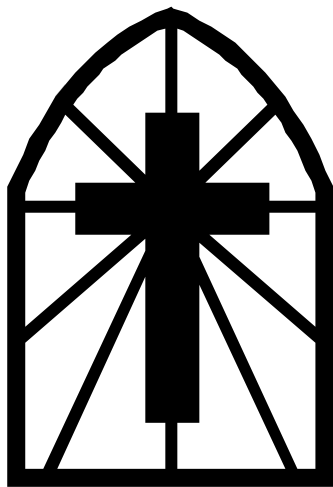


CHRIST
CHURCH
CHALLENGE



September 2004

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

MID-WEEK SERVICE

11.00am Thursday	Holy Communion
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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 very happy new Academic Year to all our readers!

Many thanks to all our contributors who supplied their articles in good time so that the magazine could meet its printing deadline in spite of the holidays - it's much appreciated.

Every new beginning brings new challenges - turn to page 10 for news of a new diocesan initiative which will affect us all, and find out how you could be involved.

Forum...



In last month's edition of the magazine, David Marles introduced the idea of a Prayer network. He explained that this was one of the ideas that sprang from our Away day in February. He said, "*Prayer is a practical way of tackling life's difficulties. We have a desire and duty to help those around us in need.*"

Shortly after reading David's appeal for people to join a Prayer Network, I happened to come across a copy of a homily preached by Archbishop Rowan Williams on the subject of intercessory prayer. He begins by re-telling the story of Abraham negotiating the survival of righteous remnant in Sodom and Gomorrah. You will remember that he begins by asking god to save the city for the sake of fifty. righteous people and eventually pleads for the sake of just ten. Rowan Williams that Abraham through his prayers is engaged in "pushing out the frontiers of grace as far as they can go". From this he goes on to conclude that "the prayer of intercession at its simplest is thinking of something or someone in the presence of God".

Often the scope of prayer seems unreal and improbable. We pray for a person known to us, we think of "all those who have gone before us", we offer the starving in Dafur, *and* terrorism *and* next month's away day. How unconnected all this seems and how can it be brought together?

The answer for Rowan Williams is to say that it is part of the struggle "not to let God and the world fall apart". As Christians we are called to believe that there is no place from which the love of God can be excluded. A recurrent theme of Paul is that God's love springs up before there is any hope, any light, or any expectation. From this we learn that prayer engages us in Christ's fight to bring together God and the world, love and suffering, light and darkness.



The archbishop would have us regard prayer an integral part of our life as Christians – "we must not forget that intercession is inseparable from all we are and do as Christians. It is inseparable from involvement in the pain of others, and inseparable from our own understanding of God's love in *us*". And so it is that prayer not some part of faith best left to hermits in remote cells, the praying professionals; it is the duty of all who would call themselves Christians. And it is not something to be done in secret either but openly

so that people know where to bring their troubles and anxieties in the knowledge that they will be prayed for so that God may work as he wills.

I am confident that readers will respond to David Marles' appeal and the proposed prayer network will become part of our corporate life at Christ Church. In every sense it is a call to duty. At baptism we pray that the child or adult bathed in the water of life will "fight under Christ's banner". Rowan Williams points out: "Intercessions are part of this, planting the flag in the remotest and bleakest places; saying of this or that situation, 'Lord I know not even this can defeat you or send you away'".

Antony

Home at last – Official!

Revd Sandy Munday joins the Christ Church team



Sandy Munday and her husband Chris have been at home in Christ Church for some months now. And it's now official. The Bishop of Bath and Wells has been pleased to grant Sandy a licence to officiate and she will make her base with us a Christ Church.

This is good news which will be welcomed by everyone. Sandy and Chris have won a place in our hearts and we look forward to Sandy's ministry with us. There will be a formal welcome at the 10 am Eucharist on Sunday 26th September.



USPG Book Sale

Don't forget the book sale in aid of USPG to held on Saturday, 18th September from 10 am until 2 pm. Lots of good books for sale along with excellent morning refreshments and lunches.

Help is needed on the day, and setting up will take place on Friday 17th September at 2pm until about 3.30pm. If you'd like to get involved, please phone Adrian Pegg on 01225 858809.

Church Calendar for September

5 Sun THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

2.00pm Baptism of Jacob James Summers

6.30pm Choral Evensong

9 Thurs 11.00am Holy Communion - Rev Antony Claridge

11 Sat 10.00am Somerset Churches Together
-4.00pm Walk and Bike-ride

11.15am Renewal of Marriage Vows
Martin and Christine Gapper (Lady Chapel)

12 Sun THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

16 Thurs 11.00am Holy Communion - Rev Antony Claridge

2.30pm MU Informal Prayer

18 Sat 10.00am USPG Book Sale
-2.00pm

19 Sun THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

21 Tue MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

23 Thurs 11.00am Holy Communion - Rev Antony Claridge -
followed by lunch

25 Sat 7.30pm Bath Baroque Concert

26 Sun THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

29 Wed MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

30 Thurs 11.00am Holy Communion - Rev Antony Claridge

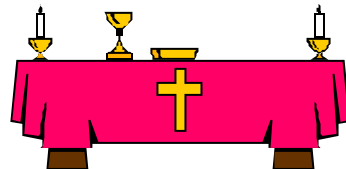
Oct 3 Sun HARVEST FESTIVAL AND GIFT DAY

Service Rota for September

	8 am	10 am	Evening
		Celebrant Preacher	Leader
Sept	5 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge
	12 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Cliff Burrows Rev Sandy Munday	Rev Antony Claridge
	19 Rev Antony Claridge	tba Dr Cyril Selmes	Rev Antony Claridge
	26 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Sandy Munday Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge
Oct	3 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge with Junior Church	Rev Antony Claridge Mr Mark Elliott

Thursday Services at 11.00 am

Sept	2 Rev Antony Claridge
	9 Rev Antony Claridge
	16 Rev Antony Claridge
	23 Rev Antony Claridge
	30 Rev Antony Claridge
Oct	7 Rev Antony Claridge



Laity Rota for September

Readers	OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel	
September	5	Mrs M Burrows	Mr J Metcalfe	Mr C Graham
	12	Mrs J Bishop	Mrs E Selmes	Mr M Elliott
	19	Mrs A Sheppard	Mr M Palmer	Miss J Fletcher
	26	Mrs R Gabe	Mr L Grosvenor	Mr M Jones
October	3	Mrs S Ayers	Mrs N Gladstone	Miss S Hiscock

Chalice Assistants

September	5	Miss J Fletcher	Mrs P Edwards
	12	Mrs J Metcalfe	Mr R Siderfin
	19	Mrs M Burrows	Mr C Graham
	26	Rev S Munday	Dr C Selmes
October	3	Miss J Fletcher	Mrs P Edwards

Intercessors

September	5	Mr C Graham
	12	Rev A Claridge
	19	Mr M Elliott
	26	Mrs P Edwards
October	3	Mr B Pont



Sidespeople	8am	10am		
September	5	Mr A Jones	Mr & Mrs Metcalfe	
	12	Mrs D Twissell	Mrs C Tanner	Mrs A Charman
	19	Mrs B Hayward	Mrs T Claridge	Mrs J Ferguson
	26	Miss E Hewlett	Mr & Mrs Olney	
October	3	Mr C Tilling	Mrs M Silver	Mr F Twissell

Lectionary for September

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sep 5	The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	Deuteronomy 30.15-20	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14.25-33
12	The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	Exodus 32.7-14	1 Timothy 1.12-17	Luke 15.1-10
19	The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	Amos 8.4-7	1 Timothy 6.6-19	Luke 16.1-13
26	The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	No Reading	1 Timothy 6.6-19	Luke 16.19-31
Oct 3	Harvest Festival and Gift Day		
	Readings to be announced		
10	The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	No reading	2 Timothy 2.8-15	Luke 17.11-19

Walking and Biking for Somerset Churches and Chapels



Walkers and cyclists will be touring bath churches and chapels on Saturday 11 September, as part of this event organised by Peter and Julia Moss on behalf of Somerset Churches Together. We are supporting this event by opening our church from 10 am until 4 pm. – a period of six hours. We need 18 people - that is six teams of three for each hour – to look after the church and welcome the weary travellers.

It's a good thing to do and you meet very nice people – some walkers and bikers but often tourist and passers-by – so please sign up for duty on the sheet at the back of the church.

Losing an Archdeacon gaining a Bishop A good friend of Christ Church bound for Crediton

The announcement that Archdeacon Bob Evens is to be the next Bishop of Crediton brought a mixture of joy and sadness. Joy that Bob's gifts are to be put to the service of the wider church, sadness because we shall be losing a dear friend and pastor.

Not only has Bob Evens been our Archdeacon since 1996 but also a trustee of Christ Church. Always present at meetings, Bob's wise advice has been invaluable. He has always recognised the special character and traditions of Christ Church whilst, at the same time, emphasising its place in the diocese.

When he moves to the Diocese of Exeter, Bob will be one of two suffragan bishops assisting the Bishop of Exeter. As Bishop of Crediton he will be responsible for Archdeaconries of Exeter and Barnstaple, caring for 140 clergy and serving the communities of north Devon, Mid Devon and East Devon. Happily, Bob has some knowledge of the area which stretches from the North Devon coast down to the south coast between Teignmouth and Lyme Bay, including Exeter itself.

The Consecration will be in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday 30th November followed by a service of institution and welcome in Exeter cathedral on Sunday 5th December.



Until now the Bishop of Crediton has always lived in the Cathedral Close at Exeter but in order to minister more easily across a large county and diocese Bob, with Sue and his family will live in Tiverton which is near to the M5 and the North Devon Link Road.

We shall have the opportunity of paying tribute to Bob and Sue in Bath Abbey at a farewell service which will be at 3 pm on Sunday, 31st October. Arrangements for making a contribution to a farewell present will be announced shortly.

Family Celebrations



On the afternoon of Sunday 5th September we shall welcome the family and friends of young Mark and Beverley, neighbours of ours in Ballance Street. They will be bringing their baby son, Jacob James Summers to be baptised.

Martin and Christine Gapper and their family are coming to church at 11.15 on Saturday 11th September as part of their celebrations of 27 years of marriage. They were unable to celebrate their Silver Wedding and so this will be a special day, on which they renew their vows, offer rings to be blessed and give thanks for the years they have spent together.



Changing Churches for Changing Communities

Clergy staffing in the Bath Deanery

Bishop Peter and Bishop Andrew are the co-authors of a working paper entitled '*Changing Lives – Changing Churches for Changing Communities*'. The paper is a response to the inevitable decline in the numbers of ordained and lay ministers in the diocese. It proposes a new strategy which has implications for the parish structures which have been a traditional part of our church life.

A conference will be held at the All Saints Centre on Saturday 6th November from 10 am until 4 pm. Revd Patrick Whitworth, Rural Dean of Bath says; "This should be an interesting and stimulating occasion and opportunity for us to reflect on the proposed loss of posts in the Bath Deanery in the future".

Even though we are not a parish church and stand outside the parochial structure, it will be important for Christ Church to be represented at this conference. We have been offered and accepted 8 places. It is hoped that there will be a good cross-section of people from Christ Church at the conference – clergy, readers, trustees, council members and congregation. Please tell Chris or Angela, our churchwardens if you would like to take up one of our places. The working paper, known as the "green paper" can be read on the diocesan web site or we can print copies on request.

It is vital that account should be taken of Christ Church in any re-organisation within the Deanery. Please ensure that we are fully represented on 6th November.

WHO CARES FOR THE CARERS?

According to recent research, carers - people who voluntarily look after a partner, friend or relative due to illness - currently save the Exchequer an astonishing £57 billion every year. But an alarming two-thirds of the UK's six million carers feel that their own health has suffered as a result of their caring role.

This neglect could create an unsustainable burden for the NHS, unless more is done to protect carers' health.

Michael Ritchie, who lives in Ascot, is one of the six million. He gave up his job in advertising and marketing 13 years ago to care full-time for his wife Jackie. Michael is now 60 and Jackie, who is the same age, has multiple sclerosis and needs round-the-clock care.

In addition, Michael runs the home and only has half an hour's help a day from external care workers (to help Jackie get up in the morning). She has a colostomy and a urostomy, both of which Michael has to manage. He slipped a disc three years ago due to emergency hoisting and still receives physiotherapy. He also has osteo-arthritis in his hands. Social Services give the couple three weeks' respite care each year.

Michael feels there is a lack of support for carers and that the level of the carers allowance is an insult. However, he is not bitter and thrives on laughter and a positive approach.

Just two per cent of GP surgeries offer carers a special appointments system and only 37 per cent keep a record of carers on their medical records. This makes it more difficult for carers to seek treatment for themselves and, if they need emergency medical care, for arrangements to be made for the person for whom they care.

Campaigners are calling for GPs to set up more flexible appointments systems, keep records of carers on their medical notes and provide information to carers about the support available to them. Among celebrities supporting the campaign is TV personality Cilla Black, who helped to care for her husband Bobby when he was suffering from cancer.



Faith and the Imagination

Autumn lectures at Wells include well-known writers

The new season of lectures under the title *Faith and the Imagination* opens at Wells cathedral at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 14th September with the Bishop Ken Lecture given this year by the Revd Professor David Brown, Van Mildert Professor of Divinity in the University of Durham. The series continues on Tuesdays until 12th October.

Two well-known authors – a poet and a novelist – will be among the contributors. Salley Vicker's, author of the enchanting *Miss Garnet's Angel* and, most recently, *Mr Golightly's Holiday* will be the speaker on 12th October. Both novels are now published in paperback and are highly recommended.

Scarcely a Christmas carol service goes by with out the poems BC: AD, *What the Donkey Saw or Reindeer Report* being read alongside the traditional scriptures. The poet U A Fanthorpe is the speaker for the third autumn lecture on the evening of 28th September.

The full programme is as follows:

Tuesday 14th September

The Bishop Thomas Ken Lecture

The Revd Professor David Brown

Van Mildert Professor of Divinity in the University of Durham

Tuesday 21st September

The Rt. Revd. Christopher Herbert

Bishop of St Albans

Tuesday 28th September

U A Fanthorpe

Poet

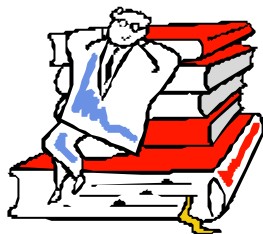
Tuesday 5th October

Dr Jeremy Begbie

Vice-Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge

Salley Vickers

Author of 'Miss Garnet's Angel'



All lectures are held in the nave of Wells Cathedral at 7.30pm, and all are welcome.

Mothers' Union News

We do hope that all members had an enjoyable and refreshing Summer Break wherever you went, and that the weather was kind, and not too hot. My closing date for receiving your Magazine renewal fees was August 29th, but if you have not yet paid, please see me asap. Your



Christmas Orders will be sent off shortly as the closing date is September 10th, and we expect the parcels to arrive by the beginning of October. May I thank those prompt payers who all help to make life easier for me, your Treasurer.

From September 13th, there will be a Mothers' Union Exhibition in Bath Abbey in connection with the Annual Lecture to be given by Lord Carey, the former Archbishop, on Saturday September 18th. MU members are asked to help to staff this on one morning or afternoon during the week, and if any Branch member would like to help, please let me know now.

Will members please note that our next Branch meeting on September 14th will begin at 3pm and not 2.30pm, to accommodate our Leader's busy schedule. After our usual prayers, we will discuss plans for the Coffee Morning on October 9th, which is mainly an opportunity for us to receive gifts for the Women's Refuge Christmas Appeal, although there will also be a small Bring and Buy Table. They always need tea, coffee, sugar and cleaning materials, and it is still a regrettable fact that some of the women and children arrive at the Refuge with nothing but the clothes they stand up in, so anything we can give them will be very welcome. In previous years, our friends at Christ Church have been most generous with their donations, so we are confident that you will help us again this year.

Sylvia M Ayers (MU Secretary)

HIGH DAYS and HOLY DAYS

21 September - St Matthew

Matthew was one of 12 apostles. But he began as a publican i.e. a tax collector of Jewish race who worked for the Romans, before he left all at the call of Christ. From earliest times, he was regarded as the author of the first of the four Gospels. The Gospel of Matthew is in correct, concise style, very suitable for public reading.

His usual emblem as an evangelist is a man, because his genealogy emphasised the family ties of Christ. In art, he has been represented as either an evangelist or as an apostle. As an evangelist, he has been depicted sitting at a desk, writing his gospel with an angel holding the inkwell. In the Middle Ages he was even given a pair of spectacles.

Matthew was martyred by a sword or a spear, some think in Ethiopia.

Spotlight on...India, Bangladesh and China



Christian Aid is supporting partner organisations in India, Bangladesh and China to help communities cope with the floods and extreme weather. This year's floods in Bangladesh came earlier than usual and are the most damaging in 15 years. Three quarters of the country is under water, 30 million people are seriously affected and the death toll stands at over 600. Hundreds of millions of US dollars' worth of damage has been done to crops, livestock, fisheries and infrastructure. Epidemics of dengue fever, diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases are affecting tens of thousands of people, and women are struggling to keep children safe and well.

Eight partner organisations are working in a coordinated effort, led by the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh, to supply emergency food, water sterilising tablets and oral rehydration salts to counter the effects of diarrhoea, which is responsible for the largest number of deaths.

Severe food shortages are a big concern. Many farmers have lost their summer harvest and the rice seedlings they should now be planting for a winter harvest; they will need seeds and tools to replant crops as soon as possible. Partner organisation UBINIG reports its Seed Wealth Centres, which help communities save local seed varieties, are on standby to help. Partners are planning post-flood rehabilitation work, but although several locations report a fall in water levels, high tides and more rain forecast may mean the situation will worsen again and that emergency work may have to continue for several weeks.

Once the floods have receded, people will need help to rebuild homes and repair damaged infrastructure such as schools, wells and embankments. Many people have lost assets such as livestock. Day-labourers have been without work, and small businesses such as weavers have lost equipment and markets.

In the flooded Indian states of Assam and Bihar Christian Aid is supporting its partner, Churches Auxiliary for Social Action, to distribute essential items such as food, clothing, shelter, blankets, hygiene kits and flood shelters.

Bihar is a priority area for Christian Aid. Over 21 million people in 20 districts have been affected and 568 lives lost. Although the waters have begun to recede many villages are still cut off and CASA think it will take at least two months for life to return to normal.

The entire state of Assam is affected and some villages are in danger of being washed away completely. As in Bangladesh, the full extent of the damage cannot be measured until the flood waters recede, but it is thought this already poor state will have been set back at least ten years.

Torrential rains in China have affected 33 million people this summer. Christian Aid has contributed to the work of the Amity Foundation in two of the most affected provinces, Yunnan in the southwest and Hunan in central China, which also suffered extensive mud and rock slides that engulfed large areas of agricultural land. Amity Foundation is meeting the basic needs of 6,000 homeless and seriously affected families. Activities include distributions of medicines, food, bedding and mosquito nets and reconstruction of schools, houses and irrigation works.

Christian Aid believes long-term work to help communities prepare themselves for floods and other disasters is helping to save lives and is the key to minimising the impact of future catastrophes. It has recently appointed an Emergency Preparedness Manager, based in New Delhi, to carry forward its longstanding programme of work in this area.

The Sudan Crisis

Many thanks to those of you who donated money or sent letters about the Sudan crisis in response to last months magazine article. The crisis in Sudan is ongoing and it has been suggested that a collection plate be made available at the back of church for the first two weeks in September as an easy way for you donate.

Jenny Wright



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.

Prayer Cycle for September

- Wed* 1 For young people thinking about leaving home for University; for those whose next move is uncertain, that God will guide them
- Thur* 2 For the work of the Children's Society, and for Jenny Wright, our Children's Society Representative
- Fri* 3 For those who feel that no-one appreciates or cares about them
- Sat* 4 For countries of the Third World which suffer through the selfishness of richer nations
- Sun* 5 For those who work behind the scenes to assure the smooth running of our church
- Mon* 6 For God's guidance for our Parliament and Government
- Tue* 7 For Sylvia and Chris, our Churches Together in Bath representatives
- Wed* 8 For those mourning the death of loved ones: for those mourning the death of a child or children
- Thur* 9 For Church's mission to those with any form of physical or mental handicap
- Fri* 10 For the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Sat* 11 For engaged couples as they prepare for their marriage; for all who are responsible for helping and advising them
- Sun* 12 For our Sidespeople at both the 8am and 10am services
- Mon* 13 For all parents, step-parents and godparents
- Tue* 14 For success in the struggle against the distribution of drugs
- Wed* 15 For Emma as she prepares our weekly Notice Sheet
- Thur* 16 For all parts of the world where there is conflict, that God's peace may be known
- Fri* 17 For Mark our Director of Music, David our Organist, and the Choir
- Sat* 18 For those who are facing retirement, that God will help them with the challenges of their new life
- Sun* 19 For all who in any way contribute to the worship at Christ Church and to its ministry

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- Mon 20** For Angela and Chris, our Churchwardens
- Tue 21** For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries
- Wed 22** For respect and concern for our environment
- Thur 23** For the departed who have shared their earthly pilgrimage with us
- Fri 24** For the work and witness of our branch of the Mothers' Union
- Sat 25** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop
- Sun 26** For churches coping with an interregnum; for country clergy having to minister to a number of parishes
- Mon 27** For those facing redundancy, for those who are unemployed
- Tue 28** For those who work for the Emergency Services
- Wed 29** For young people in prison for whatever reason; for all who work with them
- Thur 30** Let us give thanks for the blessings of the month now ending
- October**
- Fri 1** Let us pray for those whose purpose in life is hatred and the imposition of cruelty on others
- Sat 2** For David, our Treasurer
- Sun 3** On our Gift Day, let us give thanks to God for all that we have
- Mon 4** For those considering a vocation to the priesthood or religious life
- Tue 5** For those awaiting the results of medical tests
- Wed 6** For all doing voluntary service overseas
- Thur 7** For those who are unhappy or frustrated in their job
- Fri 8** For Tom and Cyril our readers, and Sarah's ministry at Batheaston
- Sat 9** For Sarah and Matthew as they get married, that God will bless them in their new life together
- Sun 10** For our Chalice Assistants and Altar Servers

O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.

All our Yesterdays

So many people said how much they enjoyed reading the account of the choir outing to Portsmouth in July 1896 that we are again dipping into a 19th century magazine for an account of another summer excursion.

On Monday, 5th July 1897 the choir accompanied by friends and members of the congregation – 55 in all – set off for Chepstow and Tintern.

“Arrived at Chepstow, a visit was paid to the castle of historic interest, the scene of many a stubborn fight. Nor did we ourselves, peaceful as our errand was, leave the battleground of Cavalier and Roundhead without blood-shedding. The good old English game of rounders was suggested as in keeping with our surroundings. It was about to be indulged in with zest, when the hand of a fellow with one fell blow put his own Captain hors *de combat*. It was a cruel act but the ambulance at hand conveyed the wounded soldier from the field, and the battle raged again both furious and fast till a truce was called for lunch at the Beaufort Arms.

With a tender consideration for our digestive faculties the Manageress, no doubt thinking that we were about to resume play after lunch, put us on strict training in the way of diet. Sweets were withheld from us, till the Indian veteran of the party performed a juggling trick and produced from the recesses of his coat sleeve six baskets of ‘Sir Joseph Paxton’s,’ with cream to match. A glee party, who had retired to an alcove at the end of the dining room to ‘shed tears of sorrow’ for the absent sweets, rapidly dried them up at the sight of the strawberries, and gave three cheers for the donor and the Vicar.



Meanwhile, revived by the soothing influence of lunch and the tender care of three trained nurses, our wounded comrade was released from hospital, and able to accompany us in the drive to Tintern. All appreciated the beautiful Wye valley scenery, the grand ruins of the Abbey, and of course to an entirely minor extent the tea at Tintern.

After tea some members of the party bade adieu to their friends and encountered the perils of a voyage down the Wye. The boys played a game which consisted in lodging a small ball on the topmost branch of a large tree, and then climbing up after it. Failing to dislodge it for some time, they turned their attention to some antique statuary in the Hotel grounds, which, with true Cromwellian ardour, they defaced and demolished. The retreat was sounded at 7 pm, and our scattered forces retired in good order to the station where we found our saloon awaiting us.”

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

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

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

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

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Nicky Gladstone, 16 Croft Road, Fairfield Park, BA1 6JJ. Tel: 444938

HON TREASURER

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DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Mark Elliott, 32 Broadmoor Lane, Weston, Bath BA1 4JY Tel: 445360

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SECRETARY / TREASURER

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MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR

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

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 Family Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A more informal discussion-based service is held on the third Sunday of the month. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. At festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest, our special services, designed for the whole family, are very popular.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Thursday (with lunch on the first and third weeks of the month). 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.

THE CHURCH MAGAZINE

Currently published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world.

Articles or news items MUST be with the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date