

MARCH  
2017

# TRINITY TIMES

£1



Photo: Harry Lomax

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## THE PARISH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

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Read Judith Dorricott's interview with  
Rowan Stewart-MacDonald  
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The Revd. Kay Dyer shares some reflections on  
her time on placement with us. Page 4

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Reader



Phil Harper  
Children & Families Minister



## Kay Writes...



Holy Trinity Church to me, is like an oasis of prayer in what can seem like an increasingly secular world. I am sure there are many Christians living and working in Stratford-upon-Avon, and the numerous churches in the town are a testimony to the living faith in God in this area, but I find St. Peter's Chapel right in the centre of the church to be a unique place of prayer and worship. The saying of the daily office of morning prayer at 9.15am and evening prayer at 4.15pm (3.30pm on Fridays) enables those working there or visiting during those times to reconnect with God however busy they become during the working day. Also, the daily reading from the King James Bible ensures that scripture remains central to people's lives, even if they are just passing through to see Shakespeare's grave.

Jesus regularly started his day with prayer, finding a quiet place away from the crowds where he could be with his father God. Countless Christians down the centuries have found having a rhythm of prayer a way of coping with the pressures of daily life and the problems that inevitably crop up when living in families or communities. Very many people have also rediscovered the value in having a rule of life, where prayer, quiet days and retreats feature at regular intervals even when they are busy caring for their families or have demanding work commitments. The Growing Together programme at Holy Trinity can help one to learn more about being a modern-day disciple of Jesus and enables new Christians to discover the richness of the Christian faith.

The other aspect that I noticed when I first arrived at Holy Trinity was how thoughtfully and carefully the regular services, also baptisms, weddings and funerals, co-exist with the demands of tourists visiting the church. Where I thought this might have been a cause of tension, I soon realised how lucky we are at Holy Trinity to have a constant stream of non-Christians to greet and show God's love to. Both Bishops in the Coventry Diocese have recently alerted clergy and readers about the dangers of spending so much time keeping the churches buildings fit for use and looking after existing Christians, that there is little time left to meet those who might be open to exploring the Christian faith for themselves.

The vergers, shop staff, Lay Chaplains and many others who keep the church open and looking welcoming, are a wonderful example of the natural interface that we have with visitors to Holy Trinity. They patiently answer people's questions and are always willing to speak about the living faith that can be seen in the building, the scripture references that permeate Shakespeare's works and the faith of those who worship in the church today.

If you have not visited for a while, it is well worth having a fresh look at the beauty of the church and considering how you might be able to bring a new closeness to God in your prayers.

*Kay Dyer—Curate on Placement*

# Worship Notes For March



Lent has been very late coming this year but begins, conveniently, on the first day of this month. All three churches in the Parish have now completed the “8 Essential Qualities” survey and although, as you would expect, the results vary between them, a common overall theme has emerged. This is the need for us to grow into a deeper and more confident faith. Lent is a good time to attend to this through our worship, reading the bible and making connections between our faith and experiences in everyday life. So why not make a special effort this Lent to come to one of the Ash Wednesday services (see below), use daily bible reading notes (available from Holy Trinity shop) and come to our Lent course (see page 23)

**Ash Wednesday 1st March**—we receive the sign of the cross in ash as a reminder of our dependence on God’s grace at the start of our Lenten journey.

**10am Said Eucharist (Guild Chapel)**

**7.30pm Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) - with the imposition of ashes**

**Monday evening Holy Communion during Lent.** 7.30pm in St. Peter’s Chapel on 6th, 13th, 20th (St. Joseph’s day) and 27th March.

## Stations of the Cross

7.30pm Thursdays 9th and 23rd March

A reflective service in which we consider the relevance to us of each stage in the experience of Jesus from being condemned to death to being laid in the tomb.

**Mothering Sunday, 26th March**      **Note: clocks go forward!**

The 10am service at Holy Trinity will be a special All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday which will also be a farewell to our curate, Nicki Chatterton and her husband Adrian.

**Changes to the arrival of FAB during the Parish Eucharist.** Following feedback from the families and a review of arrangements, we have decided that instead of FAB trying to make it over to the church building *before* the start of the distribution, they will now make their way over *during* Communion. This will mean they are under less pressure of time in the Parish Centre and allows us to be more flexible about when they come across.



Patrick



# Phil Harper's Page

## Celebrating Mothers this March



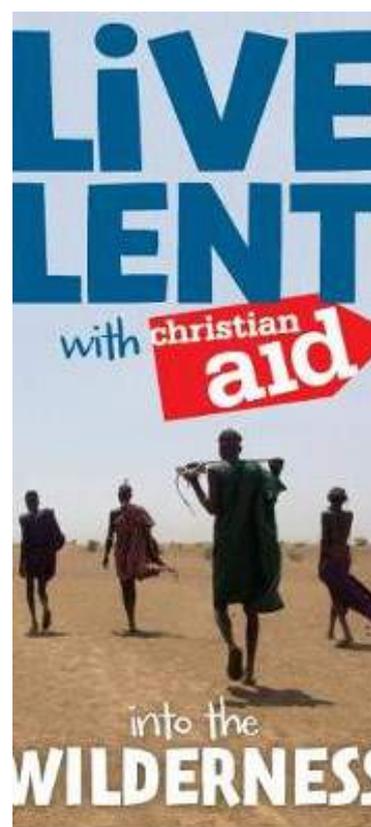
This month we've two services to celebrate mothers, and the important women in our lives. The first service is our Holy Trinity@Rosebird service on **19<sup>th</sup> March** when we'll be looking ahead and preparing for Mothering Sunday.

From 19<sup>th</sup> March we've a **new start time** for the Holy Trinity@Rosebird Service. We'll be serving breakfast from 9:30am and our lively service begins at **10:00am**. So hopefully we'll all get an extra half hour in bed!

On Mothering Sunday itself **26<sup>th</sup> March** at 10:00am we've a special All-Age Communion Service in Holy Trinity Church. An opportunity to worship as one church family in a fun and lively way, with a free posy of flowers for all the ladies. (There won't be a FAB service that day in the Parish centre) Don't forget that British Summer Time begins on that Sunday, so unfortunately an hour less in bed!

### Journey through Lent.

If you're looking for something different to do this Lent, rather than giving something up, why not take something up? A great resource to support this is **Live Lent**. You may have previously used *Love Life*, *Live Lent* but this new book is partnered with Christian Aid. For each day of Lent it has a Bible reading, a thought about something you could do to make a positive impact in your life or the lives of others and details of the work of Christian Aid. It's available from Holy Trinity bookshop priced £2.50 and is great for families or individuals journeying through Lent.



**Thank God for Mums!**

*Phil*

# Whole Parish Away Weekend

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The Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove

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*There will be a full programme for children and lots of opportunities for quiet reflection and/or more energetic outdoor activities!*

*Patrick*

Hothorpe Hall, a Christian Hotel in Leicestershire, has en-suite accommodation with Freeview TV, free wi-fi and a fully licensed lounge bar. The extensive grounds have a multi-use outdoor games area as well as children's adventure apparatus. Further details of the hotel can be found at [www.hothorpe.co.uk](http://www.hothorpe.co.uk).

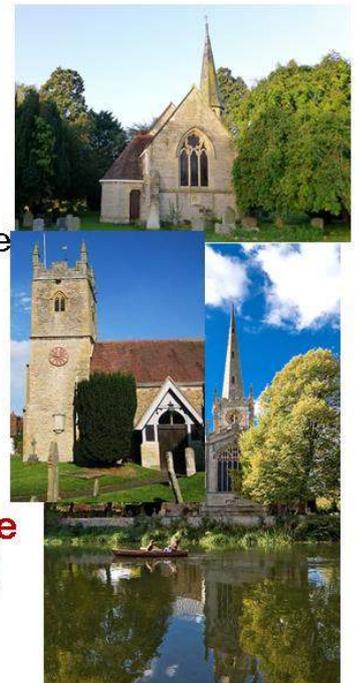
The full weekend cost per person will be:

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Booking Forms are available at the back of church.

**A deposit of £50 per adult will be required at the time of booking to secure your place—rooms are booking up fast!**

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# *Worship in March*



## **SUNDAY March 5th Holy Trinity *1st Sunday of Lent***

**8.00am Holy Communion**—with Revd. Kay Dyer

**10.00am Parish Eucharist**— Preacher Revd. Kay Dyer

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

**6.00pm Choral** —with Revd. Canon Andrew Dow

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

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

## **SUNDAY March 12th Holy Trinity *2nd Sunday of Lent***

**8.00am Holy Communion**—with Revd. Canon Andrew Dow

**10.00am Parish Eucharist**—Revd. Canon Andrew Dow

**6.00pm Evensong**—Revd. Patrick Taylor

**St. Helen's Clifford Chambers** 9.15am Holy Communion—Revd. Jenny Rowland

**All Saints' Luddington** 9.15am Holy Communion—with Revd. Patrick Taylor  
Luddington Service followed by AGM

## **SUNDAY March 19th Holy Trinity *3rd Sunday of Lent***

**8.00am Holy Communion**—with Revd. Patrick Taylor

**10.00am Parish Eucharist**—Preacher Revd. Patrick Taylor

**6.00pm Choral**—Revd. Kay Dyer

**9.30am Holy Trinity@Rosebird**—with Revd. Patrick Taylor

**Parish Centre** 10.00 am—FAB—Revd. Kay Dyer

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

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

## **SUNDAY March 26th *Mothering Sunday & 4th Sunday of Lent***

**8.00am Holy Communion**—with Revd. Kay Dyer

**10.00am All Age Service & Farewell to Nicki**—Revd. Nicki Chatterton

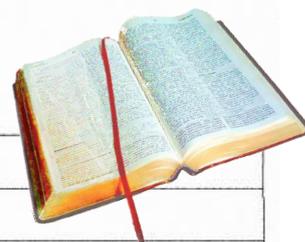
**6.00pm Holy Communion BCP**, with Compline—Revd. Canon Andrew Dow

**Parish Centre** No Service

**St. Helen's Clifford Chambers** 9.15am Holy Communion Trad—Revd. Graham Wilcox

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

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



### 1<sup>st</sup> March                      Ash Wednesday

7.30 pm Holy Communion with the imposition of ashes	
2 Corinthians ch.5 v.20b-ch.6 v.10	
Matthew ch.6 v.1-6, 16-21	

### 5<sup>th</sup> March                      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Choral Evensong
Romans ch.5 v.12-19	Jeremiah ch.18 v.1-11
Matthew ch.4 v.1-11	Luke ch.18 v.9-14

### 12<sup>th</sup> March                      2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Evensong
Romans ch.4 v.1-5,13-17	Numbers ch.21 v.4-9
John ch.3 v.1-17	Luke ch.14 v.27-33

### 19<sup>th</sup> March                      3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

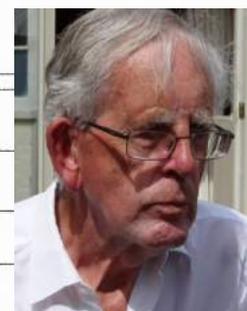
8.00 & 10.00 am	6.00 pm Choral Evensong
Romans ch.5 v.1-11	Joshua ch.1 v.1-9
John ch.4 v.5-42	Ephesians ch.6 v.10-20

### 26<sup>th</sup> March                      4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday

8.00 am [10.00 TBA]	6.00 pm BCP Communion
Ephesians ch.5 v.8-14	Ephesians ch.5 v.8-14
John ch.9	John ch.9

### Holy Communion Mondays 7.30pm during Lent

<b>6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Leviticus ch. 19 v.1-2, 11-18.	Matthew ch.25 v.31-end
<b>13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Daniel ch.9.v.4 – 10.	Luke ch.6 v.36 - 38
<b>20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	TBA	
<b>27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Isaiah ch.65 v.17 – 21.	John ch.4 v.43 - end



## Friends of the Music AGM—A New Chair



Musicologist, Holy Trinity Choir member and regular *Soundbites* performer, Rohan Stewart-MacDonald is the new Chair of the Friends of the Music. He succeeds Jane Hornby who has completed her five years at the helm and stood down at the Annual General Meeting on January 29.

Rohan returned to Stratford-upon-Avon in 2014 after twenty six years away and said it was an “enormous privilege”

to have been elected as Chair of an organisation for which he has a very high personal regard. “For those of you who don’t know me, I am a local, full-time musician, working as an academic researcher, a keyboard player and a choral singer. Consequently, I am extremely committed to music in Stratford and eager to contribute to it as comprehensively as possible, as a performer and also, now, as a member of the Friends’ committee.”

Jane said the current committee, under the music direction of Andrew Henderson, followed by Clive Letchford and now Benedict Wilson, has continued to carry out the aims of the original founders of The Friends which was set up more than 30 years ago.

“We have also endeavoured to bring new people into Holy Trinity Church to appreciate what we have here. The success of *Soundbites* has ensured that we have been able to financially support various needs, including a donation towards the sound system that is in use today, and also to support our choral and organ scholars.”

Jane read out a recent letter from the parents of previous organ scholar James Fellows: “*We will remain indebted to the Friends for the tireless support and encouragement you have offered to all the young people in the choir and, of course, to James. I am not sure if he would have got to Oxford without your care and concern and I think he is finding that few of his friends and fellow choral or organ scholars have had such an experience.*”

Jane added: “As this committee stands down today and a new committee is voted in, it gives me the opportunity to thank everyone for the support you have given and continue to give. A special thank you to Benedict for his enthusiasm and hard work which have helped to increase the profile of The Friends of the Music.

“I am going to end on a quote (allegedly attributed to Plato), but most likely paraphrased: *‘Music gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything’* “.

In response, Rohan thanked outgoing committee members and, particularly Benedict and Jane, who had provided him with “copious information and invaluable advice” over recent weeks. “We have much work ahead of us; but I am convinced that exciting and fulfilling times lie ahead.”

On behalf of the Friends, Professor Ronnie Mulryne congratulated Jane Hornby on the excellent way she had guided and nurtured the committee and carried the Friends forward.

In presenting the annual choir and music awards, the Revd Patrick Taylor said it was wonderful to see so many young choristers in our church. “It is good to watch you grow as musicians and singers and the contribution you make is really valuable. Virtually all our young people of secondary school age are members of the choir and are an important part of our church community.

In addition to Rohan, the new committee is: Jane Taylor (secretary), Benedict Wilson, Stephen Dodsworth, Philip Miles, Laura Taylor, Roger Taylor, Anne Grey, Rebecca Mills and John Cohen. The Friends are still searching for a treasurer. If you are interested, please contact Rohan.

*Pat Pilton*

[Read Judith Dorricott's full interview with Rohan on page 18](#)



Back Row: Patrick Ellis, Juliette Carter & Patrick  
Front Row: Eleanor Holland, William Jackson-Bettles  
& Amelia Parkin



Amelia Parkin receives  
The Helen Yates Cup

[See next page  
For full list of Friends  
of the Music chorister  
& music awards 2017](#)

# THE FRIENDS OF THE MUSIC – CHORISTER & MUSIC AWARDS – 2017

## THE HELEN YATES CUP – AWARD GIVEN TO **AMELIA PARKIN**

The Helen Yates Cup is awarded to a chorister of junior school age for attendance (the Cup was presented in memory of Helen Yates, mother of John Yates, a former Head Chorister).

## THE HUDSON-EVANS CUP – AWARD GIVEN TO **PATRICK ELLIS**

The Hudson-Evans Cup is awarded to a chorister of secondary school age for attendance (the Cup was presented by Dr. Hudson-Evans, a former chorister at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and a former member of our congregation).

## THE JOAN EVERETT CUP – AWARD GIVEN TO **WILLIAM JACKSON-BETTLES**

The Joan Everett Cup is awarded to a chorister for enthusiasm and progress (the Cup was presented in memory of Liz Murphy's mother).

## DENNE GILKES MEMORIAL PRIZE – AWARD GIVEN TO **ELEANOR HOLLAND**

Denne Gilkes Memorial Prize (the Standards Cup and a cheque) is presented to the treble who has gained the highest total number of individual Standards i.e. good points in the Choir accountability programme held weekly during the year. The prize is given from a fund set up in 1972 in memory of Denne Gilkes, Advisor on singing to the RSC.

## THE GENGE BEQUEST – **EDWARD MULRYNE**

The Genge Bequest – an award (cheque) is given for trebles who have served the Choir loyally and have reached the end of their service. Awards are given from the estate of Revd. Robert Sealy Genge, Curate at Shottery, who died in 1920. The money for the award comes out of a special fund which is part of the Vicar & Wardens' Charities.

## MUSIC GROUP AWARD – AWARD GIVEN TO **EDWARD MULRYNE**

Music Group Award – a Cup (in memory of Harry & Jessie Hare – parents of the Revd Margaret Sweet) is presented for an outstanding contribution to the Music Group.





## The Lord's Prayer for Deaf Children Colin McDowall

With Andrew Dow leading a Lenten course on The Lord's Prayer this month, I thought Trinity Times readers might be interested in experiences I've had using this famous prayer with deaf children.

I qualified as a teacher of the deaf in 1957 at Manchester University, which earned worldwide fame in those days for being the fount of all knowledge about the education of deaf children. Its ethos was simple: *'NO SIGNING! Speech and language is paramount so lip-reading and hearing aids are IN and sign-language and finger-spelling are definitely OUT'* Lecturers warned that any new teachers tempted to use signs or finger-spelling would be sacked for training deaf children to communicate only with other deaf people, whereas Manchester's "pure oral" system of lip-reading and using hearing aids led to their full integration into the hearing world. Along with all the other student teachers I swallowed this doctrine hook, line and sinker.

September 1957 found me, a zealous oralist, starting my career at The Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster. However, I soon found that whilst the school was nominally oral, most children born profoundly deaf only really understood sign language and finger-spelling. Signing was forbidden during the five classroom hours of each weekday, but it was accepted as the norm during the rest of each day and since the teachers were not allowed to sign, each class had a dubious monitorial system of teachers who couldn't sign using the child with most hearing to interpret each lesson in sign language!

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The Lord's Prayer was always part of morning assemblies, displayed on a sheet and chanted by all present along with a teacher touching each word with a pointer creating a mantra which nobody seemed to explain. For many decades, this had been the normal way the Lord's Prayer was used with deaf children as I saw repeatedly at all the schools I taught in. The Liverpool school's morning assembly had the strangest variation with Roman Catholic children required to face left whilst Protestants faced right. An RC teacher on the left pointed the words as far as "deliver us from evil" then, finger on lips, demanded silence from his Roman flock whilst the 'Proddies', as they were often called in those days, continued with "for thine is the kingdom" etc. until both sides united with a resounding Amen.

But, the signing revolution finally came! Following the assassination of Martin Luther-King in 1968, rapid legislation of equal rights for all minority groups (not just black people) in America resulted in Sign Language being recognised internationally as part of deaf rights. A decade later in England, the Warnock report recommended that British sign language (BSL) should be used in the education of profoundly deaf children. Finding myself responsible for the education of all Liverpool's deaf children at that time, I happily arranged BSL instruction for several teachers - including myself.

I was taught BSL by a deaf social worker, and (with morning assemblies in mind) I asked him to help me sign the Lord's Prayer. This led to some curious BSL exchanges about semantics and theology. I learned that "who art in heaven" was signed as 'God painting in the sky'; "thy will be done" was signed incorrectly using the future tense symbol; and while bread is usually seen to be more than food, asking God not to lead us into temptation implies that He's the one who often does! And it seemed odd that the prayer asked for many favours yet that little word 'please' is never used.

When I gained some confidence with signing I took the liberty of rephrasing the Lord's Prayer in BSL for Liverpool's profoundly deaf children. This is the signed version we used at our school assemblies and in our local church:

*Our heavenly Father, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will (not ours) be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Please give us this day our daily needs, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And please lead us away from temptation and evil.*

*Amen*

Yes, Colin is the one in the dark glasses.

Colin





## Ed Mulryne

“ The weight of this sad time...”

I began by trying to make this article light-hearted. But it didn't turn out that way. Fear not – next month I'll probably be back to talking about George Formby's eating habits.

If you watch recent interviews with actors, writers, directors, any artists in fact, there is a strong chance they will say something along the lines of “It's a very interesting time for the world at the moment”, by which they mean “Everything's going to pot”. This is a statement which is very easy to agree with and which calls up the speech from the end of King Lear:

*The weight of this sad time we must obey;*

*Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say.*

*The oldest hath borne most: we that are young,*

*Shall never see so much, nor live so long.*

This timeless speech shows us that the state of our world is little different from the state of the world in Shakespeare's time. How depressing. However, as a member of the ‘we that are young’ group I have little or no idea how the world will survive this turbulent time. I'm sure it *will* survive but how I'm just not sure. I can't claim to know a lot about politics but what I do know is that my generation has not been listened to (many have not been listening either and have remained silent too) during the making of some life-altering decisions. Because of the actions of older generations, who, I'm sure, had good intentions, many in my generation now behold a future that is, to say the least, uncertain and frightening.

What saddens me most about the state of the world is that in the last few years the people who have been responsible for the biggest decisions about the world's future have behaved in a manner which, to me, is depressingly un-Christian. When I say this, I don't mean to say that everyone in the world should be a Christian – far from it. But what I mean is that those basic Christian teachings (which actually apply to many religions) of loving your neighbour as yourself, of forgiving those who have done you wrong, of treating others as you would like to be treated, have been forgotten or avoided by those in a position of power.

If I can suggest something resembling a solution to our world situation it is that everyone – not just leaders – should look to these teachings for guidance.

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This article only scratches the surface of our world's problems, but I believe I have made the point that many young people like me might have some useful things to say. I have a voice – everyone does. Maybe if enough of us keep on talking and writing the 'weight of this sad time' will become just a little lighter.

Ed



## Associate Vicar Familiarisation Day

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the Associate Vicar Familiarisation Day recently. I really think that this work is important to give candidates a real impression of the parish and ensure they know what they are taking on when they chose to join us.

We cannot say anything further regarding the outcome at the moment. We hope to have further information within the next few weeks.

Mike Warrillow



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# Lay Chaplaincy

Andrea Blood



## Holy Trinity is seeking to expand and develop its Lay Chaplaincy Team

Are you confident and secure in your faith, a good listener who can either be comfortable with sharing faith or quietly listen to people's needs or concerns, or even to just hear their stories and hold their confidence and trust, and respect boundaries?

If you have a spare couple of hours once every two weeks, and might be asking where God may be calling you, why not have a chat with me to find out more. I can be contacted on 01789 266825, or by emailing the [office@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto:office@stratford-upon-avon.org), marking it for my attention.

Training and support is available, and the team works closely and is very supportive of each other with its Christian values of God's love, peace and reconciliation being at the heart of the Lay Chaplaincy ministry at Holy Trinity.

Andrea



## Nicki Chatterton

Nicki will be back on Mothering Sunday so we can all say a proper farewell and give her a huge hug and thank you for all her hard work.

There will be a feature about Nicki in April/May's  
*Trinity Times*

# MUSICAL CHAIRS

## Judith Dorricott Interviews Rohan Stewart-MacDonald



"There is music in the air" said Sir Edward Elgar, and we are lucky to hear a wonderful variety of music in the air of Holy Trinity Church. For this we must thank the Friends of the Music. Founded in 1983, the main aims of the Friends are to encourage the choral tradition within the church and also to produce different types of music appealing to a variety of audiences. Profits from these musical programmes assist students financially and help fund choir trips and the purchase of new instruments.

Our church members will know that Jane Hornby has been Chairman of the Friends of the Music for the last five years, but in January she handed the musical reins over to Rohan Stewart-MacDonald.

Following in the footsteps of Jane and her committee, Rohan, as incoming Chairman, is keen to support all musical events in church, while providing the Friends of the Music with a healthy income at the same time.

Rohan is very enthusiastic about Soundbites, which was started by Benedict Wilson, our Director of Music. These Wednesday lunchtime concerts are now in their fourth season and are proving very popular, with a wide variety of performers. We recently welcomed a guitarist from Scotland for our lunchtime recital - a first for Holy Trinity Church!



Rohan, who works closely with Benedict, hopes to present a broad range of instrumentalists and vocal soloists, encouraging different types of music and styles, not only 'church music'. Rohan has already made contact with local establishments such as Stratford College to invite their students to participate, as well as looking further afield for instrumentalists and vocalists from institutions like Birmingham Conservatoire and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

An initiative in the planning stage is a series of professional recitals, maybe in late spring, with several concerts within a week. This "Mini Music Festival", held in the church, would include a mix of vocal, instrumental and choral music and Rohan is confident that it will appeal both to residents and visitors to Stratford.

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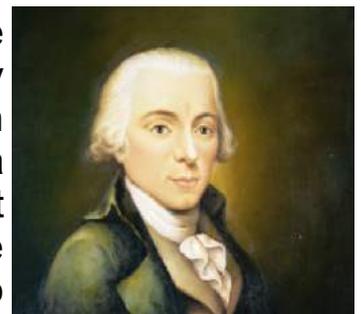
Cathedral trips for the choir have always proved popular, and Rohan remembers how much he enjoyed his first trip with Holy Trinity Choir to Lincoln Cathedral in 2015. This reinforced his view that such visits are good both from an educational point of view and from a social perspective. According to our younger choir members, cathedral trips are always great fun, and plans are afoot for a visit to Manchester Cathedral this summer.

The outreach programme is another aspect of the music at Holy Trinity Church, and Rohan will continue to support Benedict and Rebecca Mills, as they visit schools and plan their popular school musicals.

We are lucky to have a man of such high academic standing and such musical talent in our midst but what brought Rohan to Stratford, and to Holy Trinity Church in particular?

Rohan was born in Solihull and attended the prestigious Purcell School in London. He then became a Choral Scholar at Cambridge University, where he continued to study both the piano and choral work. Cambridge proved such a draw that Rohan remained at the University for seventeen years in total, teaching and completing his PhD while he was there. Rohan was eventually Director of Music and Bye-Fellow of Murray Edwards College, formerly New Hall.

Fortunately for Holy Trinity Church, Rohan decided to relocate to Stratford-upon-Avon as a good central base for his many academic activities. As well as scholarly research into 18th and 19th century British music (Early-Romantic concerto is a specialism), he publishes papers in academic journals both at home and abroad, and often visits Lucca in Italy where he continues with his particular interest in the music of Muzio Clementi.



Rohan is also an experienced tenor and performer on the piano. Last spring, with the soprano Bella Gage, he gave a recital of the song-cycle that Benedict composed with the text written by Paul Edmondson. This original work was performed in church during the "Sounds of Shakespeare" 400th Anniversary Festival, and was warmly reviewed. A second performance of the song cycle was given at a concert of the Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society in the autumn.

Musical tastes vary and Rohan's interests are extremely wide, as he enjoys music from earlier centuries right up to the present day. He puts his love of jazz down to his father, who was a jazz pianist with a wonderful ability to improvise. The steel guitar, which originated in Hawaii, is an unusual personal favourite (puzzled readers will be intrigued to learn that it is not the guitar that is made of steel, but the slide or bar that changes the pitch of the strings!).



Continued from previous page...



When asked for his own musical favourites - works that he would choose for a desert island - Rohan is hard-pressed to decide between Felix Mendelssohn and Franz Schubert, as he loves all their symphonies.



Rohan has only lived in Stratford for three years, but already he is very involved with all aspects of the musical life of the town, singing in our church choir as well as singing (and being Chairman of) Stratford Chamber Choir. What good fortune for our church that such a charming and engaging man, who is both scholarly and academic, but who is also a wonderful vocalist and pianist, has decided to make his home here.



*Judith*



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## *Anthony Woollard's* Window on the World

*"Let both grow together until the harvest."*

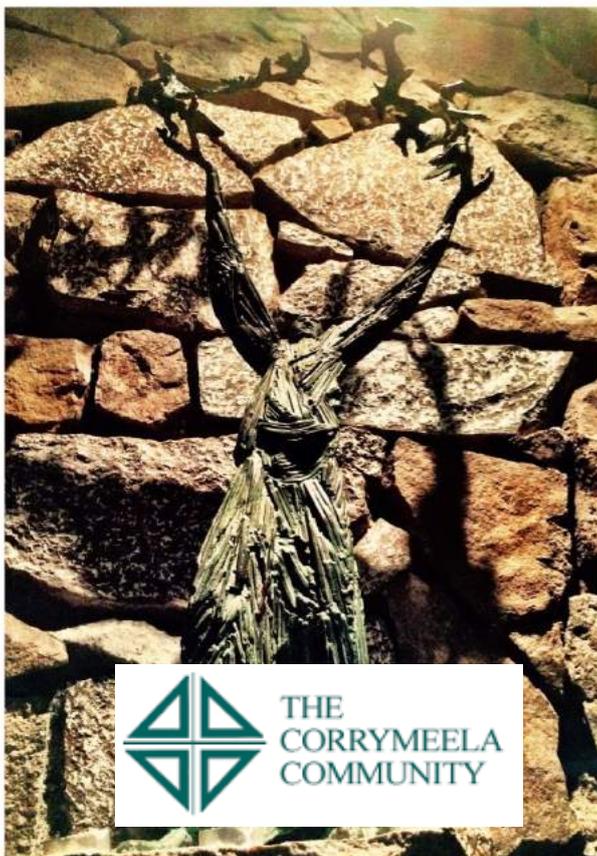
Some members of our congregation originate from Northern Ireland, and others from the Irish Republic. I feel especially for them at this time, with elections in Northern Ireland on 2 March, and the possible effects of Brexit on the relationship between the two parts of Ireland.

At a time when so much of the world seems dark, and getting darker by the hour – when “post-truth” seems to reign, and we no longer know what is true or what to hope for - it might be worth meditating on what has been achieved in the Emerald Isle over the past couple of decades. Not just peace, but seemingly a constructive peace. Of course, plenty of bad things still happen on both sides of the border. But would we have expected so much progress, a generation ago?

It is maybe worth noting also that the same Prime Minister who took us into the Iraq war, and did or failed to do many other things for which he has been criticised, is the one who brokered the Good Friday Agreement which has made that progress possible. In truth, few politicians (or others) are wholly good or wholly bad.

Not, of course, that one person can ever do such a thing alone; the Holy Spirit must have worked in the hearts of so many people, in so many different ways. We can never know the impact of groups such as the Corrymeela Community, or the inner forces which drove leaders of the two sides who were former bitter and violent enemies to become, almost, friends. Yet that one person was especially instrumental in getting Northern Ireland to where it is today.

Jesus' most famous parables, such the Good Samaritan or the Prodigal Son, are of course central for our faith. But one of my favourites, which seems to grow ever more relevant, is the story of the Wheat and the Weeds. Good and evil are intermingled, more than we can ever know, in our own lives, those of others, and those of whole communities. And Jesus says “Let both grow together until the harvest”.



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It may not always be possible to do that, for we do have to make judgments within history, and sometimes wheat and weeds have to be painfully separated if we are to live together at all. Besides, ideas about “the harvest” – the End of Time, the Last Judgment or call it what you will – are profoundly difficult for us to grasp, with only a few hints in Scripture and Christian experience to guide our understanding of something which must by its very nature be far beyond our conception.

Yet, in the meantime, we can experience mini-harvests. Times of judgment but also of healing and forgiveness. And surely what we have seen in Northern Ireland is such a mini-harvest.

So, at this time of election and Brexit, we must remember especially the two Irelands, and give thanks that out of them has come some light for a darkening world. We must pray that the current uncertainties do not put that at risk.



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**Guy Woolfenden  
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**Divertimento-Woolfenden  
Violin Concerto-Beethoven  
Symphony No. 1 -Brahms**

**Saturday 4 March at 7.30pm**

**Soloist- Callum Smart  
Conductor - Roger Coull**

**St. Mary's Church  
Warwick CV34 4RA**



## Film Night

After six very rewarding years of running Film Night Hilary and I have decided to put the projector away.

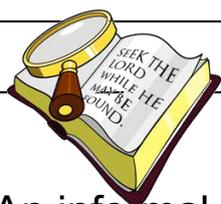
We would like to thank everyone for their support, good humour and good company.

# Groups & Courses



## Lent Course at Holy Trinity

A five session Lent course on the Lord's Prayer, to be taken by the Revd. Canon Andrew Dow in St. Peter's Chapel, 7.30pm—9.00pm, Wednesdays 8th, 15th, 22nd & 19th March, and 5th April



## Exploring Scripture

An informal and relaxed opportunity to explore the Bible with time for questions and discussion led by the Revd. David Ellis on 'Revelation, the Strangest Book'.

Friday 3rd March in the Parish Centre Lounge.

11.00am—12.00 noon

And on all the following Fridays in March

Please bring your own Bibles. All welcome



## Contemplative Prayer Group

This group meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre Lounge for a time of silent prayer, followed by a time to talk, if wished, and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome

Contacts: The Revd. Jenny Rowland 01789 415548

Tricia Hall-Mathews 01789 414182



## Prayer Breakfast

An opportunity to get together over breakfast and pray for the parish

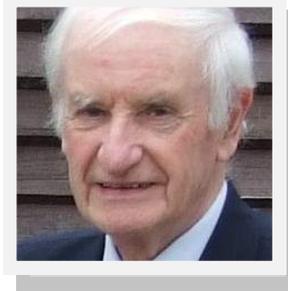
8.00am on Saturday 25th March at 3 Rowan Close S/on/A

Contact: Andrea Blood 01789 266825



# SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTERS

## THE COPENHAGEN CHRIST



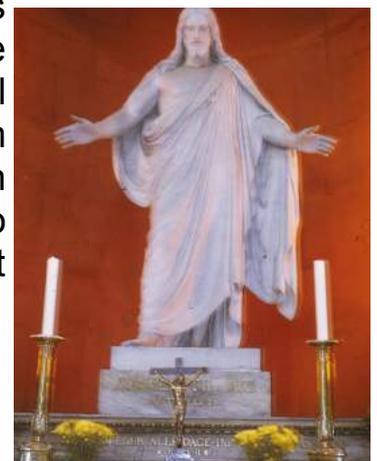
David Ellis

As a student I made a train journey of 30 hours through Belgium and Germany before crossing the Kiel Canal into Denmark. In Copenhagen, feeling a bit homesick and dispirited I wandered alone into the Lutheran cathedral. At the front stands a large figure of the resurrected Christ in pure white marble, subscribed by the words, 'KOMMER TIL MIG' (Come to me). Nothing could have brought me a greater comfort than that encounter at that moment in my life, emerging as I was from student agnosticism. It had a deep and life-changing effect. I knelt there for a long time.

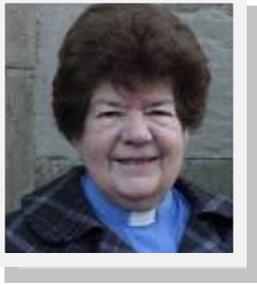


Only later I learnt the wonderful story of the Copenhagen Christ. Bertel Thorvaldsen, born in 1768, was a close friend of Hans Christian Andersen. He gained his skill in Rome and on his return to Denmark was commissioned to sculpt statues of Christ and the apostles for Copenhagen Cathedral. The apostles stand six aside down the side aisles, each 3 metres high and the Christ figure, which occupies the sanctuary above the altar, is taller still. Thorvaldsen wanted to show Jesus with arms and head uplifted in praise. It was common practice to make a plaster model before starting on the marble. He was well pleased with his model and left it to harden overnight, telling his assistant to be sure to leave the studio door open. But the assistant forgot! When the sculptor returned the following morning he was greatly distressed to see that the arms were sinking and the head had dropped forward 'like that of a shy school boy'. Months of work had been destroyed. But when he stepped back he saw Jesus looking down at him with compassion. 'That is how it has to be,' he decided, it is created not by me but by God who has turned my praise into his loving kindness!

I found when I read about the Copenhagen Christ that I was far from alone in falling under its influence. Thousands have found a living faith through it. Replicas stand in several churches round the world. As one who does not readily warm to statues in churches, this one at that moment did its work on me. When I returned some years later the effect was no longer there. Such is the way of spiritual encounters. Like art they do their work but are not intended to be worshipped.



David



# Trinity Ladies

Revd Diane Patterson



Trinity Ladies met on a very wet afternoon on 15th February to hear one of our own members, Sian Wade, talk about Cats Protection.

Sian came armed with a feeding bowl, a toy cat (aah) and a horrible toy flea (eek) to name but a few of her visual aids. Sian also brought some big and very appealing photos of cats to illustrate her talk. We all really enjoyed hearing about the work of Cats Protection and also how to give our own cats the best of care.

Some of us were surprised to hear that it is not a good idea to give a cat ordinary cows milk as so many are lactose intolerant, the importance of having a cat neutered - in ten years one female and her descendants can between them produce thousands of kittens.



Sian also told us a little about her visits to Greece to help with cats there. We all really enjoyed learning more about cats, even those members who aren't very fond of them! Sian's talk was followed by the raffle and tea and cake, when we were pleased that Revd Kay Dyer came in to say hello.



The meeting on 15th March takes the form of a charity tea in aid of the Air Ambulance when we hope many people will join us to hear about the work of the air ambulance and to enjoy tea and cakes. Charge £2, everyone very welcome, so please put the

date in your diary. **Wednesday 15th March at 2pm.**



## Honest Doubters.Com

Are you someone who would like to believe the Christian Faith, but there are so many difficult questions?! You would be welcomed at 'Honest Doubters.Com'

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01789 417852 andrewdow451@btinternet.com*

## Part 4 of The Serialisation of Freda Kitcher's

### *A Parson and His Parish*

The Work of the Revd. George Arbuthnot

Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon 1879-1908

*From Chapter 12*

*The Temperance Movement*



George Arbuthnot's work in Stratford on behalf of the Temperance Movement became one of his most relentless crusades. In the first issue of the Magazine he wrote:

*Our two greatest enemies in improving the temporal, as well as the spiritual condition of our people, are Drunkenness and Improvidence. The former we try to combat by the Church of England Temperance Society, conducted on the truly Christian and liberal principle of admitting on equal footing, those who abstain altogether from intoxicating drinks and those who use them in strict moderation.*

He had two aims. The first was that by exhortation and example his parishioners might be dissuaded from the use of alcohol, and the second was that he hoped to provide alternative, wholesome entertainment in place of the warmth and convivial society offered by the public houses.

At a later date he wrote, 'Man is a gregarious animal—he likes society—and the Public House gives a working man the society of his acquaintances, after working hours. There are many who have wives and young families and very limited accommodation at home. It seems to me small blame to them if they do not care to spend the whole evening there.'

Having recognised the problem, in a very practical way, he sought to make other entertainments just as attractive.

Immediately steps were taken to establish a Stratford Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society. In February 1880 a public meeting was convened. The Vicar took the chair. The speaker was the Rev. W. Kipling Cox, the Diocesan Secretary. It was reported, 'There was a fair attendance, but there was not so many of the upper classes present as we should like to have seen. We fear some over zealous Temperance Workers have alarmed them, and led them to confuse Temperance and Total Abstinence.

In 1881 'The Coffee Palace' was officially opened by the Marquis of Hertford.

*To be continued...*

*Edited by Steve Newman*



# HOWLERS!

Warwickshire Police are investigating the attempted theft of a cash machine from a supermarket in Bidford. Officers arrived to find that the cash machine had been partially removed, leaving a hole in the wall.

*Stratford Herald*

**Poster spotted about a missing pet: Our much loved pet duck has gone missing. We are desperate for his safe return. Last seen on Wednesday near the Toby Carvery.**

A book of short stories entitled *Forty Minutes Late* has been returned to a San Francisco library —100 years late. The *San Francisco Chronicle* said Webb Johnson returned the book on Friday. There was no fine. Mr Johnson's great grandmother had taken it out in 1917 but died a week before it was due to be due to be returned.



From a leaflet supplied with quinine sulphate tablets for a listener to Radio 4's *News Quiz*: "Please tell your doctor if you suffer from any of these following side effects — diarrhoea, muscle weakness, loss of consciousness, coma or death."

**Police left stumped after third human foot found in West Country park.**

*Exeter Express and Echo*

A friend who has an evening shelf-stacking job at a supermarket tells me that, according to her contract, she is a Twilight Merchandiser.

*Letter to The Times*



The verger was on hand to support the vicar's resolution to keep sermons down to not a second longer than 20 minutes

## ONE-LINERS

They say life speeds up as you get older. Which is why you sometimes see a pensioner holding on to a lamp post.

*Tim Vine*

**Do you realize that in about 40 years, we will have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?**

Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other one off.

*Tommy Cooper*

**You know you're ugly when it comes to a group picture and they hand you the camera**

## THEY SAID IT...

My pain may be the reason for somebody's laugh. But my laugh must never be the reason for somebody's pain.



## CHARLIE CHAPLIN

I remain just one thing, and one thing only, and that is a clown. It places me on a far higher plane than any politician.

There is talk of banning the Mexican wave at sports events for health and safety reasons. Fans are up in arms!

Compiled by Pat Pilton

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Wednesday March 8

**Rohan Stewart-MacDonald** piano

Wednesday March 15

**Stephen Dodsworth** organ

Wednesday March 22

**Patrick Ells** tenor **Phillp Milles** organ

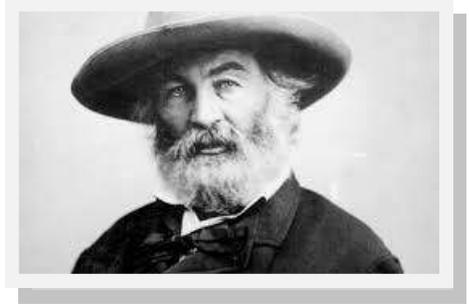
Wednesday March 29

**Rebecca Mills** soprano **Emily Clayton**, oboe

**Benedict Wilson** Piano

## ON THE BEACH AT NIGHT ALONE

**Walt Whitman (1819 -1892)**



**O**N the beach at night alone,  
As the old mother sways her to and fro sing-  
ing her husky song,  
As I watch the bright stars shining, I think a thought of the  
clef of the universes and of the future.

A vast similitude interlocks all,  
All spheres, grown, ungrown, small, large, suns, moons,  
planets,  
All distances of place however wide,  
All distances of time, all inanimate forms,  
All souls, all living bodies though they be ever so different, or  
in different worlds,  
All gaseous, watery, vegetable, mineral processes, the fish-  
es, the brutes,  
All nations, colours, barbarisms, civilizations, languages,  
All identities that have existed or may exist on this globe, or  
any globe,  
All lives and deaths, all of the past, present, future,  
This vast similitude spans them, and always has spann'd,

An advertisement for Robert Hornby, a tree and hedge care specialist. The background is a photograph of a large, mature tree with a thick trunk and dense foliage, set against a light sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a green, sans-serif font. The text is framed by a decorative border of small green leaves and branches.

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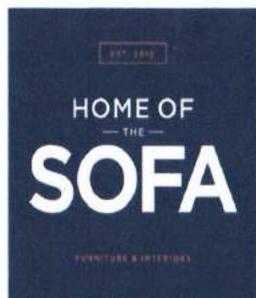


#### So, why are we different?

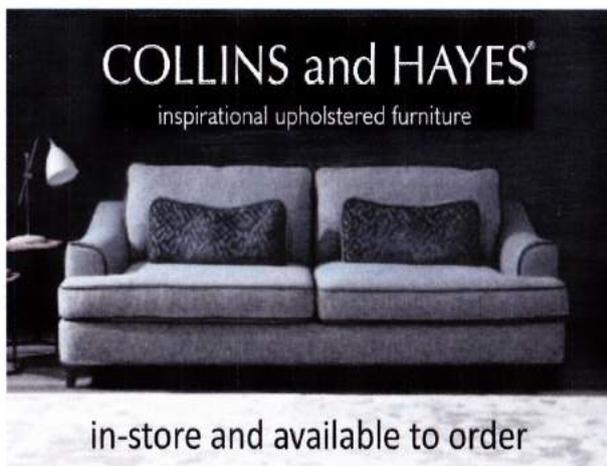
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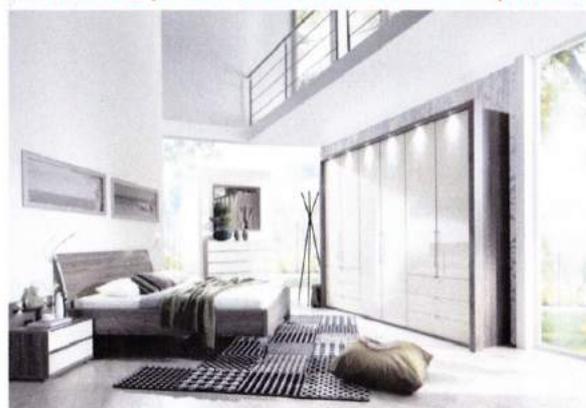
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Commissioning of Mrs Jo Howell the New Head  
Teacher of The Willows Church of England School  
Sunday 12th February 2017



Revd. Patrick Taylor

Mrs Jo Howell

Mrs Linda Wainscot

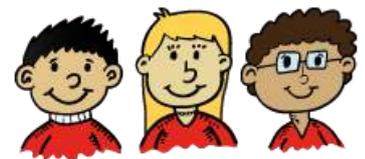
The commissioning of Jo Howell as the new Head Teacher of the Willows School was a truly moving occasion, added to hugely by the wonderful singing of the school's choir.



Continued from previous page



It was a joy to have the Mayor and children and parents from the school join with our church family on such a special occasion.



Mrs Linda Wainscot, the Director of Education for Coventry Diocese, gave a humorous and lively talk, with help from the children and Phil Harper, Holy Trinity's Children and Families Minister...

Harry Lomax  
&  
John Burgess



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# NEWS FROM TRINITY PLAYERS

Ursula Russell



Trinity Players are very sorry to report that we will not be able to perform 'The Big Pink Ones' in March as planned because of the sudden and unexpected closure of the View Restaurant and the room above that was becoming a valuable studio for community theatre. We are looking for another venue for this powerful and moving co-production in which Orion Johnson plays Pauline, struggling to cope with the voices in her head - all played by Mark Spriggs.

The good news is that on Saturday June 17 we will be taking 'Shakeshafte' to Houghton Tower in Lancashire where the young Shakespeare may have worked.



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**Saturday 18th March**

**10am—12 Noon**

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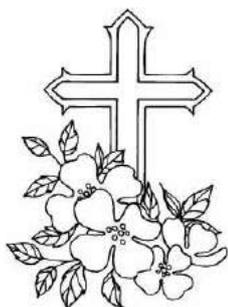
Or Mob: **07967 662 164**

# From the February Registers...



## Baptisms

29th January	Charlotte Mary Williams
12th February	Isla Annelise Bravington Pippa Orlaith Kennedy
25th February	Charlie McFarlane McLeod Bishton (Guild Chapel)
26th February	Christopher Smith



## Funerals

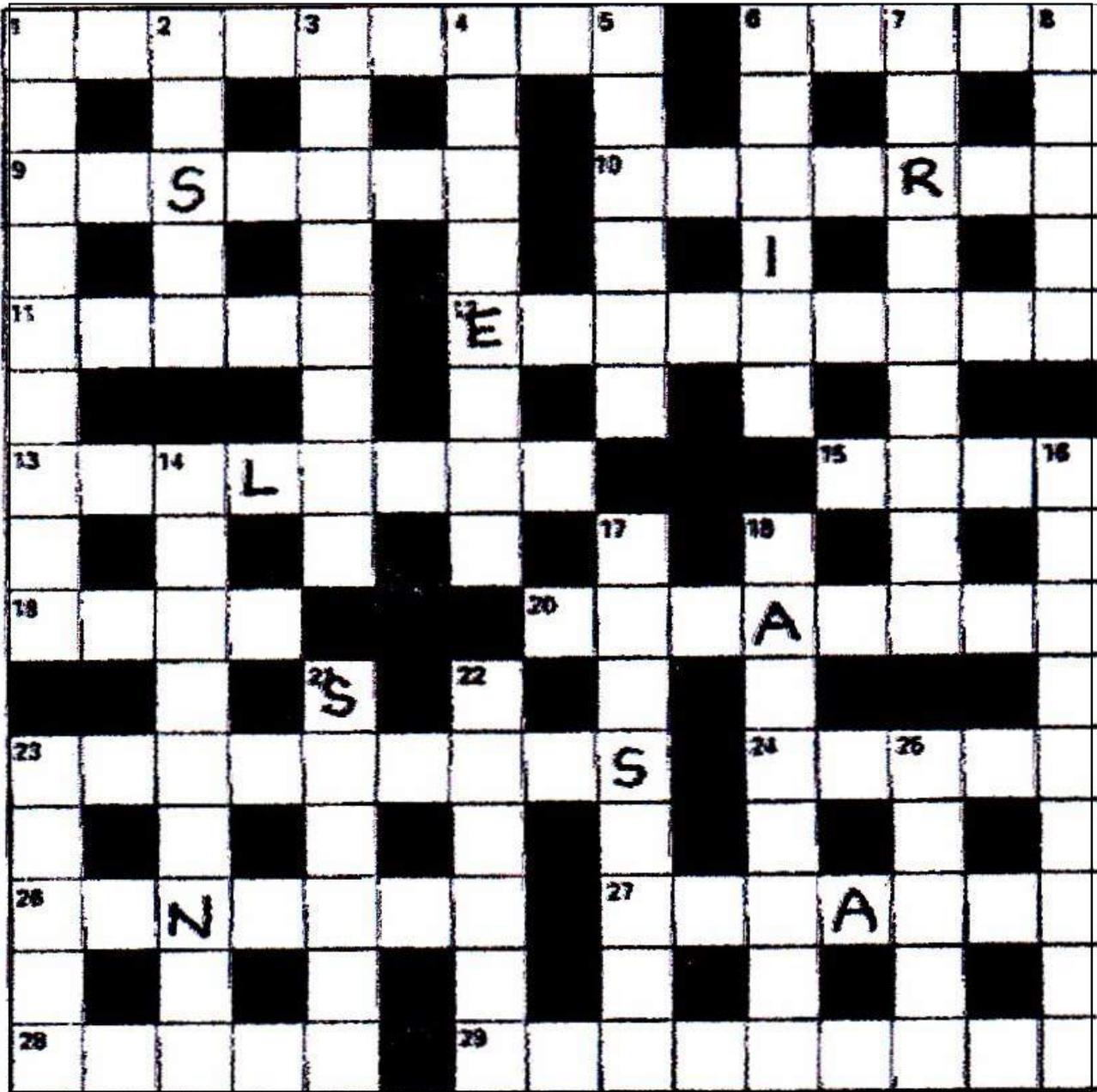
8th February	Pauline Chalmers
10th February	Tony Reeve
27th February	Wisdom Smith

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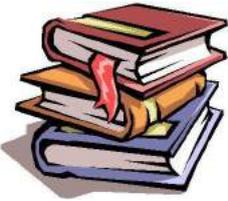
## CROSSWORD FOR LENT



ACROSS 1. Contrition (9) 6 City on west coast of Florida (5) 9 Fifth Sunday in Lent (7) 10 More abstinent (7) 11 Country symbolising slavery to sin (5) 12 High point of the Eucharist (9) 13 Slip out of place (8) 15 What Jesus did for our sins (4) 19 Cursed is everyone who hangs on one Galatians 3. (4) 20 Purifies as of sin (20) 23 Bits hacked off (9) 24 Saviour from 11 (5) 26 Enslavement as to sin (7) 27 Act of repentance (7) 28 Against the odds (5) 29 The Lord does this for the longing soul (9)

DOWN 1 Spice shaker (6,3) 2 Unpleasant (5) 3 Mr Shandy (8) 4 Rubbish (8) Lent's goal (6) 6 Son of Tobit (6) 7 Humiliates (9) 8 Garment of humble service (5) 14 True sign of love for God (9) 16 Catastrophes ((9) 17 Object symbolising the tempting pleasure of Epypt (5,3) 18 Better to rend hearts than these Joel 2 (8) 21

# More Groups, Courses & Invitations



## Novel Theology

On Thursday 2nd March the group will be discussing *Leaving Alexandria* the autobiography of the 'agnostic' former Bishop of Edinburgh, Richard Holloway—now available in the church shop—which raises many issues deeply relevant to our Lenten journey.

The choice for April is Jane Austen's *Persuasion*

***New members are always welcome***

***For more information contact Anthony Woollard 01789 204923***

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<http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/training/bcdm>



## Stratford Street Pastors

Stratford Street Pastors warmly invite you to a celebration of their ministry, and AGM on Friday 10th March, 7.00pm-8.30pm, at the Baptist Church, Payton Street. There will be worship, prayer, and an update on the work of Street Pastors. The guest speaker will be

Joe Bacconet from Stratford

***Refreshments***



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I

Image: Old Postcards of Stratford

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ACROSS 1 Penitence 6 Tampa 9 Passion 10 Soberer 11 Egypt 12 Elevation 13 Prolapse 15 Died 19 Tree 20 Cleanses 23 Chippings 24 Moses 26 Bondage 27 Penance 28 Evens 29 Satisfies

DOWN 1 Pepper Pot 2 Nasty 3 Tristram 4 Nonsense 5 Easter 6 Tobias 7 Mortifies 8 Apron 14 Obedience 16 Disasters 17 Flesh Pot 18 Garments 21 Speaks 22 Angels 23 Cable 26 Sinai



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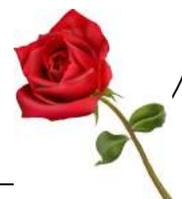
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# Parish Contacts:

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

Email: [office@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto: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
Interim Assoc. Minister	The Revd Canon Andrew Dow	01789 417852
Curate on Placement	The Revd Kay Dyer	01789 266316
Reader	Mike Milburn	01789 262264
Children & Families Minister	Phil Harper	01789 266316

***Director of Music***—Benedict Wilson 01789 266316



## ***Assistant Ministers (Hon)***

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

***Head Verger***—Paul Harris 01789 266316

***Vergers*** - David White, Sarah Moore & Joanna Pinnington

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

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

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

***Gift Shop*** - Heather White - 01789 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*** - TBC

***Bell Ringers*** - Charles Wilson - 01789 295467

***Bereavement Support Team*** Gina Lodge 01789 204850

***Safeguarding Officer*** Mike Warrillow 01789 298928

***Trinity Ladies*** - Revd Diane Patterson 01789 266453

***Electoral Roll Officer*** Tim Raistrick 01789 509885

***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

***Friends of the Music*** Rohan Stewart-MacDonald 07876798654

***Home Communions*** TBC

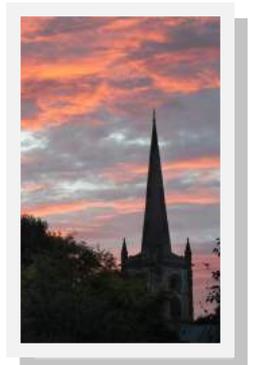
***Stewardship Officer*** Chris Kennedy 01789 299785

***Trinity Players*** Ursula Russell 01789 204923

***Trinity Tots*** Phil Harper 01789 266316

***Pastoral Contact Co-ordinator*** Gillian Nunn 01789 415830

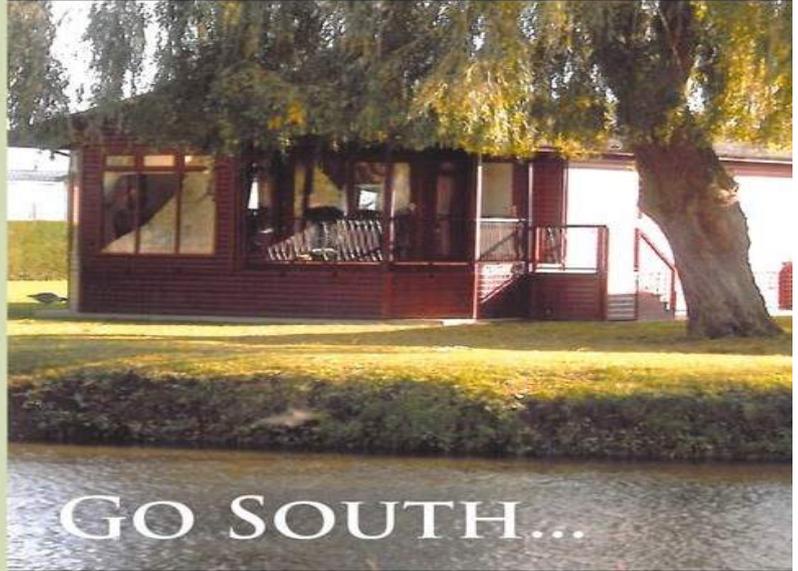
***Welcome Team***—Helen Warrillow 01789 298928





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