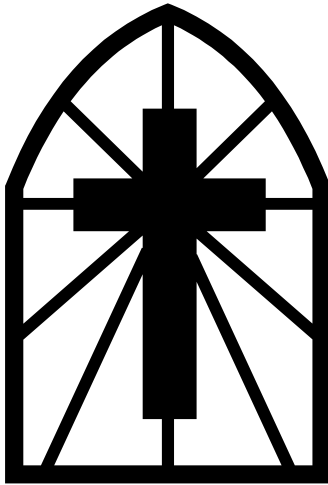


CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



January 2006

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD
DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion, Junior Church & Crèche
First Sundays & Festivals	Choral Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (see page 5)

There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing

CHOIR

Junior Choir Practice	Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Adult Practice	Friday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

New singers always welcome - please contact Director of Music 01225 445360

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

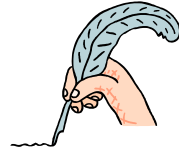
By arrangement. Please 'phone the Vestry 338869 / Officiating Minister 427462

Chris and Angela, the churchwardens, would like to know about people who are ill, or of any circumstances in which the ministry of the Church would be welcome.

A Happy and Peaceful
 New Year
 to
 all our Readers!

Forum...

Happy New Year?



This Forum should really be a blank page! To start with I thought I would write about New Year Resolutions but, in my usual pernickety way, I decided I would find out how they started, who started them and so on. Much to my surprise none of my reference books Christian or secular, had any reference to them. It was as if they had never been: in any place at any time.



Having been stymied in that direction I chose to be bold and tell you some of the changes I would like to see in the world and in this country. I'll mention just three but each has many ramifications.

I would like to see more attention paid to the poor. In many parts of the world, particularly in parts of Africa, the plight of the poor rarely seems to improve. Aid charities continue to raise vast sums of money and many aid workers volunteer to live and work under harsh and adverse conditions, but it does seem as if we all lurch from one crisis to another. The poor also exist in this country too, even if conditions here are vastly superior to Africa. In Bath, for example, the Bath Abbey Homelessness report says that 75% of homes have an income of less than £25,000: this may sound a lot but is only the average wage. And when one reads about soup runs in Bath and free food markets in Swindon ... ?

I would also like to see more attention paid to the rich. I've heard all the arguments about entrepreneurship, responsibilities, wealth creation and so on, but surely we need a limit to be set somewhere ... ?

I would also like to see our language used in a more precise and honest way. In connection with poverty it is said that we all believe in free trade and free markets, but why does this only apply to the rich nations? In the case of the rich it is said that they bring benefits to the nation, so why doesn't our government ban the use of bribes? And if the days of calling a spade a spade are passed, why are we stuck with unexplained phrases like "we need to reform" or "we need to move forward" or "we need to modernise".

After this diatribe you may be asking, “where does my hope come from?” My tentative answer would be “from ordinary people with a devout faith”. Even this idea is far from original: for example, Malachi O’Doherty, writing in *The Guardian* recently, suggested that devout people of all faith had a similar kind of theology. They were not particularly interested in their origins or their futures, but were more interested in this world. They knew that listening to and talking about the fears and worries of other people was often the most helpful thing they could do. Their faith supports and sustains the communities to which they belong.

A Happy New Year to you all!

Cyril Selmes

The mayor calls his citizens to prayer

The Right Worshipful Mayor of Bath, Councillor Peter Metcalfe, invites the people of Bath and visitors to the city to explore his chosen theme for 2006. His chaplain, the Revd. D. Dewes will lead the service and help us to discover the city’s unsung heroes. There will be music by The Freshford Singers. You do not need a ticket. All are welcome at the Guildhall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 3 January at 7.30 pm.

Unsung heroes will also be remembered at the mayor’s Multi-Faith gathering at the Guildhall on Sunday 5th February at 3 pm. All are welcome to share a buffet and discover more about eight different faiths.

Come and Meet Up on Monday 9th

Meet Up Monday continues to attract a cross-section of the congregation to the Hare and Hounds on Lansdown, usually on the first Monday of the month. It’s always a very friendly and happy event—if you’ve never been along, why not make a new start in 2006? The first “meet up” will be on Monday 9th January (because 2nd is a Bank Holiday).



If you’d like a lift, please contact Nicky Gladstone on 859969.

Church Calendar for January

Dec	1	Sun	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	
			THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST	
			NO Evening Service	
	3	Tue	7.30pm	The Mayor's Call to Prayer at the Guildhall
	6	Fri	EPIPHANY	
	8	Sun	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	
			THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
			6.00pm	Baptism of Christ Service at Central URC
	11	Wed	MARY SLESSOR, Founder of the Mothers' Union - 1915	
	12	Thur	11.00am	Holy Communion followed by Lunch
	15	Sun	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	18	Wed	Start of the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity"	
			7pm	Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor at Bath Abbey
	22	Sun	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	24	Tue	ST FRANCIS DE SALES, Bishop and Teacher - 1622	
	25	Wed	THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	
	28	Sat	THOMAS AQUINAS, Priest and Teacher - 1274	
Jan	29	Sun	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	
			PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
Feb	5	Sun	THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
			3.00pm	The Mayor's Multi-Faith Event at the Guildhall

Laity Rota for January

Readers		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
January	8	Nicky Gladstone	Bob Siderfin	Penny Edwards
	15	Georgina Bowman	David Bishop	Chris Graham
	22	No reading	Jane Fletcher	Matthew Jones
	29	Sarah Hiscock	Chris Munday	Ann Kemp
February	5	Sarah Jones	Judith Bishop	Judith Anderson
	12	Margaret Burrows	Sylvia Ayers	Audrey Sheppard
	19	Rosanne Gabe	Bev Pont	David Marles

Chalice Assistants

January	8	Jane Fletcher	Penny Edwards
	15	Bob Siderfin	Tessa Claridge
	22	Rosanne Gabe	Margaret Burrows
	29	Janet Mahto	Chris Graham
February	5	Ann Kemp	Jane Fletcher
	12	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin
	19	Tessa Claridge	Rosanne Gabe

Intercessors

January	8	Bev Pont
	15	David Marles
	22	Chris Graham
	29	Rev Cliff Burrows
February	5	Georgina Bowman
	12	Rev Antony Claridge



Sidespeople		8am	10am
January	8	Elizabeth Iden-Hart	Nicky and Joshua Gladstone
	15	Dil Jones	Margaret Silver Frank Twissell
	22	Dorothy Twissell	Ken and Sylvia Ayers
	29	Barbara Hayward	David Marles Joann Bunkin
February	5	Clive Tilling	John and June Metcalfe
	12	Elizabeth Iden-Hart	Chris Tanner Ann Charman
	19	Dil Jones	Tessa Claridge Jean Ferguson

Lectionary for January

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Jan 8	The Epiphany		
	Isaiah 60.1-6	Ephesians 3.1-12	Matthew 2.1-12
15	Second Sunday of Epiphany		
	1 Samuel 3.1-20	Revelation 5.1-10	John 1.43-end
22	Epiphany 3, Prayers for Christian Unity		
	No reading	Revelation 19.6-10	John 2.1-11
29	Candlemas		
	Malachi 3.1-5	Hebrews 2.14-end	Luke 2.22-40
Feb 5	Fourth Sunday before Lent		
	Isaiah 40.21-end	1 Corinthians 9.16-23	Mark 1.29-39

Our Calendar Correspondent Explains... "St Paul" (25th January)



Paul of Tarsus (originally Saul of Tarsus) or Paulus, also known as **Saint Paul the Apostle**, (AD 3–67) is widely considered to be central to the early development and spread of Christianity, particularly westward from Judea. Many Christians view him as an important interpreter of the teachings of Jesus. Paul is described as a persistent persecutor of early Christians, almost all of whom were Jewish, prior to his "Road to Damascus" experience, which brought about his conversion to faith in Jesus as Messiah, not only for Jews, but for all, regardless of ethnic background. Paul made the first great effort, through his Epistles to Gentile Christian communities, to show that the God of Abraham is for all people, rather than for Jews only.

Paul is venerated as a Saint by all the churches that honor saints, including those of the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Anglican traditions, and some Lutheran sects; and he is the 'patron saint' of the City of London. He did much to advance Christianity among the Gentiles, and is considered to be one source (if not the primary source) of early Church doctrine, and the founder of Pauline Christianity. His epistles form a fundamental section of the New Testament.

Due to his body of work and his undoubted influence on the development of Christianity, many modern scholars have considered Paul to be the founder of Christianity, who modified Jesus' teachings and added important new doctrines. However, this view remains controversial.

Family News

Retirement Best Wishes

Before Christmas, pupils, parents and staff of King Edward's Pre-prep School came to Christ Church for their annual Christingle Service. This happy occasion was tinged with sadness since the headmistress, Mrs Jan Siderfin retired at the end of term. We are grateful to Mrs Siderfin for establishing this important link with Christ Church and we hope her successor will choose to come next year. Antony has given all our best wishes to Jan for a happy retirement and the opportunity to spend more time with her husband, Bob

All the way from Toronto

We look forward to welcoming Adrian and Jenny Hall and their family when they fly in from Canada to have their baby daughter Natalie baptised on Sunday 12th February.

Jenny is the granddaughter of Madge North and we are delighted that they are able to make the journey for such an important family occasion.

Love and Prayers

Many readers will know Brenda Bridgeman and be sorry to hear of the death of her husband Ken. The funeral was held at Christ Church on 12th December. Ken was the prime mover behind the project which resulted in creation of the Millennium Green near St Stephen's church on Lansdown.

By profession Ken was a film and theatre designer and he and Brenda enjoyed 47 years of happy married life together. We send Brenda and her family much love and prayers.

Thanks to everyone



Advent began with a sublime service of readings and music. After that we moved on to Carols by Candlelight, the Nativity Play, Midnight Mass and the services on Christmas Day. All this has involved so many people in a good deal of work. To everyone who helped – musicians, singers, the Junior Church team, flower arrangers, people who tidied up and the mullers of the Christmas wine, bakers of mince pies – very many thanks for everything.

Festive fare

Twenty people sat down to a delicious Christmas lunch after the Eucharist on 14th December. June Metcalfe provided a lovely meal of chicken and vegetables followed by a variety of puddings (thanks to the pudding makers) topped off with coffee and posh biscuits. Those present showed their appreciation by making a generous contribution to the World Vision Fund.



Strong leadership brings rewards

There has been nothing but praise for our Christmas Fair supremo, Jane Kirkbride. Despite the Christmas Market in the town centre our fair attracted a both local people and visitors to the historic Guildhall. All the stalls did good business and the lunches and teas, served in sumptuous surroundings were as popular as ever. Jane said everything went smoothly because she had the full support of so many at our church. A typically modest comment but everyone else is agreed that it was Jane's organisational skills and firm direction which made the event such a success. The total amount raised on the day stands at around £2600.



Shake off those winter blues

After the excesses of the festive season many people resolve to take more exercise and go on a diet. The nice people at Julian House have an alternative which seems like a good idea?. They have put together a fascinating programme of lectures to provide good, nutritional food for the mind.

The first lecture of the New Year, on **11th January**, will appeal to the more athletic of our readers. Sports scientist Claire Lane will offer dietary and training advice to those intending to enter the Bath Half Marathon, in a talk entitled ***Doing the Bath Half – the Easy Way***. Julian House is delighted to have been chosen as one of the nominated charities for this year's event.

On **18th January**, local writer Tim Bullamore takes the stage to pose the question – ***Obituary Writing – A Dying Art?*** Tim Bullamore has written obituaries for all the major British newspapers, most notably The Times and the Daily Telegraph.

The series ends on **25th January** when Duff Hart Davis tells us things we never knew when he talks about ***The Alchemy of the Ghost Writer***. Hart Davis has been the pen behind many famous personalities. His authors have included General Sir Peter de la Billiere, the KGB double agent Oleg Gordievsky, the SAS escaper Chris Ryan and Sir John Stevens the recently retired Commissioner of the metropolitan Police. His own books have included eight adventure novels, several biographies and the widely acclaimed *Fauna Britannica*, an illustrated encyclopaedia of all the creatures of the kingdom, past and present.

The lectures will be given at The Woodworks, 5 Green Park Road. Tickets - £5 each including a glass of wine – can be booked by telephoning Bath 354650. All proceeds will go to support the work of Julian House which is the leading provider of services to homeless men and women in Bath & North East Somerset and the surrounding area.

DO YOU KNOW...



... why kissing under the mistletoe is a national pastime?

Geoffrey Grigson in *AN ENGLISHMAN'S FLORA* writes: "Species of Mistletoe are revered from Europe to Japan, New Guinea and West Africa." This plant was a mystery to so many peoples: it had no roots or stems; grew on all kinds of trees and shrubs; had bright green leaves when its tree-host had lost its own; and had white, glistening berries. Grigson also lists many properties attributed to mistletoe: it induces fertility in women and animals; it is an aphrodisiac; it improves the apple crop; it helps those with epilepsy; it protects people from evil spirits as well as opening locks and acting as a divining rod for water. Mistletoe that grew on oak trees was rare: but oak groves were sacred places for Druids, so oak mistletoe also became revered. Pliny describes a ceremony where oak mistletoe was cut with a golden sickle and lowered onto a white cloth to avoid pollution by the earth. Then two white bulls were sacrificed!

These magical properties of mistletoe were well known in some parts of England from medieval times, when kissing under the mistletoe probably started because embracing one another was a favourite pastime. There were often elaborate ceremonies connected with mistletoe. In Herefordshire it was cut at midnight on New Year's Eve and hung in a prominent place. Last year's mistletoe was then cut down and often burnt in a bush made of mistletoe and hawthorn. The bush was lit and carried across the ridges of a ploughed field to increase its fertility. Such events occurred in a variety of ways until the Great War, but only in areas where mistletoe grew; and this was restricted to the Borders between England and Wales, the counties surrounding the Severn valley where apple orchards provided the ideal conditions.

So how did a local habit become a national pastime? Only because of the mania for Druids in the eighteenth century and the writings of the Revd William Stukeley who peopled Avebury and Stonehenge with these imaginary priests and built in 1728 an imitation Stonehenge and Druid shrine in his rectory garden in Grantham in Lincolnshire. All based, apparently, on the few words written by Pliny!

Cyril Selmes

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

Following our donations to the Women's Refuge, I have now received two letters of thanks, one from the manager of the House and one from the residents, who write, "On behalf of all the women and children here at the Refuge, I would like to thank you so much for the grilling machine which you have given us. Rest assured that this will be of great benefit to us all, especially as we seem to be living in a fast food world these days, also the value of healthy eating is vital to us all." May I once again join my own thanks to these, for all the support that Christ Church Congregation gives each year.



For our December meeting, three of our ladies joining the St Luke's MU for their Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols. The splendid programme concluded with a festive tea, and a visit from the MU Diocesan representative who had come "hot foot" to join us from another Christmas Service in her own parish. Our new year will start with a Corporate Communion in January on a date to be agreed, and hopefully this will be followed by lunch. We hope to hold an Overseas event in the Spring, on a date yet to be decided, so please watch the Notices and the calendars in the Magazine for further information.

Meanwhile, may we wish all members and Christ Church friends a very Happy New Year.

Sylvia M Ayers, MU Secretary

Grand Christmas Trivia Quiz—The Answers

1. White Christmas
2. Donner, Dasher and Dancer
3. Clara
4. 34th Street
5. Myrrh
6. Clement C Moore
- 7 His heart is 2 sizes too small
- 8 The ox and lamb
- 9 God rest you Merry Gentlemen
- 10 Eleven
- 11 King Wenceslas
- 12 Cromwell
- 13 Turkey
- 14 24—28 hours



LMG News

Make your commitment today!



Antony's letter and the article in last month's magazine has made everyone aware of the Weekend Away at Brunel Manor from 9th to 11th June. This event is jointly organised by Christ Church and St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe. News from the hill suggests that 40 people are already booked.

Our three churches weekend away is designed to explore why faith and community belong together. There will be two main sessions which we help us look at how our churches might work together in the future. Among the visiting speakers will be The Ven Peter Harrison, Archdeacon of the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Whilst there is a serious intent behind the idea of going to the seaside together, there is a determination that it should be a lot of fun. Families with young children are particularly welcome and older people can also be assured of a relaxing and comfortable time.



Christ Church trustees are so anxious that as many people as possible should have the opportunity of enjoying a weekend away that they are subsidising the price, which includes accommodation and all meals.

The cost for adults will be £60; students, OAPs £35 with under 16s free. Obviously, if there are adults who are able to afford the full price of £100, we shall be able to offer more places.



Make your commitment today by filling in a booking slip and handing it to Alex Soboslay.

Treading the boards—Christ Church stars of the stage.

This year's pantomime at the Kingswood Theatre is *Babes in the Wood*. The show runs from 11th to 15th January with matinees on the 14th and 15th. Among the cast is **Jenny Soboslay** making her third appearance with the company. Jenny is a dancer and will be seen as a dragonfly, a spirit and, in a spectacular costume, as a knight on horseback. Tickets are £7 (concessions £5) and Angela or Alex Soboslay will be pleased to give details.



Over at Bradford-on-Avon, the lost boys and Captain Hook will be locked in mortal combat. This popular show is the Bradfordians seasonal offering and among the stars is **Edward Gabe** who is playing Michael. Edward is making his first appearance with the company and the production can be seen at Trinity Hall in St Lawrence School from 15th to 18th February. Booking details will be available soon.

News has just arrived of **Jenny Palmer's** success in being awarded the 6th Form Drama Scholarship at the Royal High School, Bath. Congratulations, Jenny

A Friend



In Deed

The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours, called Area Wardens. These Area Wardens have volunteered to do the neighbourly things we used to do for each other when we lived closer together. When the need arises, they are prepared on request to:

- make friendship visits or telephone calls
- do shopping at times of illness or infirmity
- offer or find sources of advice
- handle occasional non-specialist odd jobs

All areas in which church members live are covered by the Friends in Deed scheme. If you need or know of someone else who needs help, you should in the first instance contact the Friends in Deed Co-ordinators, Jane Fletcher (01225 463758) and Yvonne Morris (01225 425555). They will then get in touch with the Area Warden best able to provide the help that is needed.

Six nations Rugby

England are reigning World Champions but Wales won the 2005 six-nations Rugby championship. As this year's championship gets underway, it looks like being a very open event. England's 2003 World Cup victory was magnificent, a credit to coach Clive Woodward and captain Martin Johnson. But both of them are long gone. More and more of the Sydney heroes have reached the end of their international careers. Whether the new young England can reach the heights of their predecessors remains to be seen.

The latest of the England World Cup heroes to opt out of international Rugby is Jason Robinson. Last autumn he announced his retirement. Jason said, "I have had 12 years of continuous international rugby and the time has come to stop. For everything there is a season and I feel that my season of international rugby has come to an end. "I could have gone on but I felt that now my priority should be my family. I have prayed about it and am comfortable with my decision. From a rugby point of view, I am really looking forward to giving 100% to club rugby, something I have never really been able to do in the career, having got into the GB Rugby League squad when I was 19".

It was in 1994 the New Zealand All Black star, Va'aiga Tuigamala joined Wigan that Jason's life began to change. Jason recalls, "I just observed him for a few months. He was different from the rest of us. We would be out drinking a lot; our talk was different and our way of life. What struck me most was that he was such a happy guy. He was at peace with himself. He had something special about him. I didn't quite know what it was, but I knew he had something that I wanted."

When Va'aiga told Jason Robinson that he had had a dream about him, he was amused and asked his friend what the dream was about. "I could see you standing on top of the world. You had the world at your feet but gradually the world started crumbling beneath your feet." Jason was amazed. It was uncannily true.

Jason was on top of the world. He was 21. He had fame and fortune as an international rugby player - but inside he was empty. On the outside things looked great, but inside his life was in a mess. He got through his life only with the help of a bottle.

The dream stopped him in his tracks. He knew that he had to get his life sorted out. It was just the jolt that he needed. "I rang a friend who was a Christian and said, 'I can't go on like this. I don't want to live like this. I need help. I just knew that I could not continue what I was doing. That morning I asked Jesus into my life. The words from the Bible 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28), summed up exactly how I was feeling. At that moment, when I gave my life to the Lord, I felt a burden lifted. I went out of the office that morning smiling. That was the last thing I had thought I would be doing for a while."

By Stuart Weir of Christians in Sport

Prayer Cycle for January

- Sun* 1 We dedicate ourselves to God in this New Year and offer him all of our hopes and fears
- Mon* 2 For all people who are uncertain about their future
- Tue* 3 For the Trustees of Christ Church, and Yvonne, their Chairman
- Wed* 4 For all who are coming to terms with the death of a loved one; for those who are bearing a grief which they cannot share
- Thur* 5 For those facing redundancy, for those who are unemployed
- Fri* 6 For the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Sat* 7 For David, our Treasurer
- Sun* 8 On this feast of the Epiphany, we pray that God's message may shine through us
- Mon* 9 We pray for the week ahead, and think especially of those who are unhappy or frustrated in their work.
- Tue* 10 For intelligent interfaith dialogue; for all those affected by acts of terrorism
- Wed* 11 For the work and witness of the Mothers' Union: for Sylvia, Margaret and all members of the Christ Church MU Branch
- Thur* 12 For the lunch today after the 11am service; for John and June who work tirelessly to provide these opportunities for fellowship
- Fri* 13 For those who are lonely or feel uncared for
- Sat* 14 For our children and young people and for our Junior Church leaders, that God will bless them in their time together
- Sun* 15 For the homeless; for the work of Julian House and Genesis
- Mon* 16 For our Local Ministry Group
- Tue* 17 For Cyril, Mark and Tom our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston
- Wed* 18 For those in prison for whatever reason. For those spending time in young offenders' institutions, and their families
- Thur* 19 For Angela and Chris, our Churchwardens, and for Frank and Yvonne, our Deputy Churchwardens

-
- Fri** 20 For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries
- Sat** 21 For countries of the Third World which suffer through the selfishness of richer nations
- Sun** 22 For our Sidespeople at both the 8am and 10am services
- Mon** 23 For those who use our roads; for all who are travelling
- Tue** 24 For children being bullied at school. For parents who worry about them and do not know how to help
- Wed** 25 For engaged couples as they prepare for their marriage; for all who are responsible for helping and advising them
- Thur** 26 For couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. For the work of Relate
- Fri** 27 For the departed who have shared their earthly pilgrimage with us
- Sat** 28 For our Church Council and for Christ Church Trustees
- Sun** 29 For those who work behind the scenes to assure the smooth running of our church
- Mon** 30 For our clergy team, Antony, Cliff and Sandy
- Tue** 31 Let us thank God for the blessings of the month and the year now ending
- February**
- Wed** 1 For all being mistreated or suffering injustice
- Thur** 2 For Sarah Hiscock who draws up the Laity Rota. For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople
- Fri** 3 For Mark, David, Mike and the choir. We thank God for the gift of music and its role in our worship
- Sat** 4 For those suffering from depression, and for those who love them; that they will find the strength to seek the help which they need.
- Sun** 5 For all clergy spouses; for Tessa, Margaret and Chris
- Mon** 6 We pray for the University Chaplaincy Centre, for Angela the University Chaplain, and for all the chaplains
- Tue** 7 For the work of Churches Together in Bath; for Sylvia and Chris, our CTB representatives
- Wed** 8 For all doing voluntary service overseas

Big Questions, Little Answers

This month's subject is our Mid-Week lunch organiser and ex-Churchwarden, John Metcalfe, who celebrates his birthday in January

Where were you born? Metheringham, near Lincoln

What are your hobbies?

Woodwork, photography and walking

What car do you drive?

Vauxhall Astra

What is your favourite film, and why?

Reach For The Sky. The courage to overcome the loss of legs and fly again

What is your favourite kind of music?

Easy listening and musicals

What is your favourite kind of meal / food?

A traditional roast

What has been your proudest moment?

The grandchildren—the way Chris copes with Cystic Fibrosis and all that entails with no complaints, and Rebecca and Daniel's musical achievements

What is the most amazing place you have visited?

Grossglockner, Austria. The change in terrain as we climbed, the sun shining on the glacier at the top and the little marmots running between the rocks

What famous person, dead or alive, would you like to meet?

Douglas Bader

What's your pet hate?

Walking under a warm air blower

What's your favourite book?

I have not really got a favourite

Tell us a little-known fact about yourself

I did a sponsored climb of Ben Nevis in aid of Cystic Fibrosis

WHO'S WHO?

OFFICIATING MINISTER

The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, BA1 2YE Tel: 427462

ASSISTANT CLERGY

The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, BA2 5NL. Tel: 334743

The Rev Sandy Munday, 18 Chestnut Walk, Saltford, BS31 3BG. Tel 342740

READERS

Mark Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, BA1 6NS. Tel: 445360

Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, BA1 6SG. Tel: 420039

Tom Slade, 42 Rockcliffe Road, Bathwick, BA2 6QE. Tel: 465864

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Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, BA1 3HN. Tel: 333297

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Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

HON TREASURER

David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

CHAIRMAN of the TRUSTEES

Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, BA1 2UP. Tel: 425555

DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Mark Elliott (see above)

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BATH

Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD. Tel: 463976

CHRISTIAN AID/CHILDRENS' SOC

Jenny Wright, Ground Floor Flat, 3 Lansdown Lane, BA1 4LS. Tel:465331

JUNIOR CHURCH

Emma Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, BA1 6NS. Tel: 445360

BOOKINGS AND CALENDAR

Sylvia Ayers (see above)

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MOTHERS UNION BRANCH DEANERY

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SECRETARY / TREASURER

Sylvia Ayers (see above)

MISSIONS TO SEAFARERS

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LAITY ROTAS

Sarah Hiscock, 1 Julier House, Pera Road, BA1 5PA. Tel:

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD

DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PAST HISTORY

Christ Church was built at the end of the 18th Century by the socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship by the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church of that time to provide seating free of charge. Early supporters included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the great evangelical campaigner against slavery, William Wilberforce; Philip Pusey, the father of E B Pusey; and Martin Stafford Smith, the godfather of John Keble, who were both founders of the Oxford Movement. The building was designed by the famous Bath architect John Palmer, who was responsible for the completion of the Great Pump Room, Lansdown Crescent and St Swithin's, the parish church of Walcot. In November 1998, the congregation, friends and well-wishers from all over the world celebrated the bicentenary.

MINISTRY

Christ Church is unusual in not being a parish church. Much of the vitality of its life and worship derives from the fact that the congregation comes from all areas of the city and the surrounding districts. Whilst there is no full-time paid vicar, there is a non-stipendiary priest-in-charge, who leads a ministerial team of ordained and lay people. Worship at Christ Church largely reflects the traditions of those responsible for its foundation and the rich diversity of the Church of England as a whole. Thus, preaching and Bible-based teaching is firmly set within a liturgical setting which is best described as liberal and catholic.

SERVICES

The 8am Holy Communion is either Book of Common Prayer (1662) or Common Worship. At 10am the Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. We hold special all-age services once a month and at festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Wednesday during Lent, followed by lunch). The notice board and the weekly notice sheet provide details of discussion and prayer groups which are held at different times throughout the year. An all-age choir, which rehearses on Friday evenings maintains the much-admired music tradition at Christ Church.

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world. Our website is constantly updated and can be found at www.christchurchbath.org

The Editor would be so very grateful if contributors were to submit articles by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date.