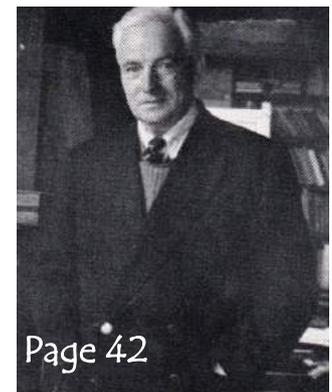


SEPTEMBER  
2017

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In August we said a fond yet sad farewell to Val and Mike Milburn who have moved to Cheltenham. God Bless, and every happiness.



## Editorial

Editor: Steve Newman

Assistant Editor: Hilary Newman

01789 296771

[stevenewman.newman@gmail.com](mailto:stevenewman.newman@gmail.com)

Clergy: Revd Patrick Taylor

Features Editor: Judith Dorricott

PCC Representative: Ruth Poulten

**TT online: <https://www.stratford-upon-avon.org>**

## Advertising

Steve & Hilary Newman

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[stevenewman.newman@gmail.com](mailto:stevenewman.newman@gmail.com)

## Subscription & Distribution

Doreen & Geoffrey Lees 01789 268667

## Holy Trinity Team



Revd Patrick Taylor  
Vicar



Revd. Steve Jarvis  
Associate Vicar



Revd. Kay Dyer  
Curate

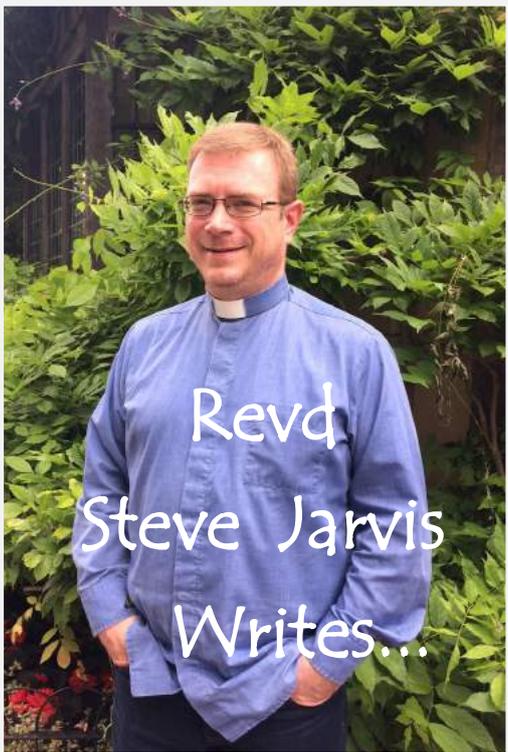


Phil Harper  
Children & Families Minister

Parish  
Away Weekend  
See Pages  
24 & 25



## The Potential of a Harvest is Plentiful...



With this being my first editorial slot, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone within the Parish - Holy Trinity Stratford, All Saints Luddington and St Helens, Clifford Chambers, for the welcome received and the support, encouragement and well-wishes given to me while I have been settling in.

It's never easy settling into a new role... there is so much to unlearn first before you can take in the process, structures and ways of doing things somewhere new. Things are always familiar, but laced with subtle differences to potentially trip you up.

I imagine those first disciples faced a similar challenge. They were familiar with the law and the prophets, the Jewish faith as interpreted by the Scribes and Pharisees, the synagogue, the Temple, and the patterns of worship. However, in their encountering and journeying with Jesus, in witnessing first hand his mission and ministry, they quickly cottoned on that there were significant differences in how Jesus interpreted Scripture, taught, lived out and modelled to them an authentic relationship with God, and life in the Kingdom of God.

Modelling authentic relationships, and modelling life in the Kingdom of God - living it out on earth, as it is in heaven. It is the ministry and challenge that all Church communities share around the world. As an Associate Vicar within this parish, I share with Patrick the responsibility for the "cure of souls" of all who reside within our parish boundary, regardless as to whether they attend church or not, or if they hold to a belief in God.

It has long been said that the Church of England exists for the benefit of its non-members. Such a sentiment can feel threatening, and lead to resentment and anxiety. On the other hand, it can be the much needed impetus for a church community to review and adapt what it does and how - preparing our fields in order to meet the challenge of sowing a proclamation of the Gospel '*afresh for every generation*'.

For Christian growth at its heart involves cultivating an authentic relationship with God, spiritual maturity, and the practice of a passionate faith ...passionately! And I include that word deliberately, for in order to be infectious to others, and for the message of Jesus to be contagious and spread, our witness needs to be exercised in passionate and practical ways.



This Autumn provides opportunities for us as congregations, to prepare ourselves to be “*passionate and practical*” in areas of worship, discipleship and service. The *Growing Together* programme includes new opportunities such as “The Bible Course”, and “Glad You Asked”. The Parish Away Weekend offers the opportunity to renew and reflect on the theme of “*Finding Faith*”. Mike Millburn’s work in establishing “*Holy Trinity in the Community*” is being built upon to develop practical ways for church members to serve others, and in the New Year, developments at the Ken Kennett Centre will provide an opportunity to assist in developing a mid-week expression of being Church in a significant area of need on the Maybird estate.

The potential for a harvest is plentiful ...the labourers needn’t be shy, or few! So let us with confidence ask the One in charge of the harvest to send more labourers out into the fields (Matt 9:38).

*Steve Jarvis*

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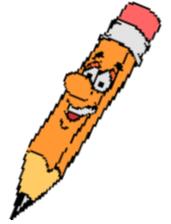
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## Phil Writes...



"What's on the inside..."

This month at Holy Trinity we're celebrating Christenings with a special **All-Age service** on **10<sup>th</sup> September 10:00am** in church. We're inviting back those who have been christened over the last couple of years to join us. As part of the service we'll be thinking about the important role Godparents play in developing faith at early and not so early ages. For all of us it's an opportunity to remember our Godparents or our own Godchildren. I hope you'll be able to share in this very special service.

Because of this service there won't be a FAB (Faith at Breakfast) service in the Parish Centre that day.

We're continuing learning about our faith through film at **HolyTrinity@Rosebird**. On **17<sup>th</sup> September** we're using Roald Dahl's the BFG (Big Friendly Giant), although that's often been my nickname, it's not about me. We'll be using clips from the film to think about how God cares about what's on the inside not the outside. As part of the service we'll be decorating some magnetic hearts. We'll be serving breakfast from 9:30am and the service begins at 10:00am, at the Rosebird centre by Waitrose.

A few dates for your diary about upcoming events!

**31<sup>st</sup> October** Halloween event

**25th Nov** Families Social (4-6pm)

**10th Dec** Christingle Service (4pm)

More details on these events in upcoming editions of Trinity Times. Or if you'd like to be added to the monthly e-Newsletter please send me an email [phil@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto:phil@stratford-upon-avon.org)



Phil



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# WORSHIP

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

### **SUNDAY September 3rd Holy Trinity** *12th Sunday after Trinity*

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

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

**6.00pm** Cong Evensong - Preacher: Revd. Graham Wilcox

**10.00am Parish Centre-GoodNews@10**—Talk Phil Harper

#### **St. Helen's Clifford Chambers**

9.15am Family Worship—Revd. Kay Dyer

**All Saints' Luddington** 9.15am Holy Communion BCP—Revd. Steve Jarvis

### **SUNDAY September 10th Holy Trinity** *13th Sunday after Trinity*

**8.00am** Holy Communion—Preacher Revd. Steve Jarvis

**10.00am** Parish Eucharist (& All Age Christening Reunion)—Preacher Phil Harper

**6.00pm** Evensong— with Revd. Kay Dyer

**10.00am Parish Centre—No Service**

#### **St. Helen's Clifford Chambers**

9.15am Holy Communion—Revd. Patrick Taylor

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

### **SUNDAY September 17th Holy Trinity** *14th Sunday After Trinity*

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

**10.00am** Parish Eucharist—Preacher Revd. Steve Jarvis

**6.00pm** Choral Evensong—with Revd. Steve Jarvis

**10.00am Parish Centre- FAB**—Revd. Patrick Taylor

#### **St. Helen's Clifford Chambers**

9.15am Morning Worship—Revd. Graham Wilcox

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

### **SUNDAY September 24th Holy Trinity** *15th Sunday After Trinity*

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

**10.00am** Food4thought—with Revd. Canon Andrew Dow

**6.00pm** –HC BCP & Compline—with Revd. John Hall-Matthews

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

#### **St. Helen's Clifford Chambers**

9.15am Holy Communion Trad—Revd. Jenny Rowland



## A PIONEER OR A SETTLER?

Judith Dorricott finds out what  
motivates our new Curate  
The Reverend Kay Dyer



Kay Dyer, our warm and approachable new Curate, has four consistent strands running through her life: her faith, her family, her work and her support for the scouting movement.

Firstly, she explains about the depth of her faith. Kay was born in Leamington Spa and became involved in the church mainly through Brownies and Guides. By the age of 16, she knew she wanted to be a priest, but at that time, women were not allowed to be ordained. In later years, Kay twice became a member of the General Synod and worked towards the possibility of women being ordained, realising that many women had a calling for the priesthood.

Kay herself was ordained by Bishop Christopher in July 2016. Her childhood experiences of church services were varied, and she feels comfortable both with Evangelical services and with high Anglican services. She really enjoys and appreciates both the FAB services and the choral evensong at Holy Trinity and explains that she is still the same person, with the same faith, whatever the format of the service.

Kay met her husband Roy Dyer in 1969 at a dance-hall near Kenilworth and they married in 1971. They bought a new house near the Clopton Road and have lived there ever since - for 46 years! They have three children, Matthew, Sharon and Joanne and have just been blessed with their fourth grandchild. While her children were small, Kay took a career break, but re-started work once the children went to school. Roy grew up as a Methodist, but has since joined the Anglican church and for many years they have both worshipped at St. Andrew's Church in Shotton, where Roy was made very welcome. Kay says that she could not have continued with her work and with her calling to the priesthood without the help of her husband. "He has always supported and encouraged me in everything I have wanted to do, especially entering the church" she says.

Kay started her working life at Warwickshire County Council in the Treasurer's Department, where she remembers that the first computer there took up a whole room! Her natural aptitude for computer work led her to take an Open University degree and then become an associate lecturer in computing for the same institution. Kay worked at Stratford College for over fifteen years, where she taught computing and business studies, and where she created a Public Service Course for teenagers, even taking the young people to the Normandy beaches as part of their education.



Kay's enthusiasm for the scouting movement is clear. She thoroughly enjoyed being both a Brownie and a Girl Guide as a youngster, and as a young adult, she became Leader of a pack of Cubs in Lillington. The cubs formed the guard of honour at her wedding to Roy, which must have been a wonderful sight. She then became a Scout Leader and was involved in the Songs of Praise programme at Holy Trinity Church, together with Cliff Michelmore. Kay moved on to become the Faith Advisor to the Stratford District of the Scouting Movement.

Both Kay's work at Stratford College and her involvement with the Scouting Movement demonstrate her interest in and her commitment to young people. She says that the driving force for her is to see young people fulfilled in their careers (whatever those may be) and to watch them flourish as their lives progress. Her aim, she says, is to "help each young person become the very best they can be" both academically and spiritually. It is apparent that her work with the Scouting Movement has given her great satisfaction throughout her life, as well as providing much support for teenagers who were in contact with her.

What about her new role as Curate? How does she see the future?

Kay is thoroughly enjoying her time at Holy Trinity Church, which offers her a great variety of work. In her second and third year of her curacy, she is able to officiate at baptisms, weddings and funerals, and she says that her first funeral was for a member of a traveller family. The mourners arrived in six silver Rolls Royces which were quite a sight!

She and Roy would love to stay in the area, once her three-year curacy is over in the spring of 2018. She enjoys working with all age groups, and one project close to her heart is the Ken Kennett Centre near the Clopton Road. This centre, which Kay is closely involved in, will re-open in the autumn and will offer activities for all ages from children to older people.

So, is Kay a Pioneer or a Settler? Kay replies that she is definitely a pioneer, as she loves a challenge, such as creating new educational courses and particularly being involved in the ordination of women priests.



Kay with her husband Roy, and members of their family...and Patrick

*Judith*



*Anthony Woollard's*

## Window on the World

"TV was a new toy..."

In a world where the President of the USA changes his senior staff more often than his trousers, it becomes harder and harder to write a reasonably up-to-date column on current affairs. For all I know, by the time this appears, war may have broken out over North Korea. So I have decided to return to the subject of another, more ongoing battleground – that between the old and the young.

The world in which those of us in our 70s or more grew up is unimaginably different from that which much younger people experience. Much worse in some ways, much better in others, but most certainly different. Unlike many of today's young, we did not have to struggle with student debt or some of the current problems of finding jobs and housing. But nor did we have many other things, which most people today take for granted. Central heating was rare, and even inside sanitation was far from universal. Holidays for most people were a fortnight. Many aspects of social life were far less free than now, especially for women. TV was a new toy, and the internet did not exist.

We may now look to the young like a privileged generation, and in many ways we are. I believe we have an obligation to share those privileges – be they our gains from the housing market or our triple-locked pensions – much more widely than we do. But we did have to work for what privileges we have, and live and struggle through decades of change.

It is hard for the young to accept that the old might have some wisdom and deserve a little respect. They can legitimately accuse us of having messed up the



world in a number of ways, even if in other ways our labours have benefited them.

In fact, they could be forgiven, when they look at us living longer and longer and burdening the Welfare State more and more, for wondering whether we should be humanely disposed of, as happens in some science-fiction novels,



It is equally hard for the old, coming to terms with failing physical and mental powers, and the unsatisfactory achievements of their lives, to accept that they have no relevant wisdom, that the traditions by which they have lived have nothing to teach future generations, and that they are so invisible to the young that they can get pushed off pavements.

I have deliberately exaggerated all this because I think it would be helpful and healing if young and old acknowledged, to themselves and to each other, these dark feelings. They look, and are, somewhat less than Christian, but they must be there deep down in many of us, and can only be healed if we come to terms with them.

The Church should surely be a laboratory for such healing. I have had dialogues with younger church members which have borne much fruit – just as, when I was myself young, I found it deeply rewarding to enjoy fellowship with the old. I have also, alas, had dialogues of a darker kind – but perhaps these have been necessary. More often, these days, there seems to be little or no dialogue or shared experience, and that is certainly a retrograde step.

My prayer for the Parish Weekend, more than any other, is that it will be an opportunity for those dialogues, and that healing to take place. Those who are attending constitute a cross-section of the congregation which should make it possible. As a church we need these things, and from our life they can then spread out to the wider society which needs them equally.

*Anthony*

## Novel Theology

The choice of books for the next three months is as follows

~

September 7th— The Outsider— Albert Camus

October 5th—The Essex Serpent—Sarah Perry

November 2nd—The Seven Sisters—Margaret Drabble

~

For more information contact

Anthony Woollard

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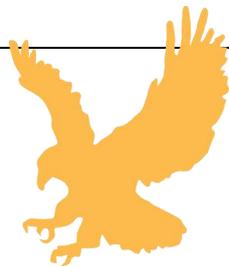
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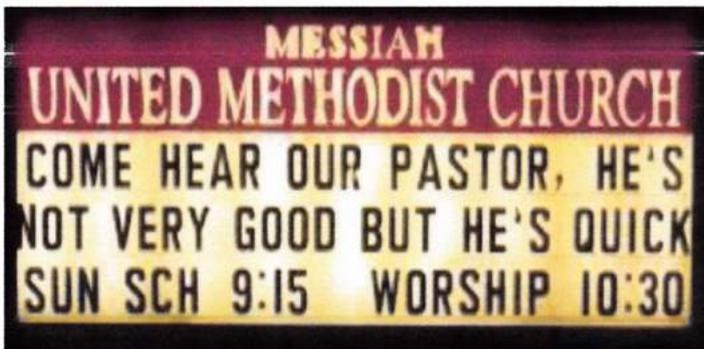
# HOWLERS!

Compiled by Pat Pilton

**Review** from a dissatisfied customer of an on-line florist service. "It was supposed to be a luxury bouquet but when it arrived it was much more like a medium supermarket bouquet. It was for a lady at work who had just had a baby and she was very disappointed with it."

**Update received on a work intranet site:** Unfortunately, due to sickness, we are unable to host today's boosting immunity seminar.

From a local news and gossip Facebook page quoted on *Radio 4's News Quiz*: "I have just been out to rescue yet another bin that has blown over on Chestnut Drive in the windy weather. Please help by checking bins for older residents."



Opening to recent *Woman's Hour* programme: "Good morning. Are you in denial about your hearing loss or perhaps someone close to you might be. Keep listening."

We shall be meeting on Wednesday when the subject will be: "Heaven. How do we get there?" Transport available at 7.55pm from the bus stop opposite the Harwood Arms.

*Collingwood-with-Harwood parish magazine*



"It's most kind of the church to donate these things but I wish they'd check there wasn't anything left inside, first!"

## ONE-LINERS

Kangaroos hate it when it's raining. The children want to play indoors. *Barry Cryer*

I might be in my own little world, but at least they know me there.

They say the camera adds 10lbs. Stop eating cameras!

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Two signs spotted on a fence on the South Devon Railway. One says: "Dogs die in hot cars", the other one: "Please use the dog bin located on the other side of the track". *Radio 4's News Quiz*

## THEY SAID IT...

### MAHATMA GANDHI



"Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant nor the served. But all other pleasures and possessions pale into nothingness before service which is rendered in a spirit of joy"

## WISE

With great power comes great electricity bill

## WORDS



## Trinity Players Shakeshafte at Hoghton Tower

Jane Taylor

Hoghton Tower is visible for miles around set as it is on its wooded promontory, the last south westerly hill of Lancashire's Pendle range. A long, straight, steep drive leads up to the entrance of that beautiful castle where the de Hoghton family has lived in an unbroken line since it was re-built in 1565. Three of us found ourselves outside this same entrance just as the weather blew up a wet and windy storm on 17<sup>th</sup> March this year.

The rain was driving into our faces and the wind almost lifted us off our feet as we struggled with the problem of how to gain entry. The great oak doors were barred against us and we had clean forgotten to bring the battering ram but, thank goodness, once more modern technology came to our aid. A mobile phone connected us with one of the very charming young ladies who "woman" the office even on those days when this historic attraction is closed to visitors. She came to open a small way in and we slipped through to be warmly welcomed. It was not long before we were shown into the object of our visit – the great banqueting hall.

"We" on this occasion were Ursula Russell, Trinity Player's director, Roger Taylor whose idea it was to take Dr Rowan William's play "Shakeshafte" to Hoghton Tower where it is set, and me. My job would once again be to look after props. When Roger had telephoned in advance of our visit his proposal had been received with great enthusiasm and so there we were. We were overwhelmed by the stately splendour of that wonderful room and its connection with some of the historical characters in the play who contributed to the real drama that took place there between 1580 and 1581.



Other plays have been put on in that banqueting hall but we had to stop gawping and work out whether it would be possible to stage “Shakeshafte” in that room. After lengthy discussion about entrances and exits, the length and breadth of the massively magnificent table, the position of the audience, the props, the lights, the musicians (that was easy because there is a wonderful minstrels’ gallery) and after prolonged wielding of Ursula’s trusty measuring tape we decided that it could be done and it should be done and indeed it was done, two performances, in fact, on a lovely day in June.

Four members of the original cast were not able to take part in this production and so we were joined by Martin Cosgrif, a local actor who played Alex Hoghton and Phil Harper, Children and Families Minister who played Roger the steward. Jean Rees, a member of Holy Trinity Choir, played Anne, a new character written in by Ursula to replace two other parts. All three actors did sterling work and were very soon integrated into the company.

There was just time for a technical run through at Hoghton Tower on the morning of 17<sup>th</sup> June so that the actors could familiarise themselves with the new setting. This was a nervous time and some quick decisions had to be made but everyone kept calm and the two performances went as smoothly as those given in church last November. Congratulations to all for their firm commitment to the task and the brilliant team work that fosters such friendship and fellowship.

The evening performance was attended by the current baronet Sir Bernard de Hoghton, his wife Lady Rosanna and other members of their family. They were genuinely interested and enthusiastic to see their ancestor Alexander Hoghton brought to life on the stage and they were generous in their praise. As it tells us in the guide book, not only did Alex give hospitality to Edmund Campion the Martyr during the year 1580-81 but he was also a patron of Shakespeare.



In this production of the play Tim Raistrick, as Edmund Campion, gave his introductory speech to the awestruck servants while standing in the minstrels’ gallery, just metres away from a priest hole which still exists today and still exudes the horror of persecution and fear of torture. It was a spine-tingling experience to be part of a scene that might have played out just like that 437 years ago.

Jane





## Hey, Diddly Dee, An Actor's Life for Me

Phil Harper

When in June I joined the merry band of actors, musicians and technicians to perform *Shakeshafte* version 2, it was my first time with Trinity Players, but not my first time acting. Since taking on the part of a bat, in a play at Infant school, I've always had a passion for acting, continuing it throughout my school career and even to study it at university. I've never done it professionally, but continued honing my craft as part of an amateur group, Codsall Dramatic Society, where I used to live.

As part of my old group I had acted, directed, prompted and taken on other roles as required, although my set building skills were always used as a very last resort. Thankfully for *Shakeshafte* the set had been made hundreds of years ago by some very skilful workers! Having been part of my previous amateur group for 18 years I was quite apprehensive about working with a different group. I've found drama groups a bit like churches and church services, they all start at the same point (a service book/script) and aim to end up at the same point (the service/play performance). But each group or church has its own nuances in the way they get to that point and the way that things are done during said point.

To make things even stranger for me and two others, the majority of the cast had already performed the play in Holy Trinity Church. I was to play Roger Livesey, the house Steward, I'd seen the performance in church and knew I had big boots to fill, hopefully my size 14 feet were up to the job. We three newbies were playing catch-up, but we were immediately made to feel part of the Trinity Players family, and I am eternally grateful to everyone for the warm welcome I received, and also their patients as I slowly picked up my lines. For me the one downside to acting is the line learning, my memory isn't the greatest at the best of times. I would say that I got many strange looks walking around the Bancroft gardens going over my lines, but in Stratford that's just par for the course.



It's if you aren't carrying either a script, a Shakespeare Birthplace shopping bag or a camera that you stand out, half mumbling vaguely Shakespearean lines is perfectly natural.

I also had to learn a song, the singing part wasn't too much trouble, it was the harmony that nearly finished off the rest of the cast. For the majority of the song I sang along with Cecilia, one of the maids. It was just for one line that I had to change key for the harmony. After an hour of Cecilia going over the single line with me during one rehearsal, I think the entire cast had the tune. The problem I had was sticking to those notes when someone else was singing different ones. Usually I'm an "in car singer", I've not had any training so I can follow a melody, but trying to sing a separate part on my own unaccompanied was new territory. The threat was that if I didn't get it right the two and a half hour drive to Hoghton Tower would be spent practising. The two other passengers were quite relieved that eventually I seemed to be getting the notes right.

One of the greatest challenges, perhaps not so much for me, but for Ursula and her team was my costume. I proved too much for the Trinity Players stock of costumes both in height and width so the challenge became finding something that would fit me. Eventually it was decreed that something would have to be made, so Ursula's underground network of costumiers across Stratford were put to action. They are a fantastic group of women, through working with them I visited areas of Stratford I'd never been to before, learnt new names for fastenings, saw some amazing busts (in bronze & clay!), was pinned, measured, re-measured, hugged numerous times and despite discovering that parts of my anatomy were humanly impossible and that no one could quite work out where my waist was, finally I had a costume. A fine doublet and hose, or as it was renamed a "triplet" and hose just in time for the performance.

On the day of the play I was the official chauffeur for myself and three other members of the cast. Between the four of us we were in every scene of the play, so a very precious cargo indeed. I am not an early morning person, but by some miracle (possibly the fear of the wrath of Ursula) by 7:30am I had collected my passengers, we were on the road and I was almost awake. The journey gave us the opportunity for a few line runs and thankfully I had enough grasp of my melody that we didn't have to sing it all the way there. Finally we arrived at our destination, there is one downside to large stately homes/castles, they don't exactly have a front door, or if they do it's probably the last entrance you are likely to use. With patchy mobile phone signal we eventually gained access to our home for the day in time for a quick tech rehearsal, which would be our only opportunity to use the space before performing to a paying audience.

My first entrance was at the opening of the play, starting on a balcony and then running down some stairs to enter the hall and the main acting area. In rehearsals we'd been using a timing of "it took about 20 seconds when we visited". But it wasn't just a case of getting from point A to point B.





The scene is set in night time, so I enter the balcony with a candle, the chances of said candle still being alight after bombing it down the stairs was very slim. So I had to exit the balcony, blow out the candle, get down the stairs, swap my candle for another lit one and re-enter continuing the scene. That wasn't my only task during this journey, after the explosive start to the play there couldn't be 20 seconds of silence, so I had to improvise some lines to fill in time, an encounter with a sleeping dog was also added in during rehearsals. My final challenge during those important 20 seconds was not to fall over my large feet, something that has been known to happen, especially with stairs and speed. Thankfully, when I tried it for the first time in the tech rehearsal; timing, candle, words, dog and feet all worked in perfect harmony, there is a point to rehearsals after all!



Another advantage to rehearsals is that you are prepared for the unexpected in performance. The matinee performance went very well enjoyed by an audience who really engaged with the play. My problem began five minutes before the evening performance. I somehow managed to cut through the thread that held my trouser fastenings to my trousers with the trouser fastener. As there was no way to fix this before the play began, it added another action to my opening scene and descent down the staircase. Timing, candle, words, dog, feet and don't let your trousers (hose) fall down. For my modesty and the audience's great relief I managed to keep my trousers in the right place, around my waist, wherever that might be. I succeeded to do this not just for the whole of the first scene, but also the beginning of the second scene whilst holding a large ledger in one hand. Finally I left the stage for a few minutes, at which point members of the audience may have heard that great Tudor saying "where are the safety pins, Phil's trousers are falling down?" and seen a helping of maids sticking numerous safety pins into me.

My other struggle was that unfortunately it was a glorious sunny day. This would normally be something to celebrate, but I am not made for warm weather. In a cold church I am the best person to come to during the sharing of the peace, as I'm always told I have "lovely warm hands". This isn't such a boon in hot weather, especially when wearing boot covers, tights, hose, shirt & triplet. The only point I came close to open rebellion was when told for one scene I was returning to the house from being outside and to add to my thick layered ensemble a cloak and hat!! Like the obedient actor I am, I willingly succumbed to the extra layers and thankfully didn't succumb to the heat.

My favourite part of the play was the final scene. Mine and Cecilia's characters reflecting on all that had happened, the uncertainty of what lay ahead, and finishing with the dreaded song. I couldn't help but feel the specialness of the play and performing it where it was set. Knowing that the people we represented had been there, perhaps thinking the same things, experiencing the same emotions. It certainly gave me goose bumps. It's for moments like that, that I love acting, all the hours of line learning, rehearsing are worth it when you have that feeling and share it with an audience. For me, that is the thrill of acting. The added bonus was that I got through the song, and hopefully got most of the right notes in the right places.

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Photos courtesy of Roger Taylor



After weeks of rehearsal that was it, in one day it was done and dusted, all that remained was the two and a half hour journey home. With the pressure off the return journey was a much livelier affair with constant singing along to 90's and early 00's classics. That that time period is now considered classic certainly makes me feel old. By 1:30am my charges had been safely delivered back to their homes and I could get to bed, ready to be awake and at the HolyTrinity@Rosebird service by 8:30am to set up. This is a part of amateur theatre often forgotten, that for the majority of people we're doing our utmost to put on a professional piece of theatre whilst also working full time jobs. But after 30+ years of doing it, the friends I have made along the way and the experiences I've had, I'll keep going learning the lines and squeezing into costumes. Will I return to perform again with Trinity Players? Only time will tell...!

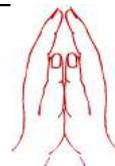


Phil



The Great Banqueting Hall, Hoghton Tower

## Prayer Ministry Prayer Day 5th October 2017



In October the Parish Prayer Diary, used by many in the parish to assist in their prayers, will have been produced for 25 years. To mark this and to draw attention to all aspects of prayer ministry within the church, there will be a display in St. Peter's Chapel on Thursday, 5th October.

Please come along and learn more about this important work in and for the parish. Please take the time to pray for it too.

Andrea Blood—Lay Chaplain

Revd. Kay Dyer—Curate

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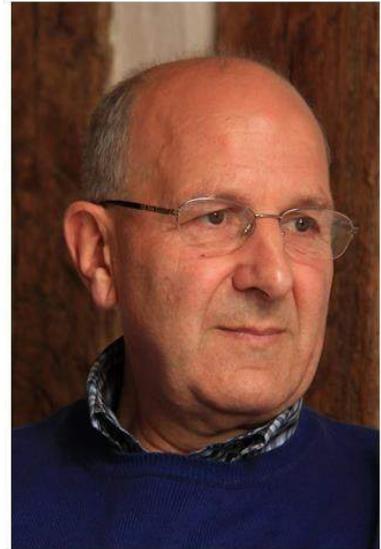
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# Whole Parish Away Weekend 2017



## “Finding Faith”

6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017

with

**The very Reverend Michael Sadgrove**

**‘pilgrim, priest and ponderer’**

As our weekend approaches, we are beginning to put together the final programme for this much anticipated event. We have a large cross-section of our community attending, including young families and the more ‘mature of age’ among us! We do, however, have room for a few more!

In the beautiful setting of Hothorpe Hall there will be plenty of time and space for reflection and prayer, for fellowship, ‘getting to know you’ and fun. For those wanting quiet time, there are plenty of spaces, both inside and out, for personal times of tranquillity. For those seeking more activity, there are outdoor games (tennis, volleyball, 5-a-side football, and more) or indoors there’s table tennis and a pool table.

Michael Sadgrove’s talks during the weekend will focus on four ways of exploring our faith - **worship, spirituality, heritage and outreach** - looking at both what we believe and how we are able to practise it in today’s world. He hopes we will take away more confidence in our faith, in sharing it with others, treasure our heritage at Holy Trinity, and how we look together at our church life. (*See July’s Trinity Times for a more in-depth explanation*) There will be a full programme for the children.

**Last few rooms remaining—don’t miss this opportunity...**

*A small selection of images of Hothorpe Hall*



The front of Hothorpe Hall showing the Chapel



Beautiful mosaic in the grounds

A typical double/twin bedroom



The Dining Room



The Hall from a section of the extensive gardens



Part of the Lounge Bar

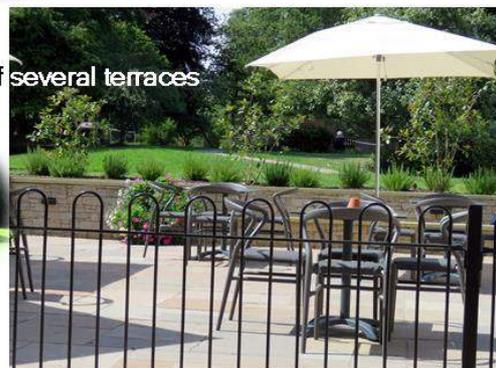


The entrance



The Terrace Room

One of several terraces



The Drawing Room



If you would like to join us for this wonderful event, Booking Forms are available at the back of church or from Hilary, details below. The cost for the weekend, including all meals from dinner on Friday to, and including, lunch on Sunday, is £320 per room (2 sharing).

If you would like further information please do contact either **Hilary Newman**, tel: 01789 296771, email [hilnewman1945@gmail.com](mailto:hilnewman1945@gmail.com), or **Phil Harper**, email [phil@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto:phil@stratford-upon-avon.org).

**Whole Parish Away Weekend 2017**

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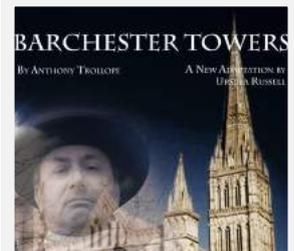


# Trinity Players

Invite you to help Celebrate their 10th Anniversary

in the Parish Centre on Saturday September 9th at 7.30pm.  
Wine and cheese and a trip down memory lane as we perform some favourite scenes from past productions.

**Tickets £10 from the Church Shop**



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# A Rhône Journey

Hazel Tattersall



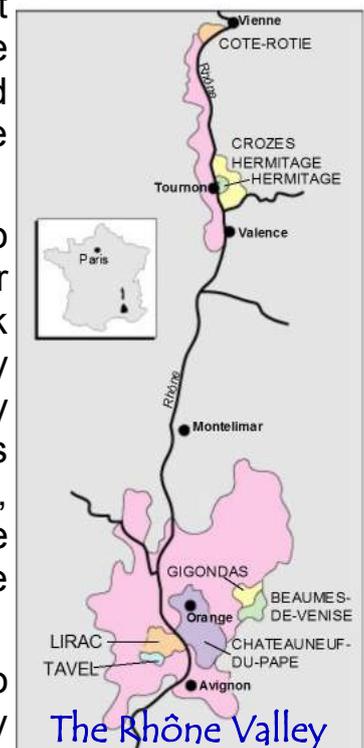
One of the greatest wine rivers in the world is the River Rhône. It's a river which holds great fascination for me, having travelled up and down it both in my student days, when studying for my WSET diploma and later as a wine tutor on river cruises. Rising in the Alps, south of Lucerne, it flows west through the vineyards of the Valais and north

west into Lake Geneva. It then flows out through the vineyards of the Savoie, westwards to Lyons, then due south into the Mediterranean at Marseille. Although one vineyard region, there are 2 distinct parts, north and south, with different terrain and very different climates (as far as grape growing is concerned), and sometimes differing grape varieties.

A particularly memorable visit for me was at Easter time where I had organised a visit to the Northern Rhône. Flying to Lyon, we picked up a car to drive down the west bank, south to Tournon where we stayed overnight. I had been lucky enough to arrange a visit to world famous producer Michel Chapoutier at Tain Hermitage, a town opposite on the east bank. As we drove, it was fascinating to see these northern west bank vineyards, planted on steeply terraced south-east facing slopes of the river banks. Harvesting here has to be done by hand, so testing work for the pickers. Tractors are used to winch up the baskets of grapes. Of course, these vineyards get full exposure to the sun – hence this most northerly appellation is named 'Côte Rotie AC' (roasted slopes). This is 'Syrah' country, where this grape dominates, producing great 'long lived' wines. A small amount of the fragrant white grape Viognier is also grown, and white Rousanne and Marsanne of which a small amount can be added to give smoothness to the powerful reds.

Next morning we drove over the bridge from Tournon to the town of Tain Hermitage on the east bank of the River for our meeting. The most striking site on this east bank has to be Hermitage Hill. This astonishing hill, a huge grey largely granite rock—273 metres high— thrusts its way upwards from the surrounding countryside. It even forces the river to change course eastwards in a dramatic curve, just above the town of Tournon on the opposite bank. The twin towns of Tain and Tournon stand rather like 'centurions' on either side of the river bank.

The granite retains the warmth of the sun, allowing rain to drain away quickly, perfect for grapes! This was obviously recognised by the Romans because they planted vines here in the 4<sup>th</sup> century.



The name all began with a Hermit, or so legend has it that a 13thC crusader (Henri Gaspard) came to the Hill after the end of the wars to live the rest of his life. Whether or not it is true, a small medieval chapel still stands on the summit of Hermitage Hill.

Producer Paul Jaboulet owns the Chapel which when lit at night is an amazing sight. This producer uses it on his world famous Hermitage La Chapelle label.

Our appointment was on Good Friday morning and as we walked to the winery, aromas of chocolate from a nearby chocolate factory were in the air!

Having had a fascinating tour of the winery followed by a wide ranging tasting of their wines, we were asked a surprising question - 'are you interested in vintage cars?' Before I could say 'not really', my husband Chris said 'yes'. We were then taken to see Monsieur Chapoutier's private collection of over 30 vintage cars. Much to Chris's delight we were offered a ride up Hermitage Hill to the Chapel in a 1957 Korean War vintage jeep. Quite an amazing ride. I was invited to take the front seat whilst my husband sat in the rear pretending to be Hawk Eye from 'MASH'!

We were able to go into the Chapel, with its amazing views and then drive back down through the vineyards. A syndicate of 20 producers own vineyard plots individually. So very special memories, particularly whenever I am fortunate to be tasting Hermitage or Crozes Hermitage wines.

So down to the Southern Rhone and river wine tours.

Here the valley opens out and is flatter. Not only is the landscape and climate different (Mediterranean), but so is the grape mix. Grenache dominates the reds but up to 13 varieties can be used of which Syrah, Mouvedre and Cinsault are most important. This region makes 95% of the Rhône's total production with an enormous range in style, quality and price levels.

As wine tutor, I joined the boat at Arles. My role was to present a daily tasting on board, help guide at any vineyards/producers visited. However, whenever on deck, I was always required to be 'on hand' to offer 'question and answer sessions'. Our first stop was Avignon, where we toured the Popes Palace and other sights in this wonderful historic town. We then sailed up to Roquemaure. Next morning we disembarked for a short coach ride to the vineyards of Châteauneuf du Pape, famed for its 'galet' (pudding) stones which act as 'night storage heaters' for the vines ensuring good ripening. It was Pope John XXII, elected in 1316 who planted vineyards and olive groves in this area, later to become known as 'Châteauneuf'.

We visited several producers, with informative tours of the vineyards and wineries, and the tastings completing the visits were understandably popular!

Our next stop was at Tournon. It was here that the Carmelite monks, major landowners in the 13c who developed the vineyards (now within the St Joseph appellation). The wines of Tournon became a favourite of Henry 11 who apparently kept a personal supply of several barrels.



As we sailed northwards, the views of Hermitage Hill from the boat were amazing. Further north on the west bank, situated between St Joseph and Cote Rotie, we reached the small appellation of Condrieu and were able to spot a Chateau on the hillside. This was Chateau Grillet, a single vineyard enclave within Condrieu, producing white vines from Viognier, aged in oak. At that time, this Chateau did not permit visitors, so disappointing for all. It was then our final night on board before docking at Lyon. One of our guests surprised me by producing a bottle of Chateau Grillet which he had managed to buy in Tournon. He asked if I could open it and taste it with his friends before dinner – a memorable aperitif!

So if you are looking for a wine river region to visit, I would certainly recommend the Rhône.

### Hermitage Hill Northern Rhône

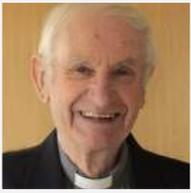


The first daffodils of autumn will appear  
When the leaves fall upwards to the  
trees...

Adrian Henri

*Wines at Home*  
*Page 33*





## SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTERS



‘Who is my neighbour?’ the newcomer asked,  
when he came ,  
to live on the row.

‘A man or a woman? A couple perhaps?’  
But nobody wanted to know.

‘We’re much too busy to pry,’ they said.

‘We’ve still got the mortgage to pay.

From Monday to Friday we pass in the night,  
and weekends we’re mainly away.’

‘I think it’s a man,’ a young lady said,  
‘and they say that he’s awfully weird.

Whenever he’s seen he dresses quite odd  
with a tatty long coat and a beard.

I’ve not seen him myself – it’s just what they say,

It could be he’s something to hide:  
there was an old woman who used to live there,  
but maybe she left him or died.’

The stranger looked long at the house next door:  
the garden was much overgrown –  
weeds on the driveway, a broken-down gate  
and a lawn that had rarely been mown.

He strode up the pathway and pressed on the bell,  
and then he tried knocking instead.

At last there appeared a man with a beard,  
and a very odd hat on his head.

‘Hello!’ said the newcomer, breaking the ice,  
‘I’m Chris, and I think John’s your name?’  
I’ve come to live in the semi next door –  
our houses are almost the same.’

‘Who told you my name?’ asked the man with a croak.

‘How did you know I was John?’

‘Perhaps intuition, or maybe a guess.  
It’s not very often I’m wrong.’



'Come in,' said old John, 'and sit yourself down,  
I'm sorry I'm in such a mess,  
but since my wife died I don't eat much or sleep,  
and as for the rest you can guess.'  
'Look , John,' said young Chris as he sat by his side,  
you've me to care for you now.  
We're going to look up, we're going to get out,  
If you'll kindly let me show how.'

Chris left the old fellow to puzzle his head,  
and next day he came back at three.  
'What I'd like you to do,' said Chris to his friend,  
'is to come to my house for your tea.'  
'Nay, I can't,' said old John, 'I've nothing to wear –  
I'd rather curl up and die.'  
'Oh, but look what I've brought from the charity shop:  
smart jacket, new shirt and a tie.'

John came for his tea and what a surprise!  
He found he was far from alone:  
There was Alfred and Molly and Betty and Bill,  
and Connie and Geoffrey and Joan.  
In fact half the street had come for the treat –  
there must have been twenty or more.  
There was chatter and banter and laughter and tears  
as shyness fell to the floor.

The house is now smart with a fresh lick of paint.  
The neighbours all help with a zest.  
The lawn is kept trim, the weeds have all gone  
and the whole of the street is John's guest.  
People hug when they meet and no-one's left out,  
but all of it started when Chris  
with such blatant caring could knock on a door  
believing it would lead to this.

*David C Ellis*

## *Wines at Home*

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## 1947 – A Pantoum

14<sup>th</sup> August, midnight strikes, a new country of many millions raises its flag  
An empire packs away its jewel in the crown, carefully, not reproachfully,  
A new made nation of ancient people spreads its wings and begins to crow  
And shuffling off colonial shackles the joyful free dance in the street

An empire packs away its jewel in the crown, carefully, not reproachfully  
An historical marker that flags the beginning of my time on earth  
And shuffling off colonial shackles the joyful free dance in the street  
But not too long before the perennial thorns of dogma start to stab

An historical marker that flags the beginning of my time on earth  
Soon becomes a bath of blood, a nightmare of terror and fear  
Not too long after the perennial thorns of dogma start to stab  
Good neighbours become sworn enemies, objects of loathing and hate

Soon there comes a bath of blood, a nightmare of terror and fear  
Diwali, Ramadan, Vaisakhi, Eid - shared festivals no more  
Good neighbours become sworn enemies, objects of loathing and hate  
The most respected man in the village hides his trembling children in a field

Diwali, Ramadan, Vaisakhi, Eid - shared festivals no more  
Used now as points of difference to focus derision, rage, violence  
The most respected man in the village hides his trembling children in a field  
Many flee to my land and bring the jewel in the crown to sparkle here

August 14<sup>th</sup>, midnight strikes, two nations, born in blood will raise their  
separate flags.



Jane Taylor

August 2017



*A pantoum is a poem of four lined stanzas in which the second and fourth lines of the first verse become the first and third lines of the next verse and so on through the poem. The first line, or a version of it may be repeated at the end. In the modern pantoums that I have read there is no longer any rhyme scheme which in the original Malaysian folk poem was abab for each verse.*

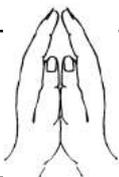
*My source of information says that “the reader takes four steps forward and then two back” making the pantoum a “perfect form for the evocation of past times”.*

*This month I chose to write about the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Independence of India for Stratford Writers’ Circle of which I am a member. I have also celebrated my 70th birthday this year and feel connected in some way to this historical marker.*

*Jane*



Hilary Newman & Ursula Russell, with others  
begin the task of measuring-up for new protective covers  
for the Church Bibles



## 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. Plus refreshments.

Everyone is welcome

Contacts: The Revd. Jenny Rowland 01789 415548

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# Soundbites



## *For September*

6th—Samuel Bridges (Tenor) with Benedict Wilson (Piano)

13th—Paul Mcroft (Baritone) with John Jenkins (Piano)

20th—Jonathan Clarke (Organ)

27th—Chi-Hoi Chung RCM (Piano)



Soundbites back in May 2017 with Patrick



## Mike Baker



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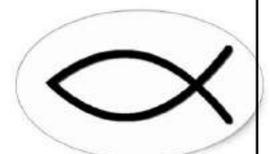
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## Trinity Ladies



"Sentimental value..."

Revd. Diane Patterson

As we did not have a meeting in August I do so hope all our members will be able to come to our meeting on **20th September at 2 pm in the Parish Centre**, when we will be celebrating our **LITTLE TREASURES OF SENTIMENTAL VALUE**. If you have something you would like to show the group, please bring it along for a 'show and tell' session that afternoon. We will be having a raffle and tea and cake afterwards. I look forward to seeing everyone and guests and new members are always most welcome to join us.

*Diane*

## 'FRIENDS OF ST HELEN'S' CALENDAR FOR 2018

Angela Wylam

Every dog in Clifford had his (or her) day on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August. Short ones, tall ones, hairy ones, smooth ones, black, brown or white ones, tail wagers and growlers, they all gathered on the green for the photo shoot organised by the Friends' chairman, Sarah Crang to feature in the calendar for 2018. The barking subsided as they ushered their owners into a semi-circle for what may be a once-in-a-lifetime record of the village's canine population. Which month will showcase the dogs? Will they oust the floods in February? Will cottage topiary take second-billing in July? These are the questions they are all asking. So be sure not to miss this tantalising puzzle and order your copy very soon. They will certainly be available in the shop at Holy Trinity (discount for Friends' Supporters) and Clifford Garden Centre. Go to the web-site at <http://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/friends-of-shakespeare-s-church> where the St Helen's Friends have a page or email [friends@st-helenschurch.co.uk](mailto:friends@st-helenschurch.co.uk) to find out how you (and your dog) can support this venture.



*Angela*

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## From the August Registers...



### Baptisms

13th Joshua George Parker Gill  
Khurrum Mahmood  
Lola Winter Ann Rose

26th Cecily and Esme Ryder

27th Ethan Marshall

5th Matthew Rabiasz and Lucy Walker

19th Andrew Western and Mary Young

26th George Turnbull and Victoria Smith



### Weddings

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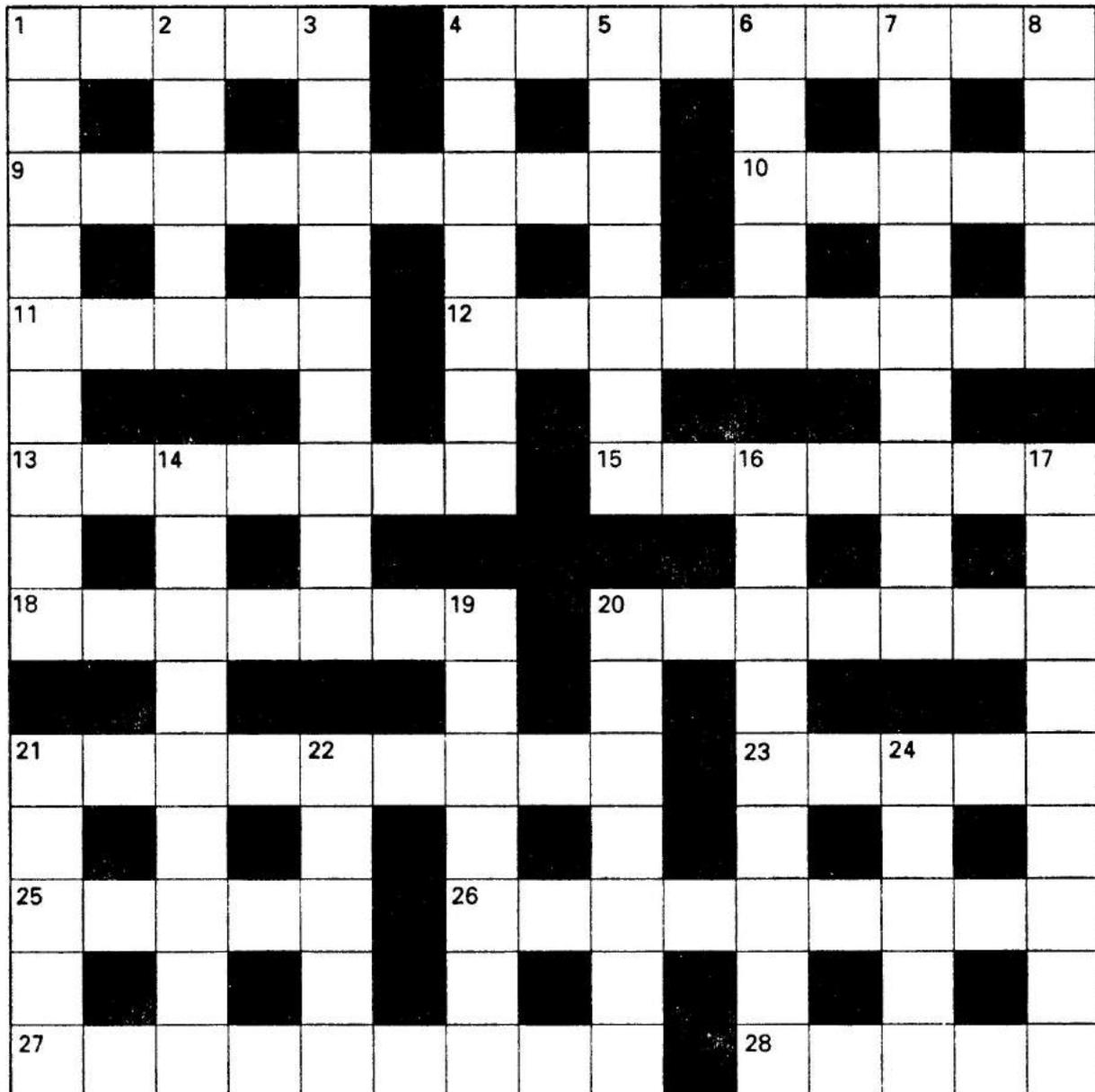
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# Crossword For Job



**CLUES ACROSS** 1 Roofer (5) 4 Personnel protector (9) 9 Picture seller (3,6)  
 10 Irritable (5) 11 Happening (5) 12 Honey farmer (9) 13 Bedtime song (7) 15  
 Stouter (7) 18 Automatised (7) 20 Spanned (7) 21 Private driver (9) 23  
 Disagree (5) 25 Edible bulb (5) 26 Invalidates (9) 27 Fourteen liner poet (9)  
 28 Unbending (5)

**CLUES DOWN** 1 Gypsy (9) 2 Turning machine (5) 3 One who starts again (2-  
 7) 4 Wimbledon player's servant (4-3) 5 Blackest (7) 6 Mentor (5) 7 Receiving  
 (9) 8 Moisture remover (5) 14 Keeper of books (9) 16 Army officer (9) 17  
 Made amends (9) 19 Purify (7) 20 House breaker (7) 21 Boasts (5) 22 Railing  
 (5) 24 Departing (5)

## Books



### **Stratford Mosaic—Gerald Jaggard**

*Steve Newman*

Gerald Jaggard, the author of *Stratford Mosaic*, died in 2001, aged 97, but his book, published in 1960, lives on as one of the best ever written about Stratford-upon-Avon and its people; it also fetches extremely high prices in good second-hand bookshops, which is appropriate as Jaggard ran one of the best Stratford ever had - The Shakespeare Press.

I remember the book shop well (situated toward the top of Sheep Street, in what is today Vintner's restaurant) as a dark place which felt like something out of a Dickens' novel, and there were plenty of those around, including small leather bound first editions that reeked of the past. Jaggard was a very quiet man who acknowledged your presence with a nod, allowing you to meander around the two floors of his shop, all the while keeping a discreet eye on you. Back in the late 1950s and early '60s most of his books were out of my price range, although I recall buying a copy of R.L. Stevenson's, *Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes!* Most of my book buying money was spent at The Chaucer Head Bookshop just around the corner in Chapel Street, where, unlike Jaggard's place, books were piled high in every dusty corner, a totally different experience.

Gerald Jaggard was born in Liverpool in 1904, with a family steeped in Shakespearean folklore, not least that of being related to William and Isaac Jaggard, the father and son printers of Shakespeare's First Folio of 1623, which isn't a bad link for a Stratford bookseller. Gerald's father, Captain William Jaggard, was born in Berkshire, but, as Gerald tells us, his father's love of books took him, as a teenager... "...to Leamington Spa, where he was apprenticed to Simmons the bookseller. From there he moved to Liverpool, where, from a partnership, he developed his own business, and it was here that he married and settled in Canning Street.

In the shadow of the great unfinished cathedral he combined the writing of pamphlets and other literary work with the daily hustle of his city bookshop .

When in Warwickshire, he had spent many hours in the Memorial Theatre Library. Proud of his lineal descent from the printer-editor of the First Folio...



"... he resolved to make his own contribution to Shakespearean literature. His choice was soon made. When a young man, hardly twenty, he had been employed by the Earl of Warwick to catalogue and classify the great collection [over 2,000 volumes] of Shakespeariana at Warwick Castle.

"I sometimes wonder if my father would have tackled his self-imposed labour of Hercules if he had realized that it would occupy his spare moments for over twenty years!

"The necessity for research brought my father on frequent visits to Stratford, and much of his time was spent in the Memorial Theatre Library. He returned from these sojourns full of the charm and loveliness of the town, and undoubtedly the smoke and grime of Liverpool, the bustle of city life, seemed more oppressive after the glimpses of country quiet. As a youth he had dreamed of settling down one day in Shakespeare's home town, and now, some twenty years later, those dreams were hardening into definite plans. Liverpool, suitable though it was for the book trade, and for the printing press from which my father issued his index to 'Book Prices Current' and a small study of 'Printing - its Birth and Growth', held little or no encouragement for the Shakespeare lover. Stratford, the very home of such study, was ready to welcome him, as he was already a governor of its theatre, a member of its Shakespeare Club, and a prolific and diligent correspondent of its weekly newspaper, The Stratford-upon-Avon Herald, whose editor, Mr. George Boyden was a personal friend."

And by this time William Jaggard had also started work on his huge Shakespeare Bibliography, when: "...a post fell vacant in Liverpool which held, to my father, a strong attraction. It was the office of Chief Librarian. It seemed to hold almost everything that he desired, except, of course, that it ruled out a transition to Stratford.

"Unfortunately for my father's hopes, public appointments, like race horses, are unpredictable. In this case, I imagine, a standing order of the city council dictated an advertisement of the post when the successful applicant was already in mind.

"This disappointment was the final impetus needed for my father to make the great move. His Shakespeare Bibliography was, I think, already in the printer's hands when, in 1910, he tore up the roots of city life and, with his wife, family, books and furniture, he travelled to Stratford, when it was still very much a sleepy market town that just happened to have a rather large theatre attached to it."

Jaggard describes the town well in Stratford Mosaic:

"Fine weather created a problem which now hardly exists, that of dust in the streets. The stream of new-fangled cars stirred up the dust that lay on unmacadamised roads and puffed it into pedestrians' faces. The town's solution was to send round the water cart, but it only needed a few hours sunshine for the trouble to start again. In wet weather, of course, mud was thrown up, and residents complained bitterly of motors going through the streets at the reckless pace of fifteen miles an hour."



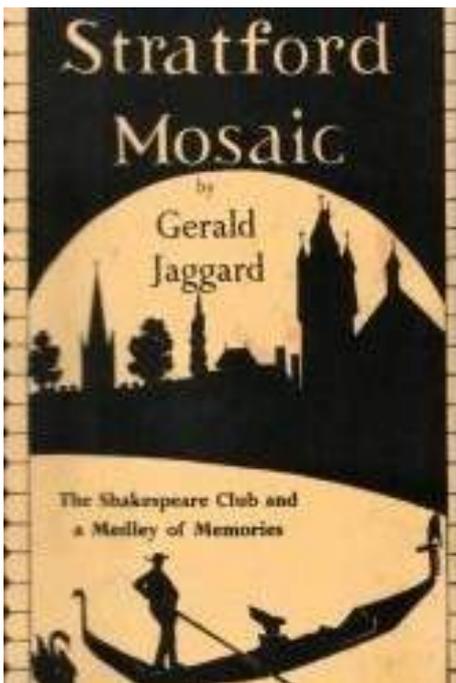
He continues:

"Street traders occupied the middle of Bridge Street once a week as far back as 1911. They brought a collection of ramshackle stalls, with fruit and fish as the principle offerings. The fish vendors threw buckets of water over their wares at frequent intervals to keep them fresh, and the resulting state of the street can be imagined. All the same it was twenty years before the market was transferred to Rother Street, the obvious place as it was a market in Shakespeare's day."

*Stratford Mosaic* is a gem of book that looks long and lovingly at The Shakespeare Club, which dates back to 1824: "...when a group of enthusiasts in the Falcon Hotel decided to form this organized society. One sometimes wonders why 208 years elapsed before the poet was thought worthy of such an honour.

"The idea was keenly supported, and in a few years membership had reached the 400 mark. Before the end of the [19th] century the club attracted Royal patronage, and was able to call itself 'The Royal Shakespearean Club'. "

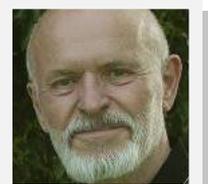
The club still exists, meeting on the second Tuesday of the month (Sept - April) at The Shakespeare Institute. The Shakespeare Club members were the instigators of the modern day Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations, as Jaggard reminds us, when:



"1904 brought another innovation in the appearance of Morris Dancers invited from Bidford-on-Avon. Their performance must have been a great success, for at this point the Club began to plan ambitiously for the future, and saw the celebrations as a spectacle that would attract many people to the town and thus make the annual tribute a Warwickshire rather than just a Stratford event. A special committee was formed to organize the Birthday programme on a proper footing, the sum of £5 being voted to them as sufficient financial backing!"

Jaggard's wonderful little book gives us a glimpse into a past that is both distant, yet somehow, still with us.

Steve Newman



### SOLUTION TO A CROSSWORD FOR JOB

ACROSS 1 Tiler 4 Bodyguard 9 Art Dealer 10 Itchy 11 Event 12 Beekeeper 13 Lullaby 15 Tubber 18 Robotic 20 Bridged 21 Chauffeur 23 Argue 25 Onion 26 Nullifies 27 Sonneteer 28 Rigid

DOWN 1 Traveller 2 Lathe 3 Re-entrant 4 Ball-boy 5 Darkest 6 Guide 7 Accepting 8 8 Dryer 14 Librarian 16 Brigadier 17 Redressed 19 Cleanse 20 Burglar 21 Crows 22 Fence 24 Going

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

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Tim Raistrick - 01789 509885	Mike Warrillow - 01789 298928

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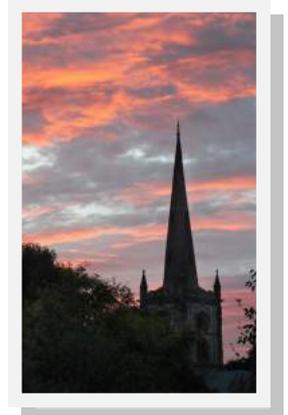
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