
Centre, starting at 9.30am, with croissants and drinks with parents. It finishes  
by joining the Parish Eucharist in Holy Trinity.

Worship, learn and grow with Jesus



# Readings for August Compiled By John Cohen



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

### 7<sup>th</sup> Aug                      11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

| 8.00 & 10.00 am           |                             | 6.00 pm Congregational Evensong |  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Hebrews ch.11 v.1-3, 8-16 | Isaiah ch.11 v.10-end ch.12 | Psalm 108                       |  |
| Luke ch.12 v.32-40        | 2 Corinthians ch.1 v.1-22   |                                 |  |

### 14<sup>th</sup> Aug                      12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

| 8.00 & 10.00 am              |                          | 6.00 pm Congregational Evensong |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Hebrews ch.11 v.29-ch.12 v.2 | Isaiah ch.28 v.9-22      | Psalm 119 v.17-24               |  |
| Luke ch.12 v.49-56           | 2 Corinthians ch.8 v.1-9 |                                 |  |

### 21<sup>st</sup> Aug                      13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after trinity

| 8.00 & 10.00 am        |                     | 6.00 pm Congregational Evensong |  |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Hebrews ch.12 v.18-end | Isaiah ch.30 v.8-21 | Psalm 119 v.49-56               |  |
| Luke ch.13 v.10-17     | 2 Corinthians ch.9  |                                 |  |

### 28<sup>th</sup> Aug                      14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

| 8.00 [10.00 am TBA]        |                            | 6.00 pm BCP Communion |  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Hebrews ch.13 v.1-8, 15-16 | Hebrews ch.13 v.1-8, 15-16 |                       |  |
| Luke ch.14 v.7-14          | Luke ch.14 v.7-14          |                       |  |

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## Click & Chatter

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

### SOLUTION TO GARDEN CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Blackthorn 9 Ormolu 10 Bluebell 11 Paradise 12 Eden 13 Reprising 15 Mattock  
17 Banksia 20 Inexplicit 21 Toad 23 Elongate 25 Loitered 26 Sparse 27 Annoyances

DOWN 2 Lulled 3 Chestnut 4 Theatrical 5 Oil pipe 6 Black 7 Modifies 8 Our England 12 Elm Disease 14 Elasticity 16 Teetotal 18  
Kathleen 19 Echelon 22 Apiece 24 Area





With the sudden emergence of something resembling summer I thought I would address this fact by providing a guide to some of the great and noble institutions of hot weather.

### **Shorts**

Shorts, to those who are not entirely 'in the loop' in the field of comfortable legwear, are very similar to another institution of the world of legs – trousers. Like shorts, trousers generally begin at the waist and continue down each of the legs – not up – before ending around the ankle. This, crucially, is where the similarities between trousers and shorts end. For shorts, it must be noted, are very much like trousers in every respect apart from the fact that they end much sooner – around the knees. Here lies the main difference between shorts and trousers. Owing to this difference in length, the bright sparks among you will have noticed that the shortness of shorts provides an explanation for the name 'shorts'. It is an entirely descriptive name and a good example of clear labelling.

### **Camels**

Do not be alarmed, there are currently no camels roaming the hills, cities, towns, beaches and supermarkets of England, at least I don't think there are. However if you do see a camel in your local branch of Marks and Spencer remember these complex creatures only eat two-tone cardigans and ready-cooked chickens. But I do urge that you approach them with caution and a sense of decorum, plus a big toothy smile.

### **The Sky**

In hotter times we can expect the sky to be rather bluer than we are used to, with the possible addition of some nice, white clouds. That's what we can expect. However, do not be too disappointed when you look out of your window and see a cold, white sky bereft of colour and joy – this is England after all.



**The Sun** Is not just a newspaper.



### **Sir Paul McCartney**

When hot weather strikes, people are all too ready to go outside and enjoy themselves. It is highly likely that one such person will be Sir Paul McCartney. If you see Sir Paul when you go out to take in the Sun's rays, why not approach him and say hello? It might be worth complimenting his impressive music career too – it's amazing where a compliment can lead, as I often say to my friend Elton.

*There you have it – my guide to summer. Please use responsibly.*



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Saturday 20th August

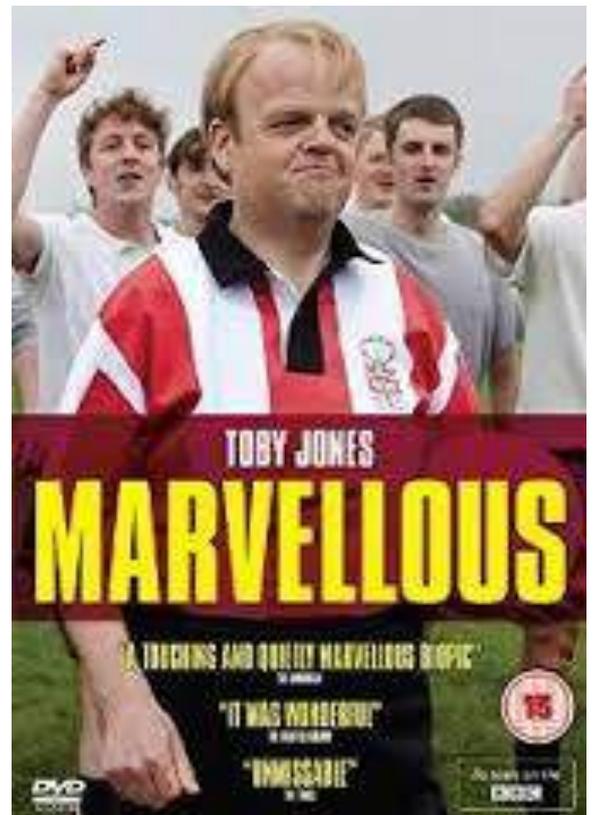
10am—12 Noon

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Sunday 21st August at 7.30pm

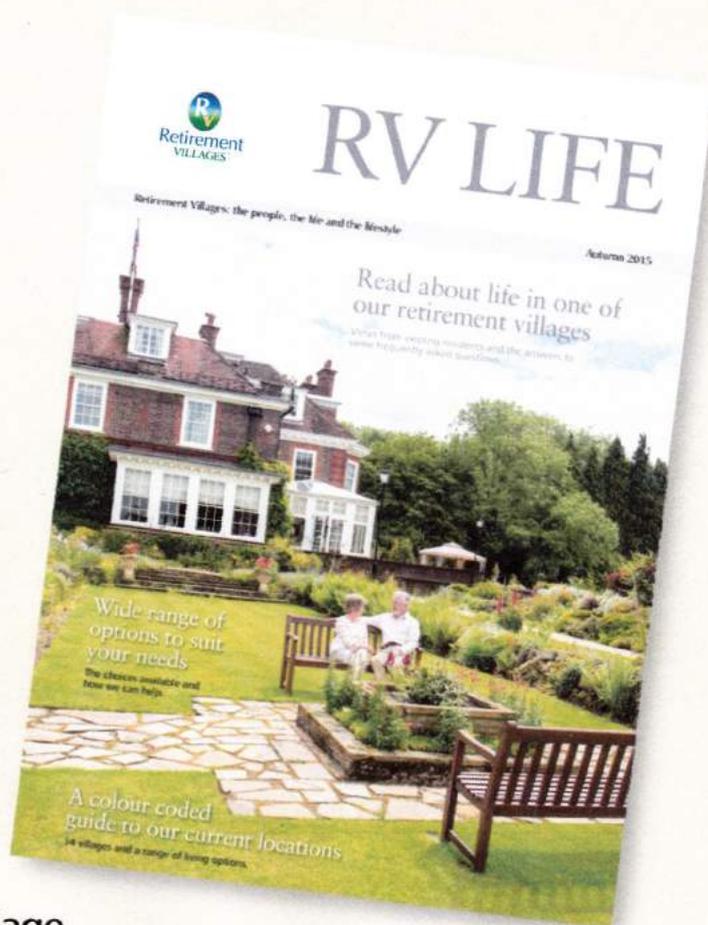
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# HOWLERS!



Compiled by Pat Pilton

*From The Times:* **A VICAR** is asking his congregation to donate hair to prop up the walls of his Saxon church, Holy Trinity in Dartford, Kent. The church received a £163,000 donation from the Heritage Lottery Fund but the Revd Martin Henwood still needs to raise £45,000 and wants to keep costs down by reviving an ancient tradition of mixing human hair into mortar. Donations are being kept in the vestry. *Now there's an idea for Patrick and the Friends!*

**Seen in the *Scottish Sunday Post*. Alastair and his team laid the fireplace in the hall with recovered scones."**

*Daily Mail*

*From the M&S Lunch to You website:* Our traditional menu consists of classic mini roll platter, sandwich selection, kitsch selection and traditional fruit basket. Please note the fruit basket is not available in Scotland. *Radio 4's News Quiz*

**Notice spotted in a children's centre in Cottingham, East Yorkshire: "Finding My Feet session will not be running during the Easter holidays."**

*News Quiz*

A former German intelligence employee has said that he started spying for the United States because he felt underappreciated and not sufficiently challenged in his job. "No one trusted me with anything," he said. *The Guardian*

Spotted in the Pets for Sale section of local newspaper by *Daily Mail* reader Duncan Smith: "Large dog for sale. Eats anything. Loves children."

**Correction: In a caption in last night's *Evening Gazette*, Dorothy Duffney, conductor of the Cleveland Musical Society, was described as Mrs Vera Beadle. She is, of course, Mrs. K Atkinson of Hartburn Lane, Stockton.**

*Private Eye*



"Standing up for the National Anthem in the middle of the sermon was a bit of a giveaway that you were watching the Olympics on your iPhone!"  
*Parishpump.co.uk*



Standing in the park, I was wondering why a Frisbee gets larger the closer it gets. Then it hit me.

*Stewart Francis*

**A watched microwave never dings**

A lorry load of tortoises crashed into a train load of terrapins. I thought, that's a turtle disaster.

*Tommy Cooper*

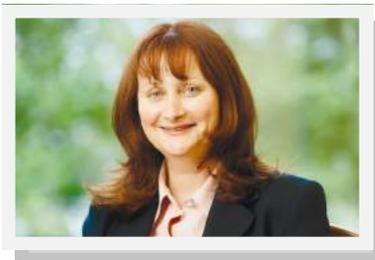
*"Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe."*

*St Augustine*



# St Helen's Clifford Chambers

Pauline Newbury Writes...



## We're reaching out to the community!!

A meeting focussing on St Helen's vision proved to be popular with both the team and congregation. Revd. Canon Barbara Clutton, the Rural Affairs Advisor and Agricultural Chaplain, facilitated the meeting and some great ideas were generated.

Patrick's comment that 'gone are the days when the Wardens would set up for a service and then sit back and wait for the congregation to arrive have gone' struck a chord with us all and made us sit up and take note that we need to take action.

We therefore agreed that our first action is to divide the Parish of Clifford Chambers into sections and invite people to become 'Champions of St Helen's' and 'reach-out' to those around them. This will ensure that all newcomers to Clifford Chambers will receive a visit from a representative of St Helens and be presented with a copy of 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.

This is a very exciting initiative for St Helen's and very new to us all - we have already received an offer of support from a member of the PCC which we are grateful for. If you would like to get involved/offer support and/or advice, please contact a member of the Helen's team.

We are also grateful to a village resident who has pledged to support St Helen's financially to set up a 'Friends of St Helen's'. We are currently looking for volunteers to take ownership of this.

A flyer announcing these ideas will be delivered to everyone in the parish of Clifford Chambers during August.

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# All Saints' Luddington

Jane Beeley Writes...

Great Films and a Lick of Paint...



Steve Bate's last service at All Saints' will be the last Sunday in August when we will say our farewells. Alison Higgins and Teresa Kristunas attended the SPB seminar Faith in Maintenance Course at Budbrooke and we are very pleased to have a new member of the Team, Rosalind Winter, who brings a lot of experience with her. The churchyard is being well maintained by Linda Rowberry and Mr. Rudge also comes and looks after the strimming and has re-seeded the west side of the Churchyard which looks much tidier now.

Our Harvest Festival will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> September at 11.00 a.m. when we will welcome the choir. It will be followed by lunch in the Village Hall.

The Luddington Village Fete was a great success. Our thanks to all who helped and attended. The next Luddington Fund Event is the Flower Show on Sunday 14 August in the Luddington Village Hall. Entries to the Luddington Village Hall between 9am and 11:30am. Show 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

The Village Hall reports that LudFlicks Film Club is growing, the films are popular and well attended. The August Film Night is on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August and will be a comedy with a summer theme for all the family. Come along and join us – new members will be made very welcome and you can bring your own picnic and popcorn!

The Ladies Pamper Evening in September has been re-scheduled from Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September to **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30 pm**. Further details to follow.

Please ring Sue Brayshay on 01789 750674 or 07969 697063 for Village Hall event information.

During early summer the Hall and entrance porch were given a 'lick of paint' and the car park also tidied up. It is looking very fresh and smart and a perfect venue for family events and/or children's birthday parties. The cinema equipment is also available to our hirers for a flat fee of £10 per event. Please consider LVH for your next celebration!

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# A Review of The RSC's Production of The Alchemist

Jane Taylor

To come second is a bitter sweet achievement. The silver medal is very, very good but the gold medal is the coveted, longed for prize. Gold signifies dominance, splendour, magnificence and gains entry into the pantheon.

When Ben Johnson is described as the greatest English dramatist, after Shakespeare, he is placed on the silver medal podium and yet, of all the men of his time, he above all truly affected the course of English literature. He adopted and perfected the dramatic form known as "Comedy of Humours" and in doing so he laid the foundations for the great English tradition of satire. He set his plays in the present, the here and now, which for him was Elizabethan/Jacobean London.

I saw *The Alchemist* for the first time at the Swan Theatre last month and was immediately struck by how modern the play feels. I could see where an East London soap opera or a "kitchen sink drama" might have had its roots. Ben Johnson drew ironic portraits, caricatures, of the real people that he met in the seething melting pot that was the London of his day.

The Civil War was followed by Cromwell's repressive regime but the subsequent Restoration saw English theatre rise like a phoenix and Johnson's "Comedy of Humours" was reborn as the "Comedy of Manners". Satire, and our ability to laugh at ourselves, lived on.

In *The Alchemist* there are three main characters, all of them tricksters and con merchants. Master Lovewit has gone away from the city because of the plague and leaves his butler, mild mannered Jeremy, in charge of the house. Jeremy, however, is known to his nefarious associates as Face (how modern that sounds) and he invites Subtle, a swindler posing as an alchemist, and Dol Common, a prostitute to join him in the house.

A parade of gullible people then passes through. Each one is hoping to acquire a large amount of gold with the minimum of effort. Dapper is a clerk who wants success in gambling. Sir Epicure Mammon wants the philosopher's stone which not only brings riches but also promises eternal youth. Druggier is a dopey tobacconist who wants help to make his business more profitable. A duo of Puritans from Amsterdam hope to counterfeit Dutch gold. The fact that this saintly pair are just as money grabbing as the rest is part of Johnson's ironic jest. This pair of religionists wink at moral considerations when Subtle claims to be close to producing the philosopher's stone. Johnson hated Puritans because they wanted to close the theatres. An angry young man called Kastril is the only one who is not after wealth. He wants to learn how to dispute (fight) but he brings with him his sister, Dame Pliant, a wealthy widow who makes all the men's eyes light up with avaricious desire.



Continued from previous page

The action builds into a rapidly moving farce in which the clients have to be kept in separate rooms of the house or else made to react with each other in some pretty daft ways. The biggest explosion I have ever heard on or off the stage signalled that the alchemist's subterranean laboratory had blown up and most of the shenanigans had to come to an end.

When Lovewit suddenly returns Jeremy/Face manages to get rid of everyone from the house, keep all profits for himself, and restore himself in his master's favour. He placates his master by acquiring for him the hand of Dame Pliant. The arch villain wins all.

Johnson must have believed that the greedy money grabbing victims had only themselves to blame because they all left in a poorer state than when they arrived.

The set was simple. A pair of long heavy curtains formed the backdrop with a gap through which Dol could view the street and report on which character was calling at the door. Quite often panic would ensue from this. The only other notable item of scenery was a huge stuffed crocodile (or alligator) hanging over centre stage which could be lowered and raised by a pulley. This was used to store the ill- gotten gains which were stuffed into its gaping jaws.

The cast performed with gusto and superb comic timing. Each character was thoroughly engaging and well portrayed. The costumes, accents and mannerisms were often silly but never unbelievable and the plot was moved along with an underlying sense of urgency which was never allowed to become hysterical. We were sitting at the side of the stage again but this time diction was good and we could hear every word. The young actor, Ken Nwosu, gave an incredible performance as Face and I am sure that we will be seeing a lot more of him in the future.

*Jane*



Photo: Stratford Herald

# THE ARTISTS AMONG US

David Ellis



Five members of Holy Trinity Church belong to the Stratford upon Avon Art Society which is holding its 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition in King Edward VI School, 13<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August. No doubt there are also others in our midst who painting. The society has a membership of 300 with a waiting list. Apart from the exhibition of several hundred paintings the society holds regular monthly meetings including artist's demonstrations and competitions. Also there are workshops, painting days and coach trips to galleries and places of interest.

Art has had a chequered history in the Church. On the one hand there is the commandment against making images and on the other the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit inspired craftsmen to adorn the tabernacle in the wilderness and scripture is full of graphic imagery, especially in the psalms and the parables. It is the idolising of images for themselves that is condemned rather than what they point to and inspire. Following the iconoclasm of the Puritans, stained glass artistry was soon restored to the beauty seen at Holy Trinity Church, and at present we are staging a painting exhibition on 'The Seven Ages of Man'.

Having enjoyed art at school I returned to it in mid-life and benefited greatly from the retired art teacher from a local grammar school. She opened my eyes in a fresh way to perspective, composition and the interplay of shape and colour. But above all I became more aware of the detail of God's intricate world. Art is an undeniable aid to contemplation. In 1987 I established an art exhibition at St Andrew's Church, Greystoke, held every Spring and August bank holiday which has developed into the largest exhibition of amateur art in Cumbria. I prefer to use acrylics, not least because one can easily rectify mistakes. Last year my painting of 'Sheep and Shadows' at the Stratford exhibition led to commissions to paint several pets in Wellesbourne!

**Miriam Dow** works in watercolour. She enjoys the detail of botanical painting and the challenge to produce a result which looks as much like the real thing as possible. For some years she has been helped by a professional watercolour artist who paints in a similar vein.



**David Renfrew** finds painting both challenging and absorbing. Time at his art bench races by. He used to work mainly in oils and still loves the smell! He now works more in acrylics and watercolour, inspired by travel scenes - colourful markets, alleyways, doorways and buildings, finding light, shadow and movement all very challenging.

Continued on next page...

**Paul Talbot's** first dabble with watercolours was when he bought a small travel pallet some years ago. Since then he has worked in pastels, charcoal and gouache but watercolour remains his favourite. He enjoys painting buildings and landscapes. He much prefers the company of other artists to working in isolation. The Art Society fits that bill. Last year Paul looked through his paintings to see what he could donate to a retirement home in Solihull, but Veronica took a shine to three and insisted they should keep those for themselves! 'They always look better when you haven't seen them for some time. There is also something gratifying in mounting and framing your own work and seeing them on display, more especially when it's someone else's.'



**Graham Poole** is an accountant turned artist - watercolours, acrylics, pastels, pencils, inks, mixed media; everything bar painting with numbers. His financial background is evidenced in his artwork of trees with shredded money for leaves. He has eclectic tastes - landscapes, portraits, animals, birds, abstracts, fantasy. He has been a member of the Art Society for some years and is also Chairman of the town's Studio Arts Club. He has belonged to the Society for some years, and takes a keen interest in the monthly demonstrations which are held in the Methodist Church Hall, often busy with his camera in recording the progress of the build-up of the visiting artist's picture.

Do drop into this year's exhibition. It's free. It attracts over 5,000 visitors. I think you will find it absorbing and spiritually inspiring. A catalogue costing 50p lists all the artists and their displayed work.



David Ellis

See next page...



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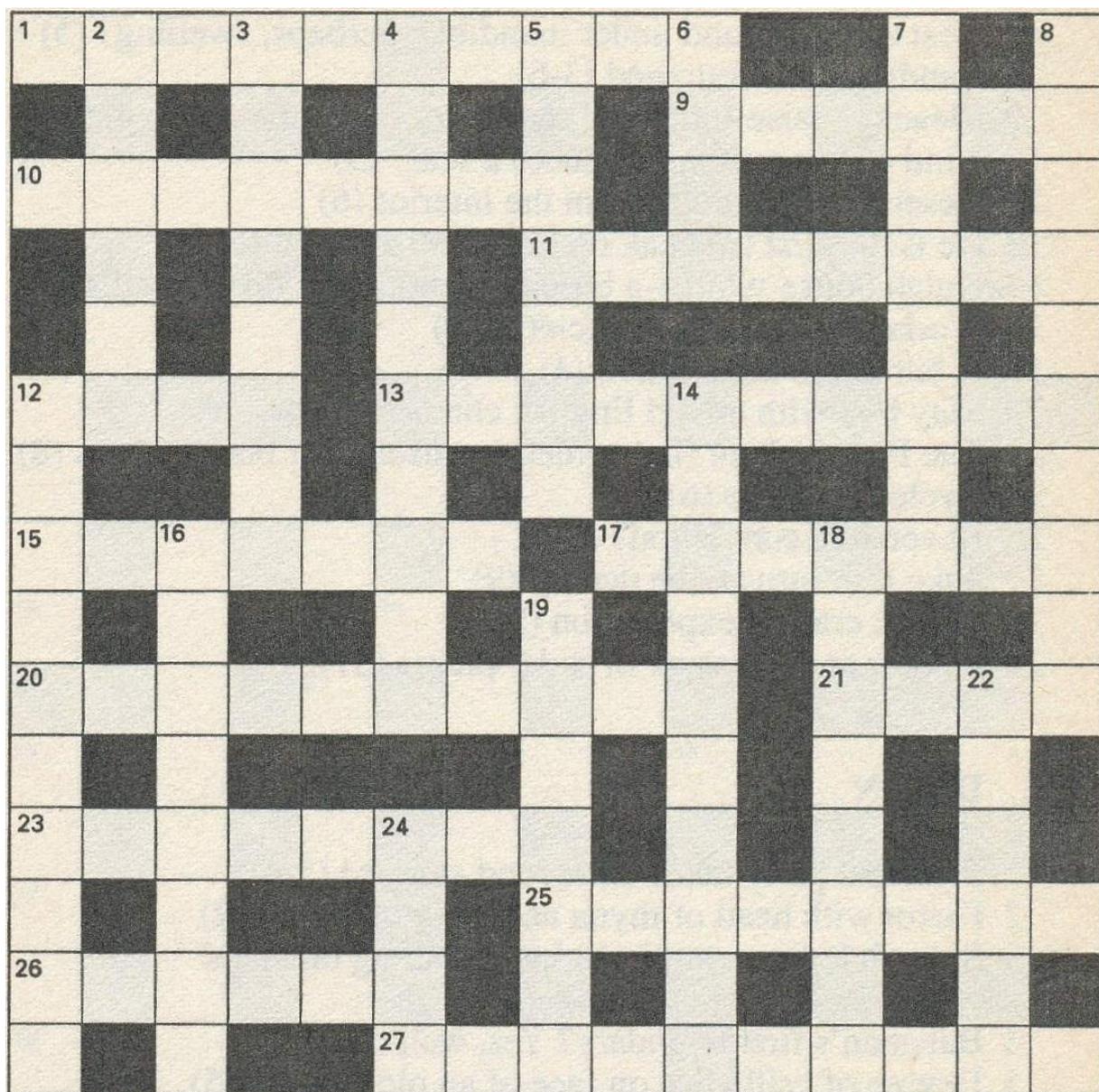
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## A GARDEN CROSSWORD



**ACROSS** 1 Spiky shrub with dark bark (10) 9 Gilt metallic ware of posh vase (7) 10 Spring flower (8)

11 Last garden (8) 12 First garden (4) 13 Keeping weeds down (10) 15 Small pickaxe (7)

17 Australian wild flowers named after botanist Sir Joseph Banks (7) 20 Not well defined (9) 21 Contemptible person sometimes found in the garden(4) 23 What cucumbers do (8) 25 Lingered (8) 26 Like grass on a poor lawn (6) 27 Picnic wasps and flies for example (10)

**DOWN** 2 Sent to sleep in a hammock (6) 3 The blacksmith's tree (8) 4 Showy (10)

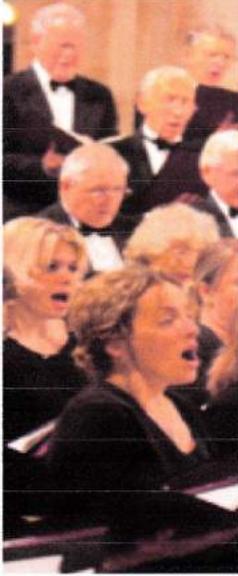
5 Conveyer of lubricants (3,4) 6 Black (4) 7 Treats a plant genetically (8)

8 Claimed by us English people (3, 6) 12 Dire threat to trees (3, 7) 14 Springiness (10)

16 No garden tippie (8) 18 Lady to be taken home again (8) 19 Stepwise planting arrangement? (7)

22 How much ----- are these plants? (6) 24 Space occupied e.g.by a garden (4)

Compiled by Revd David Ellis



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# From the July Registers...



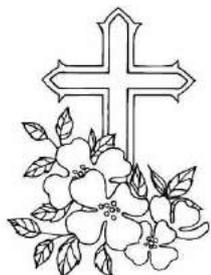
## Baptisms

July 17th  
24th

Nell Olive Wheeler  
Charles and Frederick Nicholls

- July 2nd David Stirrup and Kerri Anderson  
Wesley Seaman and Katherine Cossentine  
9th Robin Hirons and Eleanor Rowley  
16th Edward Langston and Sophie Casey-  
Michelson  
22nd Jordan Hooper and Annabel Guest  
23rd Shaun Bate and Ellen Wild  
23rd Neil Monks and Gemma Scruby  
30th Shea Hunt and Leah Andrews

## Weddings



## Funerals

July 8th Christine Murphy (*Act of Remembrance*)  
18th Stanley Maurice Hill (*Clifford Chambers*)



Photo: Harry Lomax

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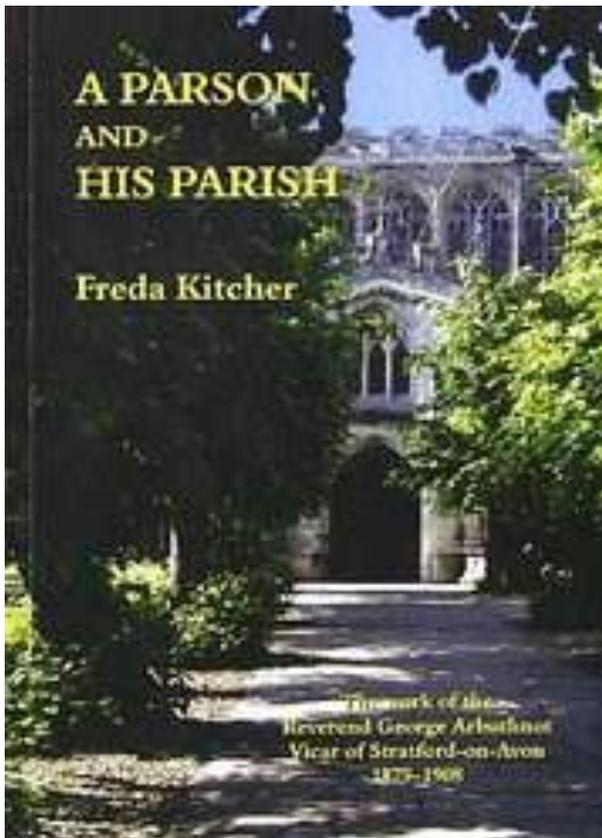
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# In The September Issue of Trinity Times

A new occasional series—Where Are They Now?



Martin Gorick up-dates us...



We start a part serialisation of the late Freda Kitcher's book  
*A Parson and His Parish*

## A profile of Irish artist Eve Parnell

Eve used to live and work in Stratford, with her work often exhibited in the town. Her last exhibition was at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast



## Trinity Tots

For the under 5s



Trinity Tots meets every Thursday at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre Hall during term time. We need more volunteers. If you can help please contact Steve or Val Bate on 01789 299195

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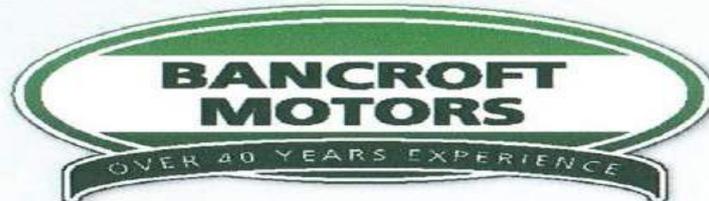
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Sun 10am—5pm

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# Mike Baker



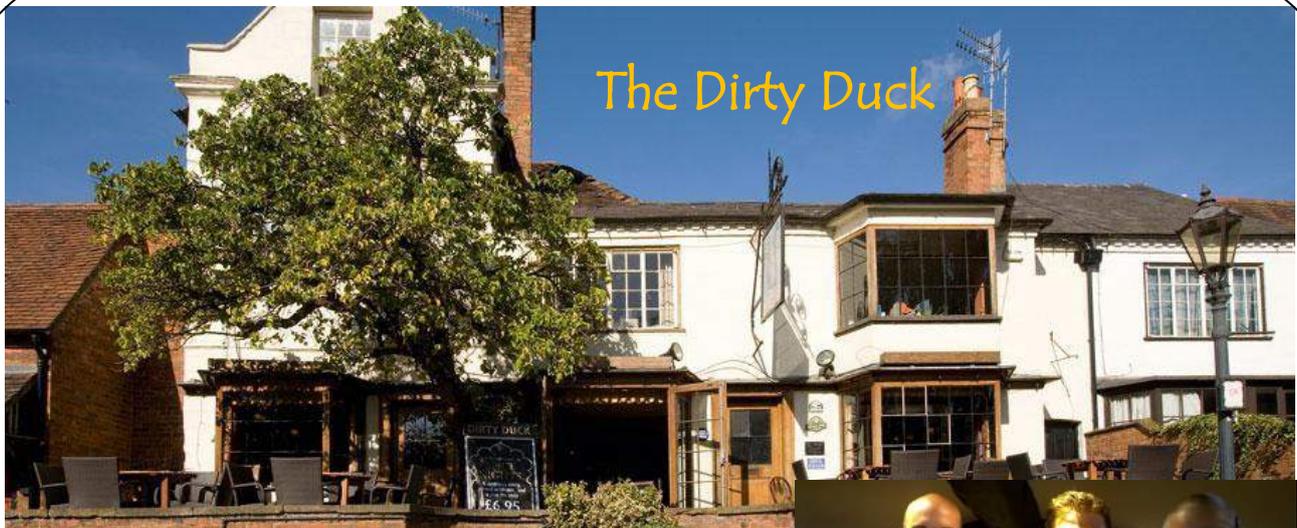
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# Parish Contacts:

The Parish Office, Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BG

Email: office@stratford-upon-avon.org; Tel: 01789 266316

***New to the Parish? Contact the Welcome Team via the Parish Office***

## ***Clergy & Ministry Team***

|                              |                           |              |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Vicar                        | The Revd Patrick Taylor   | 01789 508155 |
| Associate Vicar              | The Revd Dr Stephen Bate  | 01789 299195 |
| Curate                       | The Revd Nicki Chatterton | 07769871237  |
| Reader                       | Mike Milburn              | 01789 262264 |
| Children & Families Minister | Phil Harper               | 01789 266316 |



## **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

***Verger*** - Nigel Penn 01789 266316

***Parish Manager*** - Linda MacDermott - 266316

***Parish Secretaries*** - Sue Holt; Helen Holland

***Bookkeeper*** - Wendy Steinheimer - 266316

***Gift Shop*** - Heather White - 268484

## ***Church Wardens***

Hilda Craig - 01789 551234

Lynne Bunker - 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

01789 263966

***Friends of Shakespeare's Church***

Ronnie Mulryne 01789 205774

***Holy Trinity in the Community*** Mike Milburn

01789 262264

***Lay Chaplains & Parish Prayer Diary***

Andrea Blood 01789 266825

***PCC Secretary*** Miriam Dow

01789 417852

***PCC Treasurer*** Anthony Woollard

01789 204923

***Home Groups*** The Revd Dr Steve Bate

01789 299195

***Home Communion*** The Revd Nicki Chatterton

07769 871237

***Stewardship Officer*** Chris Kennedy

01789 299785

***Trinity Players*** Ursula Russell

01789 204923

***Trinity Tots*** Val & Steve Bate

01789 299195

***Pastoral Contact Co-ordinator*** Gillian Nunn

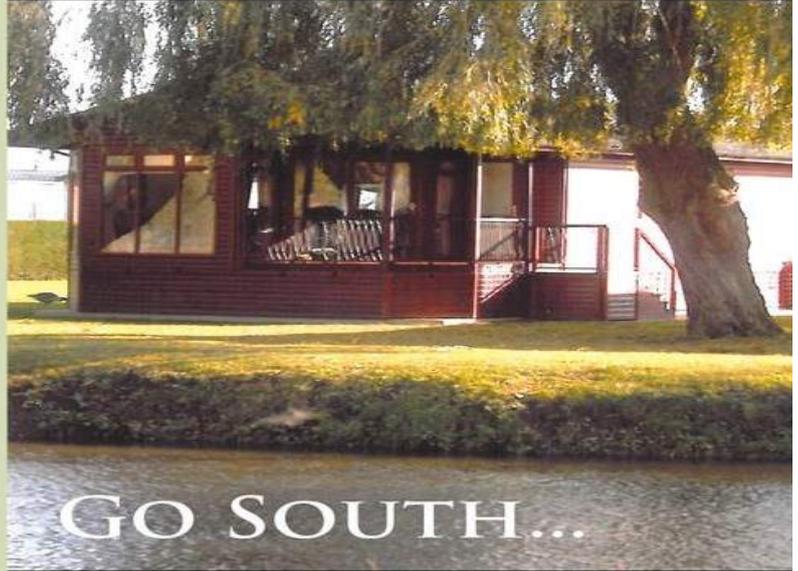
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***Welcome Team***— Helen Warrillow 01789 298928



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