



# Christ Church Link

Autumn 2011 Issue 6

We're an open-minded Christian community exploring our faith together

50p Where sold

## Help sow the seed this Harvest

The Rt Revd Peter Maurice, Bishop of Taunton



The presence of combine harvesters slowing my progress through the lanes of Somerset prompted me to remember the parable of the sower. As we know, some seed was very effective; some less so, but all the seed did something because it

was scattered around. What would have happened if the sower had decided not to scatter the seed and just keep it in the basket or storehouse? Not a lot, I suspect

I can imagine some readers thinking 'what a daft idea; who would have a resource and do nothing with it?' And yet, in many of our churches we do precisely that with a key resource. We do not scatter it around – in an orderly or disorderly manner (or should that be *manna*?).

Every three months the latest edition of Manna arrives at churches, Harvest's issue is due at the start of September. From my visits across the Diocese it would seem that in some places, every three months, the original stock at the back of church is exchanged for the next pile. On good days I imagine that they are there to impress me and to show me that the distribution system is working. They have arrived and here they are!

It would be more impressive if they were not there. After all, I have read my copy and passed it on so I do not need further copies. It would be really good if you could do likewise – read, reflect and pass it on. If you want suggestions as to where, how about doctors and dentist waiting rooms; the library; a neighbour's house; the pub; or hotel? There is every chance that somebody might pick it up and begin a journey to faith!

It may be that some ground will be stony and the briefest of shoot will form before being stifled. Perhaps weeds and tares will cause other shoots to falter after a period of time but there will be some seed that grows and grows well. The only certainty is that if seeds are not sown they don't grow and if Manna is not shared it's not achieving one of its aims. So when the new Manna arrives, please help us to 'sow the seed' and 'spread the Word.'



The Harvest issue of Manna looks at what parishes are doing to support water projects in developing countries; shares results of the Churches Environmental Survey and features the Diocesan Annual Review 2010.



# A personal invitation

Sarah Jones

Another brief reminder about Back to Church Sunday on 25th September. It is based on the simplest and shortest step in growing the church - that we should invite someone we already know to something we love: invite a friend to our church.

Although we are not planning a different service from normal, it is still a great opportunity for Christ Church to be part of a national event that aims to get people to consider stepping foot inside a church. There are invitation cards available at the back of church, please consider inviting someone. You can find out more about Back to Church Sunday on their website: [www.backtochurch.co.uk](http://www.backtochurch.co.uk)



Dave Walker is a freelance cartoonist and has published three books of cartoons about church life. We hope you enjoy his work as much as we do. This CartoonChurch.com cartoon originally appeared in the Church Times.

## PROBLEMS

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE ONE WHILST IN CHURCH

- ① SUMMON A SIDESPERSION. THEY HAVE FULL ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF HYMN BOOKS AND OTHER SERVICE MATERIAL - THEY WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN 95% OF CASES



- IF MORE SPECIALIST HELP IS REQUIRED A CHURCHWARDEN OR MEMBER OF THE CLERGY SHOULD BE SOUGHT. BOTH CARRY LARGE BUNCHES OF KEYS THAT UNLOCK ALL SORTS OF THINGS



- ③ IN THE HIGHLY UNLIKELY EVENT THAT YOU ARE UNABLE TO FIND HELP LOCALLY YOU CAN CONSULT A BISHOP. THEY HAVE GREAT EXPERIENCE AND QUITE A LOT OF BOOKS



- IF ALL ELSE FAILS I SUGGEST GIVING THE ARCHBISHOP A CALL. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT HE IS TERRIBLY BUSY, SO CAN ONLY ANSWER THE TELEPHONE ON TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

CartoonChurch.com

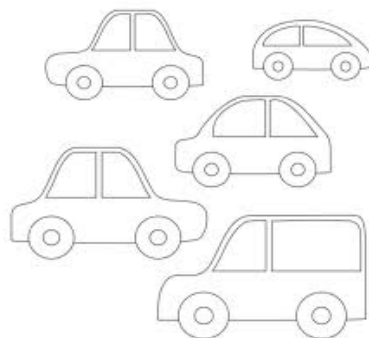
## Who's who?

Please help us to check and if necessary update the details in the Who's who section at the back of the magazine. We try and keep up with changes in roles, and contact details but we're sure some slip through the net. If you think there is an entry that needs adding, removing or updating, please inform the editors.



## Car Parking

A quick reminder to those with car park keys that the majority of our parking spaces are leased to various individuals and businesses. The rent forms a substantial part of the church income, so it is important we respect our agreements. If you are using the church car park at any time other than a Sunday, please only use spaces marked 'church'. Many thanks.



## A diary date

Of course there are lots of diary dates on the back inside page but don't forget the licensing service for our new Priest-in-charge, Angela on Tuesday 15th November at 7pm (take note of the time, slightly earlier than you might expect!). Read an open letter from her to us all on page 4.

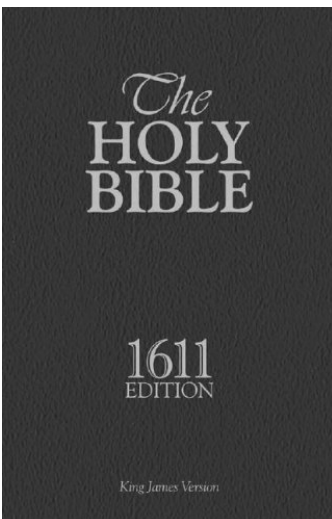
## Flapjacks for Freshers!

### Magaret Burrows

Although it has been and gone for schools, the start of term will soon be upon us for our universities. The Mothers' Union will be handing out flapjacks to new students at The University of Bath and Bath Spa during Freshers' Week and supplies of flapjacks are needed. If you would like to make a batch, please speak to me as soon possible (the fairs happen on 29th and 30th of September). I will be able to provide you with more information, including a recipe, if required! Please also pray for all students starting new courses across the country and in Bath in particular. It can be a wonderfully exciting time, but for some it is also daunting. We will, of course also offer a warm welcome to any students who visit Christ Church during their explorations of Bath.



## Wells Festival of Literature



The Wells Festival of Literature runs from Tuesday 11th to Friday 21st October 2011. A full programme can be found on their website [www.wellslitfest.org.uk](http://www.wellslitfest.org.uk) but readers may be particularly interested to know that Melvyn Bragg is giving a talk on the impact of the King James Bible, the subject of his new work *The Book of Books*. He will describe the impact of the Authorised Version on politics, war, the spread of democracy and abolition of slavery.

The talk is taking place on Thursday 20th October at Wells Cathedral and tickets are available online or via the festival box office: 01749 679459

## From our new Priest-in-charge

*Dear Congregation at Christ Church,*



Greetings from Guildford Cathedral.

I hope you have all managed to get a little bit of sun this summer.

Ned and I are very much looking forward to coming to Bath in the autumn. For me it will be returning to Bath, as I was born and brought up here, so it feels like coming home. Ned, who is also a priest and the son of a priest, has never lived in a home he or his family have owned so he is very excited about living in the house that is ours.

Our address will be 7 Kipling Avenue, BA2 4RB. This was my parents' house up until my mother came to live with us in Birmingham in 2001. Nothing has been done to it for a long time (we have had students in for ten years). The builder has started work and we hope he will be finished by the beginning of November, so that we can move in and settle before I am licensed on November 15th ready to celebrate Christ the King on the next Sunday.

It was great to meet some of you at the interviews in June and we are looking forward to meeting you all in November.

As I am 'retiring' I have decided to change my name from 'Weaver' to my married name which is 'Townshend'. This may seem a strange thing to do after all these years but it is something I have thought about for a long time. So when I come to you I will be Canon Angela Townshend.

In the meantime, please pray for me, as I complete my ministry here in Guildford, and for Ned who has Parkinson's and Lewy Body Disease and so is not as fit as he would like to be.

In anticipation of meeting you all on November 15th, we send you best wishes and every blessing,

*Angela Weaver (Townshend)*

## Memories of Lloyd and thanks from Sharon

Dear Members of Christ Church,

As many of you know my father Lloyd Grosvenor passed away on 15 May.

David and I would just like to say thank you for your kind words. We would like to reiterate our "Thank You" to those people who gave us support in one way or another. Firstly, Tony and Esme Buss who helped in so many ways especially running round helping me and my father with general things and also offering accommodation to my family (which was not easy, let me tell you).

Jane Nicholson who arranged a posy of white lilies in the choir stalls in honour of his memory. (Jane – Dad sends his kiss also!!) Clifford, who visited my father regularly before his death and just after to give him a blessing and officiated at his funeral. Jane, Esme and Angela who between them arranged the floral display in the church. Last, but not least the choir some of whom drove quiet a distance to attend the funeral. It was very much appreciated.

For those who could not attend the funeral you can read my father's eulogy opposite.



## A Eulogy to Lloyd

Lloyd Winfield Grosvenor was born at Queen Victoria Road in the Parish of Saint Michael, Bridgetown, Barbados, W I, to Evelyn Leotta and Ivan Elliott Grosvenor on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1933, the fourth, in a family of nine children.

He was educated at Roebuck Moravian Junior and went on to grade seven at the secondary school where he was made a prefect and was also selected to monitor the craft activities of the book binding and shoe making classes.

Lloyd was a good scholar with a strong mechanical aptitude, and on leaving school he developed a friendship with a new neighbour Mr. Massiah who was also a motor mechanic and a co-partner in a privately owned bus company, Lloyd used to help out in the business doing odd jobs and helping with mechanical repairs.

On an occasion while assisting in the urgent of repair of a bus, and with the spare parts required standing by, Mr Massiah was called away and Lloyd proceeded to rebuild the vehicle himself, which was later tested and found to be satisfactory.

Having chosen mechanical engineering as his speciality his dad promptly decided to make enquiries on his behalf

regarding the possibility of an apprenticeship at Courtesy Garage Robert Thom Ltd, (Barbados), where he served four and a half years of his five year apprenticeship before being suspended on the grounds of poor time keeping. Lloyd was then forced to undertake menial tasks bottling and labelling rum at the Government's spirit bond for export, and coach building for some funeral parlours.

With the novelty of steel band music spreading throughout the island like wild fire, Lloyd took the option of learning to play the First Pan and then coming together with the full group in the evenings to practice, this led to a band being formed and named the "Barbados All Stars" under the leadership of Joe Rowe.

The band started to gain popularity and was regularly engaged to play at functions all over the Island, and after wining several contests they were

retained by the Barbados Bottling Company to wear and display their (Ju-c) drinks logo under contract. A small number of the band decided to immigrate to England in 1955. After a short while they invited Lloyd to join them to continue with the band and also to continue to finish his engineering apprenticeship.

Lloyd arrived in England in October 1955 leaving his dad who was very ill at the time and unfortunately died and was buried on Christmas Eve day that same year. Following a brief spell with British Gas, Lloyd was employed by Western Counties Garages starting at a salary of four shillings and three pence an hour. He held various positions in the company during several periods of

ownership, these were: Vehicle Tester, Chief Reception Engineer, and Service Administration Manager until his retirement in 1998. He also attained his indentures from N.I.J.C London, trained in Motor vehicle Technology at the City of Bath College and was trained in middle Management and Administration by Vauxhall Motors Ltd.

The group known as the "Barbados All Stars" continued to play together, appearing on BBC Television, creating history by being one of the first steel bands to play in a church in the City of Bath and at the first St Paul's carnival. Unfortunately some members of the band decided to repatriate to

Barbados, while others emigrated to Canada and the United States, hence the demise of the "Barbados All Star Steel Band" and the birth of the "Rainbow Steel Band".

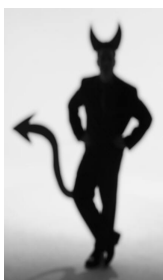
Lloyd started attending Christ Church in 1958 and has been a member ever since. His love of music drew him to join the choir with his wife Doreen and daughter Sharon in tow. Many a Friday night was spent with Christine Walker pounding at the piano note-by-note, so that the choir could learn the music. He became a crucifer and then later on joined the PCC, while attending meetings Lloyd and Sharon would type up the notices for the week and collate the hymns and readings, he was also granted a licence to serve at Christ Church.



**Sunrise 11th February 1933  
Sunset 15th May 2011**

*Thanks to Sharon for this wonderful account of Lloyd's life. His contribution to the Christ Church community was very special (Eds)*

## Devil's Advocate



So what if we're not a Parish Church? "Ah, but it's different for us - we're not a Parish Church". That seems to be said quite often at Christ Church. How true is it in the modern church? Obviously, we have administrative differences, but in the practical, day-to-day life of the church, what difference does it make? Not much, I don't think. Sure, we don't have a full time, fully salaried minister, but that's true of plenty of parish churches too. We're trying to fill a particular niche in both worship style and theology, but that is in common with most

urban churches of whatever administrative structure. It's true we have no official "catchment area", but parish boundaries mean nothing at all in a city setting, where people will happily travel to a church which "suits them". It's often said we're free from the strictures of being responsible to the diocese, but the Archdeacon is a trustee, and the Bishop still licences the minister. If we started to become weird or schismatic rather than just distinctive, we would soon find ourselves under pressure to head back towards the mainstream. The reality is that, as far as I am aware, "the diocese" isn't particularly heavy handed with any church. Everyone is left to plough their own furrow to a certain extent. Perhaps we need to get over this "we're different" attitude. We are different and distinctive, but so is every other church. We should celebrate both our individuality and our mutuality within the Church of England and the wider Christian church.

### Devil's advocate

(noun, idiomatic)

One who debates from a view which they may not actually hold, usually to determine its validity, or simply for the sake of argument.

### Are you a Devil's advocate?

Would you like to use this anonymous column to get people thinking about an issue in a different way? If so, please talk to the editors.

## From the editors' laptop

Matthew and Sarah Jones

It is hard to believe we are putting together the autumn edition of *Christ Church Link* once

again. For us personally so much has changed since this time last year! We have also started the careful calculations about how to use each precious weekend between now and Christmas. Of course as a church community we are looking forward with eager anticipation to a closer event: the licensing of our new Priest-in-charge: Angela Townshend (see her letter on page 4). We look forward to welcoming her, but we should be mindful not to abandon all the hard work we have put in during the interregnum. A church is its congregation and much as we are delighted that Angela is joining us, she is not arriving to face every challenge for us, that is something we must do together.

On the subject of group efforts, your humble editors would like to suggest you may be getting fed up of reading articles we have penned. There is one obvious solution to this: send us more copy! Although it is obviously useful to use the magazine to pass on information about church services, groups and activities, we'd really like to see articles on more esoteric subjects too. We know that the Christ Church congregation is full of people with opinions... share them with us! You may have ideas about how our church life can be developed. You might have been prompted to think about a topical issue in a different way by

a radio or television broadcast. Perhaps you'd like to let others know about a book, piece of music, prayer or Bible passage that has been meaningful to you. We would like this publication to reflect the congregation as a whole, please help us in this endeavour. Otherwise we may have to resort to publishing extracts from the various theses by the esteemed Doctors of Philosophy in the congregation...do you really want to be 'dazzled' by equations on particle-particle interactions in asthma inhalers?

### The deadline for articles for the Winter edition is Sunday 20th November.

This is quite close, but we want to have the new edition ready well before Christmas so we can use it to circulate details of relevant services. Thank you!



## Coming up at Christ Church

<b>Sunday 25th September</b>	Back to Church Sunday
<b>Sunday 2nd October 4:30pm</b>	Choral Evensong
<b>Sunday 6th November 4:30pm</b>	Choral Evensong
<b>Tuesday 15th November 7pm</b>	Licensing of Angela Townshend as Priest-in-charge
<b>Sunday 20th November 10am</b>	Christ the King Sunday Choral Eucharist
<b>Sunday 27th November 10am 6:30pm</b>	Advent Sunday Choral Eucharist Advent Carol Service

## Who's who

Priest-in-charge	Vacant	Junior Church Laity rotas	Sarah Cade 01225 339305
Supporting clergy	Rev'd Cliff Burrows Rev'd Angela Berners-Wilson	Organist	David Wrigley 01761 439355
Reader Chair of Trustees Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Pastoral care coordinator	Keri Chivers 01225 421265 keri.chivers@christchurchbath.org
Reader	Cyril Selmes 01225 420039	Magazine editors and publicity coordination	Matthew & Sarah Jones 01225 443284 sarah.jones@christchurchbath.org
Churchwarden Chair of Church Council Home group leader Deanery Synod	Lewis Boyd 01225 329190 lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org	Concert bookings Weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 869409 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org
Churchwarden	Malcolm Wall malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org	USPG	Adrian Pegg 01225 858809
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297	Mothers' Union	Margaret Burrows 01225 334743
Treasurer	David Bishop 01225 869409 david.bishop@christchurchbath.org	CTB	Margaret Heath 01225 428272
Secretary to Church Council	Brenda Wall	Deanery Synod	Andrew Sillett
CTB Mothers' Union Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers 01225 463976		

## Regular Sunday Services

- 8am Holy Communion using the text from the Book of Common Prayer.  
Usually the second Sunday of every month but see website or notice board for details
- 10am Sung Eucharist  
With Junior Church activities for children and young people
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong  
Usually the first Sunday of every month but see website or notice board for details

The church also aims to be a place of spiritual welcome when marking particular points in life's journey. If you would like to discuss holding a service of marriage, baptism or a funeral here, please use the details below to contact us.

## About Christ Church

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

It is not a parish church and does not have a paid 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 today is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the normal 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 are separate activities for children in Junior Church groups.

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. Our ecumenical home group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgmental setting.

If you are considering whether Christ Church is a place where you would feel comfortable in exploring the Christian faith, we would be delighted to welcome you, please come along to a service or get in touch with us (see below). If you feel you are looking for a different Christian community we wish you well with God's blessing and we would be happy to tell you of other churches in the area.

## How to find or contact us

Christ Church  
Julian Road  
Bath  
BA1 2RH

Telephone: 01225 338869 (answer phone)

Email: [admin@christchurchbath.org](mailto:admin@christchurchbath.org)

Website: [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org)

