



Art find stops work on bells

Possible prototype for Shaun the Sheep is a game-changer

An unexpected major art discovery has brought a halt to work on restoring the bells at Christ Church while heritage authorities consider how to protect the newly rediscovered artwork, which may prove to be of international significance.

The work, a hand-painted *fresco-secco* mural, is on the west wall of the ringing chamber in the bell tower. It's described as possibly the finest extant example of English Naive Art in an English church building, with potentially wider cultural significance. Its date is uncertain, but members of the congregation, some of whom have excellent memories, say it has definitely been there since before they can remember.

As for wider significance, fragmentary documentation suggests that the artist is associated with Sheffield University, the university at which Bristol animator Nick Park is known to have studied. Art experts point out that details of the

mural, in particular a scene depicting a sheep and a mole, are morphologically and stylistically consistent with some of Park's work and suggest that the Christ Church mural might be a prototype for the popular Shaun the Sheep.

This connection could turn the Christ Church mural into a place of (secular) pilgrimage. An exhibition of models of another of Park's characters, Gromit, in Bristol in September 2013 had to be closed to the public for safety reasons when as many as 3,000 visitors turned up at once. Comparable numbers at Christ Church would necessitate a rethink of access to the chamber, but then the visitor revenue could pay for some very nice renovations.

It would, however, become difficult to find room alongside the visitors for any bell-ringers, who might therefore have to go and stand in the bell chamber itself when ringing. *Now turn to page 5* ▶



A historic photo dated about 1982 showing the mural on the west wall of the ringing chamber.



The detail at both sides of the mural has striking similarities to the ovine characters of Nick Park.

Mothers' Union News

Margaret Burrows & Sylvia M. Ayers write:

Thank you to everyone who supported the "Make a Mother's Day" appeal on 30th March, and thanks also to all the purchasers of our Easter cards, which are all illustrated on the colourful catalogue page on the MU notice-board. Please see Margaret if you would like more information about any of our Easter products. Secondly, the Group is very grateful that the Church Council chose the Mothers' Union as one of our monthly charities. We are glad to report that the sum of £57 was donated on 9th March, and this will be used to support the MU workers in Africa who are facing such a hard time at present.

On Tuesday 1st April we will have the opportunity to hear about the work of the

Mothers' Union in Sudan from Jo Hunt, who will be our speaker at a meeting to be held in the Lower Mews at 7:30pm. All are welcome to join us for what promises to be a very interesting and stimulating event.

We now use our individual copies of the latest Mothers' Union Prayer at our monthly Corporate Communion, and members can also take one away for private use if they wish. The next of these services will be in the Lady Chapel on Wednesday 2nd April, at 11am, and will again be followed by tea or coffee at the back of the church. This month we also have a Communion on Wednesday 16th April, which will be followed by a Lent Lunch. Our friends from St. Mary's Catholic Church will also join us this meal, and it will be good to share this with them on the Wednesday of Holy Week.

Bishop in solidarity with hungry Britain

The Bishop of Taunton, the Rt Revd Peter Maurice, is to fast every Wednesday throughout Lent as part of a new campaign to address hunger in the UK. He joins 40 other high profile faith leaders, celebrities and food bank volunteers across the UK who are taking part in a fast over the Lent period.

Bishop Peter says: "The number of people needing food aid is still rising. This is an opportunity to show solidarity with the thousands going hungry in Britain today. I pledge to fast every Wednesday between now and Easter, and I urge others to consider showing their support too, by taking part in a nation-wide day of fasting on 4 April."

The national grassroots campaign, End Hunger Fast, was announced last month, as

27 Anglican bishops signed an open letter calling on the UK Government to act on the growing hunger crisis in Britain. Today's step in the campaign comes as Trussell Trust releases new data revealing the extent of food bank use in the UK, and an academic report into Household Food Security commissioned by the Government comes out in favour of the Bishops' call to End Hunger Fast.

Figures published by leading food aid charity Trussell Trust reveal that between April and December last year, over 70,000 people in the South West were fed by Trussell Trust food banks. Nationally, this figure was over 600,000. Adding to this picture is the steep rise in malnutrition admissions to local hospitals: at health trusts in Somerset, 215 people were admitted in the last year, up from 30 in 2008. Nationally admissions are up from 3,000 to 5,500 since 2008.

End Hunger Fast is organising an online campaign to encourage people around the UK to take part in a national day of fasting on 4 April. People can pledge to join the day of fasting at www.endhungerfast.co.uk



Diocesan Message

The greatest story ever told

**From The Revd Preb Stephen Lynas,
Chaplain and Senior Adviser to the
Bishops of Bath & Wells and Taunton**

As an April birthday boy, I find this month confusing. One year it's warm and sunny on my birthday, another year there's frost in the morning. Nothing in the April calendar seems to be tied down – school holidays, for a start. It's very disorienting. Somewhere in the Planning Departments of supermarkets and bakeries, they've organised extra production runs of hot cross buns and Easter eggs this year to take account of the fact we have a few more weeks to eat them.

In my family, "It's a movable feast" was a saying trotted out whenever anything that ought to happen regularly got thrown off course. April is a movable feast month. In some years, Easter has come and gone by the time April arrives. This year, it comes very late.

I think this calendrical confusion makes it hard for many of us to make sense of Easter. It's not like Christmas, when you know jolly well it will be along on 25 December.

Yet Easter (and the week before it, the one we call "Holy") ought to be as significant in our lives as Christmas. Not just the eggs, but the sense of hope and a future that are at the heart of the story.

"Holy Week" is worth making time to dig into. That tumultuous week in Jerusalem, the show trial and the judicial murder are essential preludes to the shock and awe of the resurrection itself. Why not grab the kitchen calendar (or your electronic diary) and take a look at those key days – Palm Sunday (13th), Maundy Thursday (17th), Good Friday (18th) – and Easter itself (20th)? Your local church is bound to be offering opportunities to enter into "the greatest story ever told". The dates may change each year, but your opportunity to get immersed in the story is there. You just need to organise yourself to be a part of it!

Marking 20 years of women's ordination

The first ordination of women as priests in the Church of England took place on 12 March 1994 in Bristol Cathedral. The first in the list of 32 women ordained on that day (alphabetically) was Angela Berners-Wilson, now University Chaplain at the University of Bath, a prebendary of Wells Cathedral, and one of the supporting clergy here at Christ Church.

ABW (as we'll call her to distinguish her from all the other Angelas around here!) presided at our 10am service on Sunday 23 March, and we took the opportunity to congratulate her and present her a small gift.

A national commemoration of the landmark ordinations is being held on Saturday 3 May, starting at 2pm with a procession from Westminster Abbey to St Paul's Cathedral. All are welcome to take part. At 5pm there is a Service of Celebration in St Paul's Cathedral. This is open only to ticket-holders, but there will be an audio feed and communion brought to Paternoster Square, outside the Cathedral, for everyone else.

In the Diocese of Bath and Wells, a service of celebration will be held at Wells Cathedral on Saturday 27 September. Details are to come.



Revd Angela Berners-Wilson, as she then was, celebrates the Eucharist in March 1994. Photo courtesy of The Guardian.

Blessing same-sex marriages

Thoughts on the CofE's position on same-sex marriages

The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 has just come into force. From 29 March 2014 same-sex couples are permitted to marry in England and Wales, but not in Church of England and other places of worship. Canon Simon Tatton-Brown reflects on the House of Bishops' response to the Act.

Fifty years ago a Salford couple asked their Rector if he would conduct their wedding. Nothing odd about that, you might say, except Albert and Mabel (let us call them) had been together for 45 years, and church-going couples didn't usually cohabit in the 1950s.

The poverty years in Salford after the First World War are well described by Walter Greenwood in his harrowing 1930 novel *Love on the Dole*. Those were the years when Albert and Mabel had pretended to their neighbours they'd run away to Gretna Green to get married. In fact they'd had only just enough money to go to Blackpool for the weekend before moving in together and starting a family.

"We want a very quiet service, Rector," they explained. "Eight o'clock in the Lady Chapel. No guests. Just a couple of witnesses, to make it legal." Albert was about to retire, and without a marriage certificate he couldn't claim a married man's pension.

The Rector was sensitive to their embarrassment and shame, but he wouldn't agree to a hole-in-the-corner ceremony. "I'll marry you at half past two on the Saturday afternoon," he told them. "We'll ring the church bells. We'll have the choir. Your grandchildren will be the bridesmaids and pages. We'll celebrate your marriage with all your friends at church. You have been married in the sight of God for 45 years. It's just that you haven't registered it."

Addressing the General Synod last July, Archbishop Justin Welby honestly acknowledged that there has been a revolution in

the area of human sexuality, and that the Church hasn't heard it. Which makes it particularly sad that the House of Bishops' pastoral guidance on same-sex marriage (issued to the clergy and people of the Church of England on 15 February 2014) fails to acknowledge the changing nature of marriage. The Bishops proceed on the assumption that the character of marriage (which they describe entirely in terms of the Book of Common Prayer and the other Anglican formularies) is unchanging. They ignore the fact that marriage has at various times been about property, or dynastic alliance, let alone the way people under 40 are approaching their marriages today. There's nothing wrong of course with the Prayer Book understanding of marriage. I've upheld it all my ministry. But it's not all there is to say about marriage, and it has always been applied differently in different social contexts (as when General Synod changed the rules about marriage following divorce).

In the marriage service, it is the couple who marry each other. Not the priest. The priest may join their hands, but it is the couple who take each other in holy matrimony, make the vows, and hold each other's hand. The priest is the first witness to their act (and the priest needs two further people to witness it too). Then the priest blesses the couple (the "nuptial blessing"). It's worth noting that at ordination, one of the charges given to the new priest by the bishop is that the priest blesses the people. I always thought it was the best part of my job description. It's one of the things a priest is for.

Not only did the Bishops go out of their way to make sure that the Church of England was exempted from the new Marriage Act (it is actually an offence for a Church of England priest to conduct a same-sex wedding). They have specifically forbidden priests to offer such couples any ceremony which suggests a Service of Blessing following civil regis-

Art find stops bells work

Continued from page 1

tration. The priest may say prayers with them (“on the assumption that any prayer will be accompanied by pastoral discussion of the church’s teaching and their reasons for departing from it”). But the Bishops don’t say what those prayers might be about. I can’t imagine any prayer except a prayer asking God to bless the couple. Can you? Nor can I see any reason why the couple shouldn’t invite as many guests as they wish, ring the church bells, or treat the ceremony as anything less than the celebration of their marriage. For that is what it will be.

When the Rector of Salford invited Albert and Mabel to celebrate their marriage with a full-blown wedding ceremony, he was doing far more than indulging them in any sentimental wish. He understood the shame Albert and Mabel had been living with all those years, how (for instance) they’d had to explain to their children why the the law classified them “bastards”. If he had agreed to a “quiet wedding” he would have been reinforcing the prejudice that cohabiting couples “live in sin”. He would have been party to a continuing lie. For Albert and Mabel weren’t living in sin. Their marriage had self-evidently been blessed by God, even though it was unregistered by Church and State. By giving them a full Church ceremony, he and his congregation were saying amen to that.

In the Pastoral Guidance they issued in February the Bishops quote the 2005 Dromantine Statement from the Primates of the Anglican Communion: “We assure homosexual people that they are children of God, loved and valued by him, and deserving of the best we can give of pastoral care and friendship.” Is their Pastoral Guidance the best the Church can give? I don’t believe it is.

Editor’s note: For a non-partisan overview of the positions of some of those opposed to the new law, see the BBC article at <http://bit.ly/1gaydX>



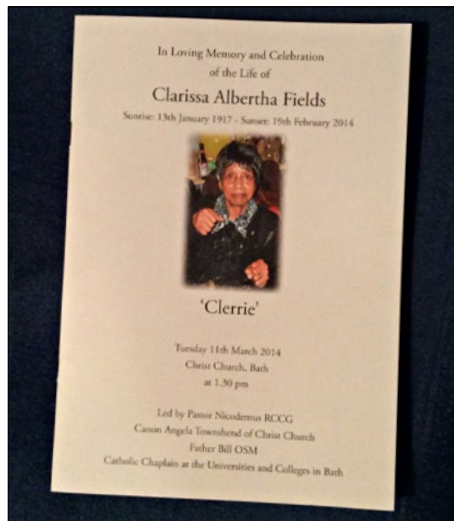
Our story on page 1 is of course an April Fools’ joke. The wall painting was done in 1982 by local bell expert and bell-ringer Dave Kelly, who has had a long association with Christ Church (and did study at Sheffield University, though not actually with Nick Park, as far as we know). The chamber was used for our Junior Church for many years. Thanks to Dave for the story and for his “historic” picture of the painting. Above is a shot of the (unnamed and clearly unshorn) sheep now.

Christ Church AGM Sunday 4 May

The Annual General Meeting of the Christ Church congregation will be held on Sunday 4 May after the 10am service. Please come along if you possibly can – there are even more important matters than usual to be discussed, and it would be good to have as many of the Christ Church community involved as possible. In addition to electing representatives to the Church Council and getting reports on the activities of all the various groups and committees around the church, among other business, we will be considering the proposals for renovating the entrance and WCs at the west end of the church and the reordering at the east end.

Everyone on the Electoral Roll of Christ Church is eligible to attend and vote. Make sure you’re on it! Contact Judith Anderson, our Electoral Roll Officer, or Canon Angela, the Verger or one of the Churchwardens.

Christ Church milestones this past month



On Tuesday 11 March Christ Church hosted a full-scale Afro-Caribbean funeral, complete with steel band, to farewell Clarissa “Clerrie” Fields. May she rest in peace.

On Saturday 29 March, Laura Gabe married Peter Adderley in Christ Church. Print deadlines make it impossible to include a photo this time. Congratulations to Laura (who was baptised in Christ Church), Peter, and Laura’s parents Richard and Rosanne, who are long-standing members of our congregation and choir.

As we go to press, we hear that Brenda Wall, one of our Deanery Synod representatives and our Church Council Secretary, has been elected to Diocesan Synod. Congratulations to Brenda, who obviously can’t get enough of church-y meetings.

There’s a lot happening at Christ Church in April, particularly in Holy Week. See page 11 or pick up a copy of the leaflet for all the details.

This month’s charity: Church Army



The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 13 April, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of this month, will go to Church Army.

Church Army is an evangelistic organisation founded 125 years ago in the Church of England and now operating in many parts of the Anglican Communion. In its own words, “Our evangelists and projects share their faith through words and action in a variety of situations across the UK and Ireland. Bringing hope, helping people live life to the full and transforming lives and communities with the Good News of the gospel.”

Church Army trains and sends evangelists to work in five areas of focus: area evangelism; children and young people; church planting; homeless people; and older people.

Key projects include:

- The Amber project, which supports young

people (14-25) in Cardiff and the surrounding areas who have experience of self-harm.

- Marylebone Project – working with vulnerable homeless women in London to empower them towards independent living, through helping them to make informed choices about their lives.
- Cardiff Residential Services – work with homeless young people.
- Valley of Hope, offering support for people who misuse substances and/or have come out of prison and are trying to get their lives back on track in the Rhondda Cynon Taf area.

Church Army also runs Centres of Mission, based on a commitment to bringing people to a living faith in Jesus Christ and then forming relevant Christian communities for these new disciples. The secondary function is to train future evangelists. Centres of Mission include outreach to those living on deprived housing estates in the south east and Southampton, red light districts in Northern England and a series of youth churches called Sorted in Bradford.

For more, visit www.churcharmy.org.uk

In Focus

Welcome to the latest edition of *In Focus*, a monthly newsletter from the Church of England. Our aim is to help you keep in touch with the activities of the National Church Institutions. Do have a look at *In Review*, our sister publication, designed as an A3 version for notice boards.

New resources to commemorate the Centenary of World War One

A new set of resources has been published by the Church of England's Liturgical Commission for parishes and groups to use to commemorate the centenary of World War One.

The resources include prayers, music, literature and art, with further material that made available throughout the years of commemoration up to 2018.

The Chair of the Commission, Bishop Stephen Platten said:

"It is hard to underestimate the significance of the First World War for our national life. The Liturgical Commission is conscious that people will wish to commemorate its centenary in a number of ways.

"There will of course be national events such as the planned Vigil Service in

Westminster Abbey on the evening of Monday 4 August, but many will want to hold local commemorations in a range of contexts. It is with these in mind that the Commission has prepared these resources, specifically with parish clergy and other worship leaders in mind.

An interview with Bishop Stephen talking about the "essential role" the Church has to play in the commemorations can be found at:
<http://bit.ly/1kC7TaV>

You can download the resources on the Church of England's website www.churchofengland.org and clicking on the 'World War One' box, or at:
<http://bitly.com/P8Y6MN>

@OurCofE: Our Church of England in 140 characters

The Church of England has launched a year long project on Twitter to tell the story of the CofE through the eyes of its people, providing a daily insight into modern faith in action.

Over the course of the year, @OurCofE will see bishops, clergy, chaplains, youth workers and churchgoers from around the country tweeting over a week about their life inside the Church of England.

Followers of @OurCofE will be given an insight into the work that goes into the day to day running of a church community from schools to chaplaincies to cathedrals, and will be get a behind the scenes look at daily life in parishes.

Speaking ahead of the launch Claire Diaz-Ortiz, Head of Social Innovation at Twitter, said:

"The incredible engagement levels we see on religious tweets the world over prove the power of 140 characters to convey hope, motivation, and inspiration. "The @OurCofE Twitter account will build on this by telling the story of the Church of England through the eyes of its people, providing a fascinating insight into modern faith in action."

Tallie Proud, Digital Media Officer for the Archbishops' Council adds "Social media is a great way of sharing stories and @OurCofE is our way of celebrating the Christian faith in action in communities across the country"

Archbishop praises role of Near Neighbours programme

The Archbishop of Canterbury praised the *Near Neighbours* programme for its grassroots approach to creating community ties across cultural and religious boundaries during a presentation of additional Government funding of £3m.

Near Neighbours, a partnership between the Church Urban Fund and the Archbishops' Council that provides small grants to multi-faith community projects, has been awarded an extra £3m by Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The extra money will enable projects to expand into other parts of the country, including Luton, Leeds and the Black country.

Addressing faith and civic leaders and members of the local community at the announcement, Archbishop Justin said the Church was "profoundly grateful" for the enthusiasm DCLG had shown for *Near Neighbours*.

"I think the great thing about *Near Neighbours* is it under promises and over-achieves – and that's actually much the best way of doing it," he said. "It's very much grassroots, and this new expansion gives huge opportunities. We need to recognise how important that is."

For more details about the presentation:
<http://bit.ly/1hf5ygM>

Numbers of young Ordinands at twenty year high

New statistics for 2013 show that the number of young people under 30 accepted for training for CofE ministry continue to be the highest number in the past 20 years, now representing 23% of those entering training.

The Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council is continuing to be proactive in recruiting young ordinands through providing conferences and training opportunities such as the Ministry Experience Scheme being piloted in 2013/14, which is looking to be extended for

the academic year 2014/15.

Liz Boughton, Young Vocations Advisor, Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council said: "We are delighted with the number of young adults recommended for ordained ministry last year. It's great that an substantial number are having the confidence and support to hear and respond to God's call to the priesthood. We welcome young people and value the gifts, enthusiasm and insights that they bring."

News in Brief

New factsheets on managing records

The Church of England Record Centre has published a series of 11 factsheets to help churches better manage records.

Factsheets can be found at: <http://bit.ly/1oldVEg>

Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book

Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, Dean of St Mellitus, has written the Archbishop of Canterbury's lent book for 2014 entitled *Looking Through The Cross*.

A video with Revd Dr Graham Tomlin is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCwD2K4E430>

Good practice for training incumbents

A new good practice document on the appointment and training of clergy who manage curates and readers - training incumbents - has been published by the Church of England.

The report is available at: www.ministrydevelopment.org.uk/training_incumbents

New Higher Education advisor

Revd Duncan Myers has been appointed as the Church of England's new Higher Education Advisor. Duncan will be bringing extensive experience of university life including serving as a Chaplain in four HE institutions.

Archbishop of York launches £1m Together Grants

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, visited a Church Urban Fund supported project in Durham to launch a new £1m grants programme.

The new Together Grants programme will be available each year to resource church and Christian projects tackling poverty in England, so they can work more effectively and sustainably with those most in need.

Handcrafted, a CUF funded project, provides tailored training to help people disadvantaged by crime, unemployment, alcohol or substance abuse, to find a job and also serves the local community by providing affordable repairs.

Archbishop John Sentamu said “The Church of England can be very proud of the Church Urban Fund and the work that is done to support the

poorest in our society. I am delighted to launch this new £1m Together Grants programme. We are called to bring good news to the poor and the Church Urban Fund helps make this a reality”.

Paul Hackwood, Chair of the Church Urban Fund said “We work through the church to provide a network of support for those who are excluded, that empower the poorest and most marginalised to take their proper place in society – Handcrafted is a great example of this work”.

Together Grants are being awarded from 1st March 2014. Grant criteria and guidance can be found on the Church Urban Fund website, along with information about where to get an application form from:

www.cuf.org.uk/act/cuf-funding

Joint prayer initiative between CofE and Catholic Church

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster have launched a joint initiative this Lent to encourage people to pray for the work churches do to support people in need in their parishes and beyond.

From Passion Sunday on 6 April to Palm Sunday on 13 April, Archbishop Justin and Cardinal Nichols will give thanks to God daily for this essential act of service, and pray for his blessing on the work of the churches.

If you would like to join Archbishop Justin and Cardinal Nichols by committing to prayer, you will find daily resources from April 6th-13th on both www.archbishopofcanterbury.org. Simple printable prayer resources will also be available.

Throughout the week people will be encouraged to tweet about how churches are helping those in need in their local area using the hashtag #ListenToGod.

New app brings Daily Prayer to your mobile device

Church House Publishing has released a new app to enable people to pray with the aid of their smartphone and tablets.

Daily Prayer (a new app for iPhone/iPad) gives people the ability to follow the daily pattern of morning, evening and night prayer in the words of the Anglican liturgy as part of the rhythm of prayer followed by Christians across the globe.

Using text from both *Common Worship* and the *Book of Common Prayer*, the app provides an easy to use platform for accessing the Church of England's Daily Prayer website, which has more than 600,000 views each year. The app offers text

for every day of the year, with the ability to select between traditional and contemporary language.

The app is free to download and includes access to online material up to one month in advance. A premium version of the app allows access to material offline and to view up to 12 months in advance.

The app is being released in iOS format, and will be launched for Google Store (Android) for Easter.

Daily Prayer is available now on iTunes and details can be found at: <http://www.chpublishing.co.uk/features/our-apps>

Communications training courses

The Church of England's Communications office is currently offering a number of one-day training courses at our London Media Centre (places limited).

Upcoming Courses:

Tuesday 15 April: *Magazines/newsletters*. Learn how to write snappy copy, choose eye catching photos and choose the right places to put your news.

Tuesday 29 April: *Parish websites*. Learn how to make your church or parish website attractive and easy to navigate.

The Church House training programme exists to assist and enable members of the Church in sharing the Good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in an ever-changing communications environment.

For more details and booking info:

<http://www.churchcommstraining.org/>

Calls for candidates for Deanery Synod elections

The General Synod for the Church has produced a leaflet calling on church members to consider standing for Deanery Synod elections which take place over April.

The leaflet explains the role of the Deanery Synod as "a vital structural bridge between parochial church councils (PCCs) and Diocesan Synods, bringing together clergy and lay people from

neighbouring parishes to discuss issues relating to mission and ministry in your local area."

The leaflet also highlights the role of Deanery Synod in electing lay members to Diocesan and General Synod.

The leaflet is available at:

<http://bit.ly/1BWMwg>

Chemin Neuf community comes to Lambeth Palace

In a ceremony with guests from Roman Catholic, Anglican and Lutheran churches, Archbishop Justin welcomed four members of an international ecumenical community to Lambeth Palace in a 'radical and exciting step' for Christian unity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury received four members of the international ecumenical foundation Chemin Neuf to live as a praying community at Lambeth Palace.

The community, who have been invited to live at Lambeth Palace by the Archbishop, are a married Anglican couple, Ione and Alan Morley-

Fletcher; a Lutheran training for ministry, Oliver Matri; and a Roman Catholic consecrated sister, Ula Michlowicz.

Together they will share in the daily round of prayer that underpins the Archbishop's ministry, and further the ecumenical and international dimensions of his work; supporting the first of three priority areas for Archbishop Justin's ministry over the coming years, the renewal of prayer and the religious life within the Church.

ChurchCare website

ChurchCare, the website for the Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division is a resource for all those who care for and have an interest in church buildings.

<http://www.churchcare.co.uk>

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

Parishes are open to apply to the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for a grant against the VAT incurred in making repairs and alterations to listed church buildings. These include fabric repairs, professional fees, bells, clocks and organs.

Further information can be found at: www.lpw-scheme.org.uk

Christ Church calendar April 2014

Apr	1	Tue	7:30pm Mothers' Union, Lower Mews
	2	Wed	11am Holy Communion, followed by coffee
	4	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm
	6	Sun	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent / Passion Sunday</i> Christ Church rostered to assist at Genesis Sunday Centre 4:30pm Choral Evensong
	11	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm
	13	Sun	<i>Palm Sunday</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
	16	Wed	11am Holy Communion, followed by Lent Lunch 8pm Compline
	17	Thu	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>
	18	Fri	<i>Good Friday</i> 9:30am Cross Walk (Churches Together in Bath) 12 noon Quiet Meditation 1pm Children at the Cross 1:30pm Stations of the Cross with music
	19	Sat	<i>Holy Saturday</i> 8:30pm Easter Eve Vigil
	20	Sun	<i>Easter Sunday</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
	25	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm
	27	Sun	<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>
	28	Mon	<i>St George, martyr, patron of England</i>
	29	Tue	<i>Mark the Evangelist</i>
May	1	Thu	<i>Philip and James, Apostles</i>
	2	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm
	4	Sun	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Christ Church Annual General Meeting (after 10am service) 4:30pm Choral Evensong (TBC)

Prayer Cycle for April 2014

Tuesday	1	For good relations between different faiths
Wednesday	2	For countries experiencing civil unrest
Thursday	3	That we may have grace to forgive
Friday	4	For Keri and the Cedar Tree
Saturday	5	For those who travel
Sunday	6	For Alex and Malcolm our churchwardens
Monday	7	For those who work in financial services
Tuesday	8	For the work of Genesis
Wednesday	9	For the Church Council
Thursday	10	For our link dioceses in Zambia
Friday	11	For the sick and suffering
Saturday	12	We give thanks for the fruits of the earth
Sunday	13	For Angela our priest-in-charge
Monday	14	For those who work in local government
Tuesday	15	For churches, Cathedrals and communities named Christ Church
Wednesday	16	For prisoners and prison workers
Thursday	17	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
Friday	18	For the homeless
Saturday	19	For Bible scholars and theologians
Sunday	20	Thanksgiving for the Resurrection
Monday	21	For scientists and engineers
Tuesday	22	For the appointment of a new organist for Christ Church
Wednesday	23	For children and their families

Thursday	24	For our plans for the church building
Friday	25	For those who use and run food banks
Saturday	26	That we may hunger and thirst after righteousness
Sunday	27	For our servers and others who assist at the altar
Monday	28	For those who work in the hospitality industry
Tuesday	29	For the lonely and depressed
Wednesday	30	For those who live and work in the streets around Christ Church

Long-term Prayer List

Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...

Kay Clark
 Rachel Sillett
 June Metcalfe
 May Palmer
 Cyril Selmes
 Ken Austwick
 Marjorie Nicholson

Rowena Hall
 David Ough
 Ned Townshend
 Sarah Dack
 John Osborne
 Joyce Fairburn
 David Slater

Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or short-term, or remove one? Please use the lists at the back of the church, or let the Verger or one of the Churchwardens know.

Christ Church Link

This magazine is published on the first Sunday of each month. Please send any contributions of news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month to the editor, Alex Soboslay, or by e-mail to magazine@christchurchbath.org

Rotas for April 2014

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
6 April Lent 5	Brenda Wall Ezekiel 37:1-14	Sarah Cade Romans 8:6-11	Janet Mahto John 11:1-45
13 April Palm Sunday	Rebekah Cunningham Isaiah 50:4-9a	Alex Soboslay Philippians 2:5-11	Lewis Boyd Matthew 26:14 – 27:66
20 April Easter Sunday	Andrew Sillett Jeremiah 31:1-6	June Matthews Acts 10:34-43	Daphne Radenhurst Matthew 28:1-10
27 April 2nd in Easter	Rosanne Gabe Acts 2:14a,22-32	Margaret Burrows 1 Peter 1:3-9	Jane Fletcher John 20:19-end
4 May 3rd in Easter	Morny Davison Acts 2:14a,36-41	Judith Anderson 1 Peter 1:17-23	Margaret Heath Luke 24:13-35

Laity rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
6 April	Bob Siderfin, David Rawlings	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Penny Edwards
13 April	Janet Mahto, Clive Tilling	Margaret Silver, Jane Nicholson	Mark Elliott
20 April	Jane Fletcher, Lewis Boyd	Janet Mahto, Margaret Heath	Canon Angela Townshend
27 April	June Matthews	Morny Davison, Andrew Sillett	June Matthews
4 May	Andrew Sillett, Keri Chivers	Iain Barrowman, Rowena Hall	Martin Palmer

Who's who at Christ Church

Who to contact, and how – those vital contact details

Priest-in-charge Canon Angela Townshend
01225 464194
angela.townshend@christchurchbath.org

Supporting clergy Revd Cliff Burrows
Preb Angela Berners-Wilson
Canon Melvyn Matthews

**Reader,
Chair of Trustees,
Director of Music** Mark Elliott
01225 445360
mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org

**Churchwarden,
Council Treasurer** Malcolm Wall
01225 864933
malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org

**Churchwarden,
Christ Church Link editor** Alex Soboslay
07769 655927
alexs@christchurchbath.org
magazine@christchurchbath.org

Verger Angela Soboslay
01225 333297
angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org

Lay Chair of Church Council David Rawlings

Secretary to Church Council Brenda Wall
01225 864933

Treasurer David Bishop
01225 869409
david.bishop@christchurchbath.org

**Safeguarding officer,
Home Group leader** Lewis Boyd
07739 989639
lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org

Organist *Watch this space!*

**Concert bookings,
Weekly notice sheet** Judith Bishop
01225 869409
concerts@christchurchbath.org
notices@christchurchbath.org

**Pastoral care coordinator,
Cedar Tree café** Keri Chivers
01225 421265
keri.chivers@christchurchbath.org

Publicity coordinators Matthew & Sarah Jones
01225 443284
sarah.jones@christchurchbath.org

**Junior Church,
Laity rotas** Sarah Cade

Prayer cycle Virginia Knight

**United Society,
Traidcraft stall** Rebekah Cunningham

Mothers' Union Margaret Burrows
01225 334743
Sylvia Ayers
01225 463976

Churches Together in Bath Sylvia Ayers
Margaret Heath
01225 428272

Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers

Deanery Synod Reps Morny Davison
Andrew Sillett
Brenda Wall

**Chairs of Committees
& Working Groups**
Liturgy Canon Angela Townshend
Buildings Bob Siderfin
Outreach Andrew Sillett
Hospitality Angela Soboslay



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

About Christ Church

*We're a liberal, inclusive and open church,
seeking God through beauty in our worship, honesty
in our faith and doubt, and support in our community*

Christ Church has an unusual history, out of which has developed a distinctive ministry. It was founded at the end of the 18th century by a group of socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship through the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church in England since the Reformation to provide seating for all free of charge. Early supporters included: John Moore, the Archbishop of Canterbury; William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery; and Martin Stafford Smith, godfather of John Keble, a founder of the Oxford Movement.

Christ Church is not a parish church and does not have a full-time vicar. This has led to the development of a shared ministry where clergy and laity both make important contributions to worship and church life.

Christ Church is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the normal Church of England parish system. We see ourselves as a traditional and liberal Anglican church. Worship is led by our clergy, and music is provided by our

robed choir and organist. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups during our 10am Sunday service.

As well as worship on a Sunday morning, there are many other activities going on in our community. We support the Genesis Sunday Centre and have our own community café. The musical tradition of the church continues to thrive, and we have an active choir. New singers of all ages are always very welcome. Our ecumenical Home Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting.

Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
On the second and fourth Sunday of every month
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people
Every Sunday
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong
Usually the first Sunday of every month, but see website or notice board for details

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!



Contacting us

Christ Church,
Julian Road,
Bath BA1 2RH
Telephone: 01225 338869
(answer phone)
Email: admin@christchurchbath.org
Website: www.christchurchbath.org

