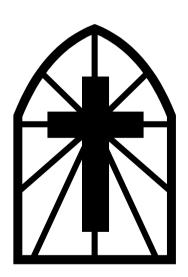
CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



August 2007

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 & Crêche First Sundays & Festivals Choral Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm Other Sundays Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (see page 5)

There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing

CHOIR

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

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

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

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

Angela and Chris, 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.

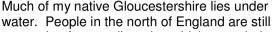
A slightly slimmer edition for the summer break. Many thanks to all our regular contributors and we look forward to reading your summer holiday tales...

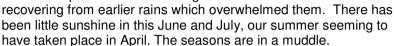


A very happy Summer break to all our readers!

Forum...

MUDDLED SEASONS





Seasonal weather is a very fine thing - and in the Occasional Prayers in the 1928 Prayer Book, it is *seasonal* weather that we pray for, not fine or warm or sunny weather; which is what the smiling TV meteorologists praise. Here is that prayer for 'Seasonal Weather':

O God, heavenly Father, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to them that seek first thy kingdom and thy righteousness, all things necessary to their bodily sustenance: Send us we beseech thee, such seasonable weather that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort, and to thy honour....

It is worth comparing that prayer with those we find in the Seventeenth century prayer book. Here we find prayer first for rain:

Send us, we beseech thee, in this our necessity, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort, and to thy honour...

And then there is one for 'Fair Weather'. It is clear that this one is written and spoken only when the poor petitioner really has had more than enough of rain, and is indeed worried that the deluge just won't stop.

O Almighty Lord God, who for the sin of man didst once drown all the world except eight persons, and afterward of thy great mercy didst promise never to destroy it so again: we humbly beseech thee that although we for our iniquities have worthily deserved a plague of rain and waters, yet upon our true repentance thou wilt send us such weather as that we may receive the fruits of the earth in due season:....

There are similar prayers in the American Book of Common Prayer of 1980. Indeed, the one for rain is still there, but is followed not by the prayer for rain to stop but by one which takes a more holistic view

and is entitled 'for the future of the human race': The prayer encourages us to move on in our understanding from 'dominion' to 'reverence' and to seek 'new insight' and 'new wisdom and determination' in our relationship with the natural order. It is a very humanity come of age prayer.

As we now begin to face the reality that among the factors which go to make up what we call 'weather' human influences are of great significance many questions begin to form themselves in our minds. Among them this one is important: how might we move forward from our current situation, which is hardly one of carefree connectedness with the natural world, to something which is more just, more wholesome, more like the kingdom of God?

It is hard indeed to know what to do. Should we pray about the weather, the climate, about rain and drought, about storms and tempests? Yes. But not as an alternative to action, rather as the beginning of alternative action and alternative living.

Antony

Farewell to Tudor Edwards man of faith and compassion

Tudor Edwards was remembered with love and affection at a celebration of his life and a Eucharist at Christ Church on 30 July. People came from all over the country to join family and friend s in Bath to say good- bye to him. Antony preached the sermon and tributes were given by his sister Sheila and an old friend, Richard Carr Gomm.

From their different perspectives they spoke of Tudor's voluntary work, his life-long fight against illness, and his irresistible charm. In Tudor there was a unique mix of the sublime and the ordinary. He was self-effacing and yet everyone knew him; possessed of both wit and seriousness and blessed with a capacity to understand the human condition. He was a lover of hats, which he wore with great aplomb but hated formal dress. Antony described how he had received the Holy Sacrament hours before his death with cheerfulness, firm in the hope of eternal life. He was a man of faith and compassion.

Church Calendar for August					
Aug	5	Sun	THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
	6	Mon	THE TRANSFIGURATION		
			8.00pm Meet Up Monday at the Hare and Hounds		
	8	Wed	ST DOMINIC, Priest		
	9	Thur	MARY SUMNER, Founder of Mothers' Union		
	10	Fri	ST LAWRENCE OF ROME		
			11.00am The Cedar Tree Community Café		
	11	Sat	ST CLARE OF ASSISI JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest		
	12	Sun	THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
			Church Duty at Genesis Lunch Box		
	13	Mon	JEREMY TAYLOR, Bishop		
	15	Wed	THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY		
			Deadline for Magazine articles		
	17	Fri	11.00am The Cedar Tree Community Café		
	19	Sun	THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
			No Tea and Taizé this month		
	20	Mon	WILLIAM & CATHERINE BOOTH, (Salvation Army)		
	24	Fri	ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle		
			11.00am The Cedar Tree Community Café		
	26	Sun	THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
			10.00am Service at St Stephen's Church		
	28	Tue	ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO, Bishop and Teacher		
	29	Wed	The beheading of JOHN THE BAPTIST		
Sep	2	Sun	THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
			6.30pm Choral Evensong		

Laity Rota for August

		t j i i o i o i	<u> </u>	<u>- </u>
		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
August	5	Mark Elliott	Jane Fletcher	Chris Graham
	12	Sarah Hiscock	Margaret Heath	Sylvia Ayers
	19	Judith Anderson	Margaret Burrows	Ann Kemp
	26		Service at St Stephen	's
September	2	Eileen Selmes	Bev Pont	David Marles
	9	Nicky Gladstone	Martin Palmer	Bob Siderfi

Chalice Assistants

August	5	Bob Siderfin	Penny Edwards
	12	Margaret Burrows	Tessa Claridge
	19	Chris Graham	Janet Mahto
	26	Service at S	St Stephen's
September	2	Bob Siderfin	Penny Edwards
	9	Margaret Burrows	Tessa Claridge

Intercessors

August	5	Mark Elliott
	12	Penny Edwards
	19	Bev Pont
	26	Service at St Stephen's
September	2	Rev Cliff Burrows
	a	Chris Graham



Sidespeople		8am	10am	
August	5	Arthur Jones	Ken and S	Sylvia Ayers
	12	Clive Tilling	Joan Bunkin	Jean Ferguson
	19	Arthur Jones	Margaret Heath	Andrew Sillett
	26	Clive Tilling	Service at	St Stephen's
	2	Arthur Jones	Margaret Silver	Frank Twissell
September	9	Clive Tilling	Ken and Sylvia Aye	ers

	Lectionary for August					
		Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel		
Aug	5	Trinity 9 (Proper 13)				
		Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23	Colossians 3.1-11	Luke 12.13-21		
	12	Trinity 10 (Proper 14)				
		Genesis 15.1-6	Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16	Luke 12.32-40		
	19	Trinity 11 (Proper 15)				
		Jeremiah 23.23-29	Hebrews 11.29-12.2	Luke 12.49-56		
	26	Trinity 12 (Proper 16)				
		Isaiah 58.9b-14	Hebrews 12.18-29	Luke 13.10-17		
Sept	2	Trinity 13 (Proper 17)				
		No reading	Hebrews 13.1-8, 15, 16	Luke 14.1, 7-14		

Our Calendar Correspondent Explains...

"Aidan of Lindisfarne" (31st August)

Saint Aidan of Lindisfarne, the **Apostle of Northumbria** (died 651), was the founder and first bishop of the monastery on the island of Lindisfarne in England. A Christian missionary, he is credited with restoring Christianity to Northumbria. Aidan is the anglified form of the original Old Irish *Áedán*. An Irishman, possibly born in Connacht, Aidan was a monk at the monastery on the island of Iona in Scotland.

An inspired missionary, Aidan would walk from one village to another, politely conversing with the people he saw and slowly interesting them in Christianity. According to legend, the king gave Aidan a horse so that he wouldn't have to walk, but Aidan gave the horse to a beggar. By patiently talking to the people on their own level Aidan and his monks slowly restored Christianity to the Northumbrian communities. Aidan also took in twelve English boys to train at the monastery, to ensure that the area's future religious leadership would be English.

In 651 a pagan army attacked Bamburgh and attempted to set its walls ablaze. According to legend, Aidan prayed for the city, after which the winds turned and blew the smoke and fire toward the enemy, repulsing them.

Aidan's friend Oswine of Deira was murdered in 651. Twelve days later Aidan died, on August 31, in the 17th year of his episcopate. He had become ill while at the Bamburgh castle and died leaning against the wall of the local church.

Churches Together in Bath

A meeting was held at St Michael's, Broad St, on 5 June. The church has been renovated, with a lift for the disabled, but the sound system and acoustics are not yet right. This meant many of us missed most of the introduction and prayers.

Rev. ANDREW JUDGE, luckily, was audible. Billed to speak on SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT, his topic was the psalms, "the prayers of the O.T", with their wide range of human emotions. They shaped Jesus' spirituality and could help us open up our feelings, admitting anger, for example. The psalms make us aware we are not alone in experiencing this range of emotions, whereas hymns can be too orderly and confident. Daily psalm reading is an aid to spiritual growth. Listeners to Antony's Trinity Sunday sermon may not be surprised to learn that, based on his reading of PAUL RICOEUR and WALTER BRUGGEMAN, Andrew divided the Psalter into three parts: psalms of orientation, eq 8.14,131, with their references to creation, the Torah and well-being; secondly psalms of disorientation, often avoided for church use, in which there is negativity and despair or penitential psalms eg 32, 51 and, thirdly, psalms of new orientation, eg 30, 29 and 105, which reflect respectively thanksgiving, celebration and praise. Andrew guoted BONHOFFER, "I know and love the psalms more than any other book". This brief summary does scant justice to what we heard. Andrew is Team Vicar of Keynsham and leader of the diocesan Exploring Spirituality Course.

After our break for net-working and refreshments, we reassembled for business with JEREMY KEY-PUGH in the Chair. The Rev IAN LEWIS was hard to hear but a handout giving mission targets enabled us to follow his talk. We were asked to report back on our proposed methods of meeting these targets. MICHAEL MOYNAGH has been invited by the Standing Committee to lead a workshop on 17 November to which all PCC members are invited. Rev JONATHAN LLOYD spoke, in the discussion that followed, of the need to cooperate with all Bath churches in mission. Antony assures me that we at Christ Church are working closely with St Stephen's and St Mary's, Charlcombe and points out that there are many forms of mission. Michael Moynagh, when Sarah, Emma and I heard him at the previous meeting, seemed keen on bringing people to the Alpha Course whereas HOPE 2008, as far as I gather, is more about sharing ecumenically which seems more adapted to us in Christ Church.

Margaret Heath

Missions to Seafarers

Did you go on holiday this year? I expect that you did, and while you were away, I am sure you spent some of your time writing postcards of the 'Wish you were Here' variety. Then, of course, on your return, there were a comforting pile of similar cards on your doormat, showing that you had not been forgotten. The question then arises: What to do with all this largess? Well, obviously, they go on the mantelpiece for a week or so, but what then? Do they get thrown away? If so, then STOP. Those pretty postcards still have value, so before you put them in your Green Box, please pause a moment to cut carefully round the stamps, leaving a half inch border. These can then be put in the 'A' pigeonhole in Church, where they will be very gratefully received by yours truly.

It is several years since I started asking for used Postage Stamps which the Mission can sell to raise much needed funds. In spite of the thousands that have already come my way, I am nevertheless still appealing for them. All 'pictorial' stamps are very warmly welcomed, so I do thank you for all you have given me in the past, and I look forward to receiving many more in the future. I cannot always thank you in person, owing to there often being no name on the parcels, so may this heartfelt THANK YOU be to you all, however few or many stamps you can give me. *Sylvia M. Ayers (Missions to Seafarers Secretary)*

Frience



The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours who 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 local contact best able to provide the help that is needed.

DO YOU KNOW the two plants this month which are unrelated botanically but have both been used for brewing an ale or beer: the first is an abundant plant with purplish flowers which covered about 10 million acres of the British Isles in the seventeenth century, but is now reduced to about two million acres, mainly in Scotland; the second is a small creeping plant, with blue flowers, probably hiding away under a hedge in your garden.

The plant with the purplish flowers has had many different uses: the honey-scented flowers produce an orange dye, a sweet tisane and a spectacular beer. Plants which have white flowers are thought to be lucky and are collected to be placed under mattresses or in brides' bouquets. The plants themselves are springy and supportive so they've been used as bedding for both cattle and people. The plants have also been used in thatching, frames for wattle and daub walls and fences, and the roots have been woven into ropes, strong enough to moor boats. The roots have also been carved into the handles of knives, especially of ceremonial dirks.

Acres of land are named after this plant, particularly in Scotland, although both south Dorset and the Brecklands had similar areas. It is often found growing with bracken and gorse, all of which tend to appear where woodland has been destroyed and fire or grazing animals have prevented the trees from re-growing. In Scotland the war with England and the Highland Clearances reduced the common rights and consequent loss of grazing rights so that woodlands were re-established. The plants still have uses in some parts of the country: in the New Forest, for example, they are still used to line potholes in roads; gravel by itself does not work. They have also been used as packing material: bricks being exported to Ireland were packed in straw until the spread of foot-and-mouth forbade this; this plant was used instead.

The beer made from the flowers is a product of legend and a recent revival. In 1985 a drinking vessel was found in a Neolithic village on the isle of Rhum. A residue on the inside contained pollen grains from oats, barley, meadowsweet and this plant. The archaeologists argued this indicated a beer and they made one from these ingredients. If their conclusion is

correct this beer dates from the time of the Picts:

4000 years ago. There's no doubt that ale from this plant was a Highland drink for many years and probably survived in the Hebrides until the 19th century. Indeed it's possible that whiskey (uinsgbatha) was distilled from this ale. But the re-introduction of the ale on a commercial scale had to wait until the 1990s when a Glasgow homebrewer, Bruce Williams, was given an old recipe in 1993. He was told this recipe had been in the family for ten generations and he had several false starts until he produced his heather ale on a commercial scale in 1994.

The plant with blue flowers had many common names including Alehoof and blue runner. The first gives a strong hint about one of its uses: the brewing of beer or ale. The aromatic leaves are the source of the battering which was used long before the discovery of hops. Hops were discovered in the 16th century and both were used in brewing for many years: Alehoof was especially popular in Wales and Cheshire. About this time it was also taken to New England and is now established on the east coast. According to Geoffrey Grigson there was a tradition in Ludlow for eating pork stuffed with Alehoof leaves. These leaves were also used to make gill tea. Is this the origin of being "stuffed to the gills", I wonder? The blue runner is a deadnettle which spreads by sending out runners (creeping stems) in all directions, thus being independent of pollinated flowers. You are more likely to know this plant as ground ivy.

Cyril Selmes

Getting together in August LMG will welcome the Royal School of Church Music

There will be no 10am service at Christ Church on Sunday 26 August. We shall join the people of St Stephen's and St Mary's to welcome the Royal School of Church Music junior choir and their parents at the 11 am Eucharist in St Stephen's church.

Each year the Royal School of Church Music holds a residential course at Kingswood School, Bath and we are delighted to have been asked to host the Eucharist which will mark the end



Prayer Cycle for August

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- **Wed** 1 For those who are lonely or feel uncared for.
- *Thurs* 2 For those who feel that no-one appreciates or cares about them.
- *Fri* 3 For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Sat 4 For our next-door neighbours; for our colleagues at work.
- Sun 5 For David, our Treasurer.
- Mon 6 For couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. For the work of Relate.
- *Tues* 7 For those who will not have any kind of holiday this year.
- **Wed** 8 For those who use our roads; for all who are travelling.
- **Thurs 9** For the Mothers Union; for its work around the world and all who share the vision of its founder.
- *Fri* 10 For the Cedar Tree project; for Nicky and all the helpers; for our local community.
- Sat 11 For all being mistreated or suffering injustice. For all prisoners who are held without trial or without the protection of legal systems.
- Sun 12 For Genesis and the work of the Sunday Centre; for those from our church who will be helping there today.
- Mon 13 For our Clergy Team.
- Tues 14 For those who work for the Emergency Services.
- Wed 15 For Nicky, our Magazine Editor.
- Thurs 16 For those who mourn, that they may be comforted.
- *Fri* 17 For all visitors to Christ Church this summer.

- Sat 18 For all members of Christ Church, that this summer may bring them peace, refreshment and strength.
- Sun 19 For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople.For Sarah, who draws up the Laity Rota.
- Mon 20 For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries.
- Tues 21 For Cyril and Mark our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston.
- Wed 22 For our LMG partners, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe.
- **Thurs 23** That rich countries may wake up to the disproportionate damage their societies do to the earth.
- Fri 24 For Angela, our Verger.
- Sat 25 For all members of our Church Council.
- Sun 26 For Mark, David and the choir. For the Royal School of Church Music.
- Mon 27 For those coping with terminal illness. For their families and all who care for them.
- **Tues** 28 For Angela and Chris, our Churchwardens; for Frank and Yvonne, our Deputy Churchwardens.
- Wed 29 For Emma, Margaret and Sarah, our Deanery Synod representatives.
- *Thurs 30* For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet.
- *Fri* 31 We give thanks for the blessings of the month now ending, and offer the coming month to God.

September

- Sat 1 For those who make coffee for us to enjoy after the 10am Communion service.
- Sun 2 For our children and young people and for our Junior Church leaders.
- **Mon** 3 For all those about to start a new school or in a new class. For all who pray for the opportunity of a fresh start.
- **Tues 4** For intelligent interfaith dialogue; for all those affected by acts of terrorism.

Webstock 2007 to take Weston by storm



A young Christian musician has written to tell us about a concert he is organising at the All Saints' Centre, on the High Street Weston, on Saturday 25 August.

Miles Webster is 24 years old and is planning to go to Nexus, a Christian music college in Coventry, this September. In going to Nexus he believes he will be able to learn how to pursue peace, justice and teach the Gospel through music.





After his year at Nexus, Miles plans to return to Bath and raise enough money to move to Brazil. He says, 'I have become increasingly drawn to this fascinating, beautiful country. Brazil has so much potential but is tragically plagued by drugs, gang culture, and corruption. With God's help I am going to do all I can to improve this situation'.

Saturday 25 August
7.30—11.00pm
All Saints' Centre, High Street, Weston
£10—Buffet and bar
Bring your own alcoholic drinks

Of his concert, Miles writes: 'I have called the event **Webstock 2007**. During the evening there will be several solo and group performances of contemporary music involving different combinations of guitar, singing, saxophone, bass and drums.'

The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, Bath BA1 2YE 01225 427462
The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
Mark Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6NS 01225 445360
Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, Bath BAI 6SG 01225 420039
Chris Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BAI 7QE 01225 859969
Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, Bath BAI 3HN 01225 333297
David Bishop, The Old Tannery, Turleigh, Bradford on Avon, BA15 2HG 01225 869409
David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BAI 7QE 01225 859969
Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, Bath BAI 2UP. 01225 425555
Emma Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6NS 01225 445360
Sarah Hiscock, 2 Mortimer Close, Bath BAI 4EN 07983 556759
Margaret Heath, St Lawrence, Lansdown Road, Bath BAI 5TD 01225 428272
Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD 01225 463976
Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BAI 7DA 01225 858809
David Wrigley, 3 Haydon Gate, Radstock, BA3 3RB 01761 439355
Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Judith Bishop, 01225 869409 Email concerts@christchurchbath.org

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

PAST HISTORY

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

MINISTRY

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

SERVICES

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

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

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

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

The deadline for articles for the magazine is the 15th of the preceding month.

Thank you.