

## “ ‘ere Burt, what they doin’ in there then?”

The process of recruiting a new Rector has ‘officially’ started. Preparatory work, two informal meetings with the Bishop and Archdeacon, searching through files to find out what we did ‘last time’, PCC Meetings, letters from the Cabinet Office (o’yes), after church conversations, telephone calls, numerous emails and just chatting in the street. Yes, it all goes on, everyone has their own idea of the sort of priest they want – Superman, Wonder Women, you know the Vicar we met in North Wales during the 1989 Sheep Dog Trials, but most of all we want a ‘Saint’.

PCCs have been preparing their ‘Parish Profile’, a statement describing the vision for the future, conditions, needs and traditions of the parishes and what they have to offer, in an attempt to ‘sell them’ to potential



candidates. The individual ‘profiles’ have been brought together with Bishop Nick’s introduction, our Mission Community Vision for the future, person specification and Mission Action Plan and to form one Beacon Parishes Mission Community Profile and Statement. They have also elected two representatives from each PCC, who will share in the process of selecting a new Rector, working with the person specification agreed by the joint PCCs. The interview panel will be quite large with 8 mission community representatives, the Bishop, the Archdeacon and the Crown’s representative - this is the maximum number for our size of mission community.



## 'ere Burt..... - continued

Word gets around when there is a 'vacancy' but informal approaches and head hunting are not acceptable, and all candidates will go through the same application and selection process. The difference, and there have been a few this time, is that we are seeking to appoint an Incumbent - you will recall Peter was initially appointed as a 'Priest-in-Charge' through a more informal process. Crown involvement means that some activities and meetings, which normally take place, are suspended and the Cabinet Office is involved. I'm not too sure that we can display a 'Royal Warrant' for the supply of goods and services on each church door, but it's a thought.

We have asked that the vacancy is advertised as widely as possible, in the Church Times, on Diocese and Church of England websites and through any other appropriate media.

Interviews have been set for the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018. The day before it is likely that candidates will get a whistle stop 'guided' tour of the Beacon Parishes. If there is an 'offer' made it cannot be announced immediately, the successful candidate has to accept, enhanced DBS checks have to be carried out and the candidate's personal circumstances have to be considered such as child education, housing and period of notice. However, there is an endeavour to have a new Rector in place by summer 2018.

*Mick Sutherland Cook*



Our regular first Saturday of the month library and coffee mornings continue to be a very popular way to meet and connect. October's saw us holding a Macmillan coffee morning, which raised a very pleasing £390, and November saw a very large number of us sitting down together to eat a full cooked English breakfast. With Christmas just around the corner, I wonder what December's will hold!

Of course, now that Christmas is fast approaching, there are many village events and church services to look forward to. In Woodland these always start with our candlelit Advent carol service, this year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. We will be having a village Christmas lunch at The Rising Sun on 16<sup>th</sup> December, our carol service will, once again, be held at Gurrington House and there will be a morning service on Christmas Day. However you celebrate I hope that you all have a very merry Christmas.

*Helen Pearse*

What a colourful autumn it has been so far, with the beech trees in particular still looking spectacular and, with the weather having been so mild that the grass is still growing, the fields are still a very lush green. Colour was also evident in church for our village Harvest Festival service as it was beautifully decorated with flowers and produce from many gardens and farms in the surrounding area. Harvest was additionally celebrated a few days earlier with our village annual Harvest Supper at The Rising Sun.

## News from Denbury

St. Mary the Virgin



With the nights drawing in and the days getting colder Denbury folk were happy to get together for a Soup and Sweets lunch in Church Cottage to celebrate the completion of the Harvest. As ever a wide choice of tasty soups and puddings was available which coupled with a very convivial atmosphere ensured a successful and enjoyable event.

The following weekend a Mission Community communion service was held at Denbury led by Rev. Christopher Robins. All our community churches were represented and the Denbury bellringers much appreciated welcoming fellow ringers from Ipplepen to lend a hand with the pre-service ringing.

With winter approaching, we are all very aware of the hardships faced by the homeless and those forced to live outside particularly at this time of the year. We have recently placed a collection box just inside the entrance to Church Cottage for donations of groceries and goods which will be passed on to HITS (Homeless In Teignbridge Support) for their charity food bank. Already we are seeing a good flow of items being deposited which are delivered to HITS on a regular basis.

After a vast amount of preparatory and background work involving many people the Faculty application to the Diocese requesting formal approval for the restoration of our bells at St. Mary the Virgin has been completed and forwarded to the Diocese. Hopefully we will hear their decision by the end of the year, however our church architect is confident that all areas have been covered and approval should hopefully be

straightforward. Once this has been achieved the fundraising team will be approaching further grant sources to try to obtain the balance of the project funding required.

The Remembrance Day service this year was conducted by Preb. John Good and was attended by many villagers in addition to the normal Sunday congregation. This reflective service included the Last Post very effectively and movingly played on the trombone. At the end of the church service the clergy, servers and congregation moved outside to pause at the village memorial at which the names of the fallen from Denbury over the two World Wars were read out and poppy wreaths laid at the memorial on behalf of the Parish Council and St. Mary's church.

The interior of Church Cottage has just been fully repainted as it was starting to look a bit tired. The new paintwork has certainly given the cottage a bright, fresh look.

We now look forward to the start of the Christmas period and dates are already being placed in diaries for the carol singing events and the many seasonal services which make this time of the year so special.

*Mike Bray*

## 700<sup>th</sup> news

### *Rachel Belringer writes*

Just had some brilliant news. This year's May Fayre has given the 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Group a grant of £450!!! This means that we are a very long way towards covering essential expenses such as insurance for the day. Less time chasing grants and fundraising – more time planning a special day.

Thank you to the May Fayre and all who made it the success from which we are now benefitting!



## News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



Harvest Festival on October 1<sup>st</sup> was a joyous service with the Rev. Anne Burden officiating. As usual the choir sang an anthem and the traditional harvest hymns were enjoyed by all.

The church looked beautiful with floral displays, fruit and vegetables. Members of the congregation had brought tins and packets of food for the 'HITS' food bank. In her address Rev. Anne talked about the circle of life and thanksgiving and told an amusing story about Charlie who was neither a Llama nor an Alpaca!

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October many of us from the Mission Community travelled to Weston-super-Mare to see Rev. Peter Ashman inducted into his new church, St. John the Baptist, by the Rt. Rev. Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells and the Rev. Chris Hare, acting Archdeacon of Bath. This was a truly special celebration of the new chapter in his ministry for Rev. Peter. It was a privilege for four of us from the choir to join with St. John's choir who gave us a warm welcome. With all the clergy and a large congregation the hymn singing sounded exceptionally good.



*Peter and family at Weston-super-Mare*



*Harvest decorations*

Rev. Peter's favourite hymn '*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live*' ended this lovely and emotional service which concluded with the procession of clergy and choir and with the Bishop and newly inducted Rector walking together at the end.

Refreshments followed with a wonderful variety of food, wine and soft drinks and a chance to chat to members of St. John's Church and to Rev. Peter, Chris and the family. After an enjoyable evening and coach ride we arrived back safely in the village at 11pm. Our thanks to Vanessa for arranging the coach.

Preb. Alan White conducted the Parish Communion on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, our grateful thanks to him and also to Canon Les Harman for the service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Maureen Burley led our lay-led service the following Sunday and our thanks to Graham Whittle from St. Luke's Church in Newton Abbot for his address and the prayers. He also said how much he enjoyed hearing the welcoming church bells as he arrived at the church.

## News from Ipplepen - continued

All Saints Day service on November 5<sup>th</sup> was celebrated at the morning Communion service with Rev. Anne Burden.

In the evening at 6pm a service for 'All Souls' was taken by Hillarie Griggs from Denbury who is training to be a reader. In this service of remembrance we commemorate and give thanks for loved ones who have died.

Whilst their names were read out candles were lit and in between each section of names was sung 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom'. The service as always was meaningful and poignant.

Rev. Tony Meek is returning after recovering from his knee operation to take services on 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Remembrance Service is important to remember all those who lost lives during the wars and conflicts. It is good to see all the organisations in the village represented and the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial after processing down from the Church.

Whilst preparations for Christmas services are underway much is still to happen including the annual Shoebox Service at the Methodist Church, the Candlelit Procession, St. Andrew's Patronal Service followed by lunch, with 'Bring and buy', coffee and cakes and raffle on the Saturday before Advent.

Marilyn Clark

## 'Prayer for Peace'



Anne Burden has sent in the following "PRAYER for PEACE":

*What shall we pray for those who died,  
those on whose death our lives relied?  
Silenced by war but not denied,  
God give them peace.*

*What shall we pray for those who mourn  
friendships and love, their fruit unborn?  
Though years have past, hearts still are torn;  
God give them peace.*

*What shall we pray for those who live  
tied to the past they can't forgive,  
haunted by terrors they relive?  
God give them peace.*

*What shall we pray for those who know  
nothing of war, and cannot show  
grief or regret for friend or foe?  
God give them peace.*

*What shall we pray for those who fear  
war, in some guise, may reappear  
looking attractive and sincere?  
God give them peace.*

*God give us peace and, more than this,  
show us the path where justice is;  
and let us never be remiss  
working for peace that lasts.*

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## Great news!

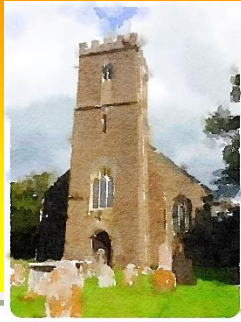
As we go to print, Shirley Northwood has just let us know that over £1400 has been raised for St. Andrew's Church Hall by the Co-op Community Fund. More information in the next issue.





## News from Broadhempston

St. Peter and St. Paul



Winter draws on! A sure sign for me is that the blackbirds are returning to the garden, tucking into the seed tray and having the occasional 'punch up' with each other. The autumn colours have been magnificent and a joy to see.

Harvest is past and I would like to give a very big thank you to everyone who supported the collection for the Teignbridge Food Bank. We had a collection box in the Community Shop which was overflowing. The children of our school made a great contribution as well when they came to church dressed as chickens, vegetables etc. for their Harvest Festival Service.

News of the month from Broadhempston is that we have a new village choir. This has all been brought about by Alex Paton of our village with the help of Bob Humphries from Ambrook. The choir meets once a fortnight and already has up to twenty five members. They get together just for the pleasure of singing. We hope that we will be hearing their talents at future church events and a possible first appearance at 'Carols in the Square' on December the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Advent is approaching and the start of the Christian year which promises to be an exciting one with appointment of a new Rector. The PCCs are having quite a busy time during the vacancy but we are certainly trying hard to do our best for you all.

Back to winter, I can remember a poem that we used to say at Sunday school many years ago:

*Now the wind is coming  
Now the wind is strong  
Now the winter freezes  
And the darkness will be long  
Now we see the starlight  
In the winter sky  
We know that God is with us  
And the Angels are close by*

Happy Christmas everyone and from Broadhempston we wish you joy and good health in the year to come.

*Pam Perriman*



*Broadhempston on Remembrance Sunday  
Photo by Lesley Rowe*

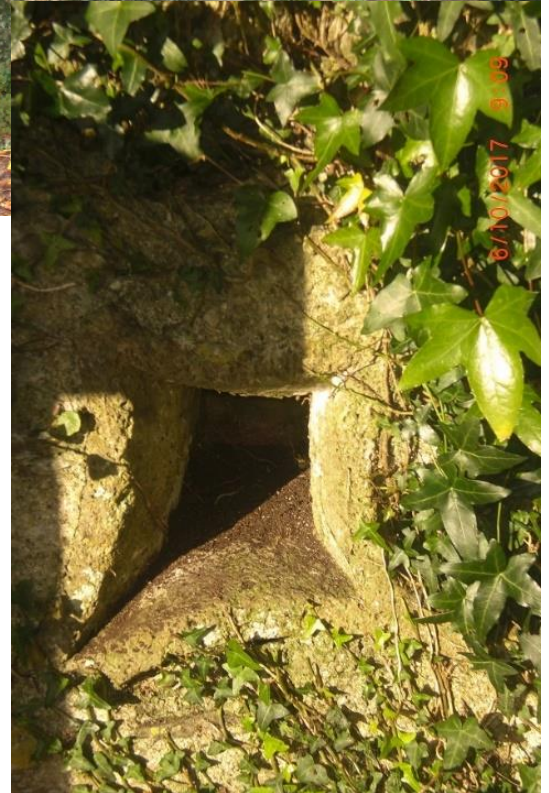
# The hole in the wall!

I thought I knew Ipplepen churchyard fairly well, but the other day Fiona Muddeman asked if I knew why there was a hole in the wall of the old Vicarage. I must have looked blank, as I had no idea there was any such hole. If there was, I guessed a stone had probably just dropped out and there was a job for the next working party, but Fiona suggested I had a proper look.



As the picture shows it is a properly formed recess, cleverly made, just by the blocked up entrance from the churchyard to the old vicarage. So does anyone know what it is, or what it was for? My best guess is that when the vicarage was built, before the days of street lamps and electric torches, a servant could put a candle or small oil lamp in this recess to guide the vicar home safely in the dark after an evening service. If you do have a better answer Fiona and I would be interested to know.

Stephen Bryant



## What to do?

Our television news at the moment is full of appalling and heart-rending pictures of children, and adults, starving in Yemen. Thousands are expected to die of starvation.

It has made me think of a quote by Elspeth Huxley I found many years ago -

*"To save the lives of babies and mitigate the suffering of mothers must be seen as a great and Christian Good. Death by starvation of tens of thousands, eventually millions, of people, and especially children, can be seen only as a great Evil. Yet the first creates the second."*

It is, I suppose, a hard truth. And yet the situation would be very difficult to ignore. The only thing, I tell myself, is to do what seems right at the time.

Winnie Bryant



# 'Fantastic' evening at Broadhempston

*Paul Russell writes about the recent concert at Ss. Peter and Paul's:*

There was much excitement at the news of another concert at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church. So successful have the previous concerts been and with popularity rising the show was sold out two weeks before the event. David Beadel and David Jenkinson, working under the name of 'Devon Sent', had surpassed themselves by attracting such a big name. Beth Rowley, with a previous Brit award nomination, was an artist not to be missed.



*Beth Rowley*

Devon Sent were keen to promote emerging local talent for the supporting act. After a tip off from some Broadhempstoners who had seen a great act on the BBC introducing stage at Glastonbury, Jamie Yost stepped in to support.

Despite 'Storm Brian' doing its best to scupper the day, the winds did start to settle just a few hours before the show. The leaky roof, a clear reminder of why these concerts are being held, thankfully stopped minutes before the show.



*Jamie Yost*

Jamie Yost gave a great initial acoustic set. Playing with a fellow guitarist and violinist he created some emotive music. With instruments and harmonies they created an atmosphere and sound that was exceptional. His final song, with his guitar played on his lap, was a fitting finale.

Beth Rowley, clearly an exceptional talent, gave an accomplished performance that mesmerised the audience. Assisted by two musicians she sang some through a range of styles including soul, blues and gospel. Her vocal range and tone, assisted by the fantastic acoustics in the church was something to behold.

With another great act planned for March, these concerts look set to continue and I for one am very grateful.

## Dates for calendar in Broadhempston

**Christmas Fair:** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Village Hall  
from 10.30 to 2.00pm.



**Carols in the Square:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm.





## Rector

## Vacancy



Hon Asst. Priests	The Reverend Tony Meek	814370
	The Reverend Anne Burden	813520
	Canon Tom New	813775
Readers	Mrs Tessa Amies	813993
	Ms Tricia Stokes	762158

## St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen

Churchwardens	Mrs Geraldine Dennis	813077
	Madeleine Fedrick	814134
Deputy Wardens	Mrs Jane Outhwaite	812879
	Dr Michael Price	813472
Choir	Mrs Jo Innes-Lumsden	812654
Bellringing	Mr Colin Clark	01626 354561
PCC Secretary	Mrs Vanessa Bevan	812812
PCC Treasurer	Mr Phill Harvey	812273
Church Hall	Mrs Shirley Northwood	813980
Flowers	Mrs Sheila Stacey	813609
Hospitality	Mrs Jane Outhwaite	812879

## St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Churchwardens	Mr Steve Bassett	812537
	Mr Mick Sutherland Cook	813871
Deputy Warden	Mr Mike Bray	812941
Bellringing	Mr Steve Bassett	812537
PCC Secretary	Mr Mick Sutherland Cook	813871
PCC Treasurer	Mr Mike Bray	812941
Cottage	Mrs Fran Howells	812971
Flowers	Mrs Ann Toler	813255
Social	Mrs Tessa Amies	813993

## Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston

Churchwarden	Mrs Pam Perriman	812986
Deputy Wardens	Mr Chris Parker	762543
	Mrs Tracy Lambert	813708
Bellringing	Mr Graham Pascoe	812102
PCC Secretary	Mrs Maggie Sercombe	813790
PCC Treasurer	Mr Chris Parker	762543
Flowers	Mrs Jane Parker	762543

## St John the Baptist, Woodland

Churchwardens	Miss Sheila Ashford	01626 821288
	Mrs Jane Usher	01626 353454
PCC Secretary	Mr David Wrayford	01364 652323
PCC Treasurer	Mr John Usher	01626 353454

## Safeguarding

Local Advocate	Mrs Carol Robinson	812800
	Mrs Ann Holroyd	411373

## The Beacon

Editor	Dr Michael Price	813472
Production	Mr Charles Quartley	812238

# Sunday Services for December and January

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

9.15am	Parish Communion / Posada	Denbury	Rev. Chris Benson
11.00am	Parish Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Anne Burden
6.00pm	Advent Carol Service	Woodland	Rev. Anne Burden

## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 2

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ipplepen	Rev. Preb. Alan White
9.15am	Parish Communion	Denbury	Rev. Chris Benson
11.00	Parish Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Preb. Alan White
4.00pm	Holy Communion	Broadhempston	Rev. Anne Burden
6.00pm	Evensong	Woodland	Tessa Amies

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3

9.15am	Parish Communion	Denbury	Rev. Preb. Alan White
11.00am	Morning Worship	Broadhempston	Patricia Stokes
11.00am	Parish Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
4.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Denbury	Tessa Amies
5.00pm	Carols at Gurrington	Woodland	Edward Goodman
6.30pm	Carol Service	Ipplepen	Rev. Anne Burden and Rev. Tony Meek

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

11.00am	Crib Service	Ipplepen	Edward Goodman
3.00pm	Crib Service	Denbury	Canon Tom New and Tessa Amies
11.00pm	Midnight Mass	Ipplepen	Rev. Anne Burden
11.00pm	Midnight Mass	Denbury	Rev. Chris Benson

## Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
9.00am	Christmas Communion	Denbury	Rev. Chris Benson
10.00am	Christmas Communion	Woodland	Rev. Philip Darby
10.30am	Christmas Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
10.45am	Family Service	Broadhempston	Lay led

## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December

11.00am	Mission Community Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
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## Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018

9.15am	Parish Communion	Denbury	Ven. Douglas Dettmer Archdeacon Totnes
11.00am	Parish Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Anne Burden

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
9.15am	Morning Worship	Denbury	Lay led Tessa Amies
11.00am	Parish Communion	Ipplepen	Rev. Tony Meek
4.00pm	Holy Communion	Broadhempston	Rev. Anne Burden
6.00pm	Even Song	Woodland	Patricia Stokes

## Sunday Services for December and January - continued

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January

9.15am	Parish Communion	Denbury	Rev. Alan White
11.00am	Holy Communion ( for Week of Christian Unity)	Ipplepen Methodist Church	Rev. Kevin Hooke and Rev. Anne Burden
11.00am	Morning Worship	Broadhempston	Lay Led
6.00pm	Holy Communion	Woodland	Rev. Alan White

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ipplepen	Canon Les Harman
9.15am	Parish Communion	Denbury	Rev. Chris Benson
11.00	Morning Worship	Ipplepen	Lay Led - Steve Sheldon
4.00pm	Holy Communion	Broadhempston	Rev. Ann Smith

## Mid-week Services for December and January

Regular Mid-week (CW) services are held as follows:

Tuesday	7.00pm	Ipplepen	Holy Communion (first Tuesday)
Wednesday	10.00am	Denbury	Holy Communion
Thursday	10.30am	Ipplepen	Holy Communion
Thursday	4.30pm	Denbury	Evening Prayer (said)

## Intercessions for the Mission Community – December & January

Sunday	Mission Community	Ipplepen	Denbury	Broadhempston	Woodland
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Those who decorate the church	Churches Together in Ipplepen	The Union Inn	Community Shop	Library
Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	Baptism ministry team	The Wellington Inn	Denbury Primary School	Radfords	Parish Rooms
Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Vergers & sextons	The Post Office & Co-operative Shop	Fairfield Farm	Beaston	Levaton Farm
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Our churches	Ipplepen Primary School	Community Groups	Downe	Bremridge
Dec 31 <sup>st</sup>	PCCs & Rector	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Meeting & local businesses
Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	Wardens & Deputies	Ambrook & Dainton	The Union Inn	Knowle	Waye Farm
Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	Secretaries	Barn Park & Barn Park Cottages	The Manor	Hemsford	Gurrington House
Jan 21 <sup>st</sup>	Treasurers & finance/stewardship committees	Beech Drive & Orchard Drive	Fairfield Farm	Village Hall	The Old Parsonage
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Safeguarding officer & reps.	Biltor Road & Conniford Lane	Community Groups	Monks Retreat & Coppia Dolla	Lake Farm



## Dates ahead – December and January

### December

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am to 12 noon	Library & Coffee Morning – Parish Room – Woodland
	10.30am to 12 noon	COFFEE at CHRISTMAS at St. Andrew's
	10.30am to 2.00pm	CHRISTMAS FAIR & Soup Lunch – Broadhempston Village Hall
	3.00pm to 5.00pm	MESSY CHURCH Christmas Cooking – St. Andrew's Church Hall
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00pm	Advent Carols by Candlelight – Broadhempston
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Ipplepen School Carol Service in Church
	7.00pm	Holy Communion at Ipplepen Church
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Monthly Lunch Club at Ipplepen Church Hall
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Carol Service – Broadhempston
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Coffee Mates at Denbury Cottage
	6.00pm	Carols at Brambledown, Denbury
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Carols on the Green, Denbury – collection for SW Children's Hospice
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols – Denbury
	5.00pm	Carols at Gurrington House – Woodland
	6.30pm	Carol Service – Ipplepen
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>		Home Communion
	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
	7.00pm	Carols in the Square – Broadhempston
	7.00pm	Carols in the Square – Ipplepen
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Ipplepen Carols at The Grange

### January

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am to 12 noon	Library & Coffee Morning – Parish Room – Woodland
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot 'Christmas Party' at Denbury Cottage
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Holy Communion at Ipplepen Church
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Monthly Lunch Club at Ipplepen Church Hall
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Coffee Mates at Denbury Cottage
	5.30pm	Denbury PCC
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm to 5.00pm	MESSY CHURCH – Heroes of the Old Testament – St. Andrew's Church Hall
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	3.00pm	T-Pot at Denbury Cottage
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>		Home Communion

## Monday T Pot

each Monday, 3.00pm to 4.30pm.  
Denbury Church Cottage. All welcome.



## Coffee Mates (Men of Denbury)

(and Friends)

this is your chance to become a 'Coffee Mate'  
gather around a cup of coffee, biscuits and cake  
2nd Thursday of each month at Church Cottage  
10.30 am to 12.00 noon  
Treat it as a 'coffee shop',  
bring your newspaper, book, do the crossword

# Floodlighting

The towers at both Denbury and Ipplepen have floodlighting which needs sponsorship to cover the cost of electricity and maintenance.

Sponsorship is usually for a week at a time, and people often like to sponsor to mark a special occasion.

For Denbury, contact Mick Sutherland Cook on 01803 813871  
For Ipplepen, contact Winnie Bryant on 01803 812066

## Denbury:

Carol and Colin in memory of Gerry and Monica

## Ipplepen:

### Retrospective

- Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Dennis and Gill Arnum who love to see the Church floodlit as they enter the village – it is so warm and welcoming
- Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> Peter Gage in memory of his much loved dear Dad, Tony Gage, on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1997
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> John and Iris Thornton who always love to see the Church floodlit
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Margaret Kemp, Sheila, Graham, Becky, and Hannah Needs remembering dear Michael on his birthday on 10<sup>th</sup> November
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Mark, Karen and Ken Squire remembering so many happy times with Pamela – a lovely wife and mother who passed away 6<sup>th</sup> November 2011
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Richard Tossell, Tim, and Gemma remembering Susan Davida Kadow on her 69<sup>th</sup> birthday on 13<sup>th</sup> November
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Peter Gage in memory of his much loved dear Mum, Margaret Gage, on the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1993
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup> Fiona Muddeman remembering her husband Edward on the anniversary of his birthday, and also to celebrate their son Robert's birthday on the same day - 19<sup>th</sup> November
- Nov 26<sup>th</sup> John and Iris Thornton who always love to see the Church floodlit

### New

- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Ted and Wendy Wonnacott for their grand daughter, Kirsty Pritchard, on the occasion of her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup> David, Linda, Hannah, and Katie Simmonds in memory of Hope and Faith
- Dec 17<sup>th</sup> Peter Mason remembering his wife Jan whose birthday would have been on 23<sup>rd</sup> December
- Dec 17<sup>th</sup> Ted and Wendy Wonnacott for their grandson, Daniel Wonnacott, on the occasion of his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on 19<sup>th</sup> December
- Dec 17<sup>th</sup> Denis and Pat Eales in memory of their daughter, Alison Duncan, who passed away in December 2009, aged 43



# GOD'S LIBERATING GRACE AND LOVE



The Rt Rev Nick McKinnel  
Bishop of Plymouth

**F**ive hundred years ago, on 31 October 1517, something happened that was to change the church forever. Martin Luther's action in mailing his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral was, in effect, the event that launched the Reformation.

The Augustinian monk could not bear to see the people of his day weighed down by their sins and exploited by those promising the release of souls from purgatory by the sale of papal indulgences, the money going to build the new basilica to St Peter in Rome. His Theses challenged the authorities to debate the nature of salvation and unlocked popular and political grievances.

At about the same time, working on a lecture series of his students, Luther struggled with the meaning of the phrase 'the righteousness of God' in Romans 1:17. What was God like? How could we be righteous before him? In his words: "I grasped the truth that the righteousness of God is that righteousness whereby, through grace and sheer mercy, he justifies us by faith.

"Thereupon I felt myself to be reborn and to have gone through open doors into Paradise. The whole of scripture took on a new meaning, and whereas before



**I grasped the truth that the righteousness of God is that righteousness whereby, through grace and sheer mercy, he justifies us by faith - Martin Luther**

'the righteousness of God' had filled me with hate, now it became to me inexpressibly sweet in greater love. This passage of Paul became to me a gateway into heaven."

Passionate, flawed, courageous, Luther rediscovered the gospel of God's loving and free grace, setting people free from the burden of guilt as they trusted in Christ. And it was all God's work, to be received through faith. While he and his friends drank their beer in the beer cellars of Whittenberg, as he said, "The Word did everything."





# Safeguarding

## *The Work of the Diocese and Parishes in Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults*

The Archbishop of Canterbury has stated that safeguarding is the highest priority of all parts of the church and that there can be no excuse for shortcomings.

Bishop Robert's vision is of a church growing in prayer, making new disciples, and serving the people of Devon with joy. Safeguarding underpins each of these aims.

"Making a Safer Church 2017" is the House of Bishops' Safeguarding policy statement. It ensures that the policies and practice of the Church of England comply with the secular multi agency safeguarding statutory procedures.

As a mission community we must acknowledge the principle set out by the Bishops that safeguarding is everyone's business.

The National Safeguarding priorities for the Church of England must be implemented at Diocesan and local parish levels and a new Diocesan Safeguarding team has been appointed. This includes an advisor and other officers for safer recruitment, for offering support and for providing a detailed training programme. The new training programme constitutes a significant change for both parishes and the Diocesan Safeguarding team. Training is available at levels appropriate to the roles of individuals within the parishes.

We need to be confident in our commitment to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone in our community. This is the background to the C1 training course that will be offered by a volunteer from the Diocese on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 or if more convenient for you on 27<sup>th</sup> January, in



Ipplepen church hall from 10.00 until 1.00pm. This session is offered for anyone who has safeguarding responsibilities or who has contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults. All those who are leaders of activities need to have completed this course before they continue to C2 training.

Anyone who needs just a basic level of safeguarding awareness can complete the CO on-line course. You may wish to complete this even if you are attending further training. If you think this course is appropriate to you and have not yet given your name to Ann Holroyd please contact Ann or Carol Robinson as soon as possible.

We are providing this locally so that our PCCs and others have the opportunity to work and learn together on this important issue. However the Diocese provides training sessions in other venues in Torquay and Exeter. If you have attended these sessions already or expect to do so in 2018 will you please inform either Carol Robinson or Ann Holroyd (details in the Beacon) as this information has to be recorded for the Diocese.

Further details of the courses are available on the Diocese of Exeter website.

*Ann Holroyd*

# Legacies



In October members of the Joint PCCs met in Broadhempston Village Hall to listen to Katie Stevenson from the Diocese talking about Legacies. This is a very challenging subject as it involves talking about death, but although 75% of British people give regularly to a charity only 7% leave a gift in their will.

A gift in your will can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, and can help keep your church alive and transform its future.

We hope at some stage to develop a Church Legacy Policy but this will be something for the new Rector to decide on.

There are many ways you can support the work of your parish with a gift in your will and the PCC is obliged to carry out your wishes. However this can sometimes cause problems so it might be better to leave a gift for general purposes rather than for a restricted purpose. The money goes direct to the stipulated church and not the Diocese. At present it costs around £60,000 to employ a priest.

It is good to acknowledge gifts but equally the gifts can remain anonymous if the donor prefers.

There are one or two leaflets on the bookcase opposite the main door but if you require further information you can contact [www.churchlegacy.org.uk](http://www.churchlegacy.org.uk)

Alternatively please speak to anyone on the PCC but do remember that it might be desirable to take professional advice regarding your will.

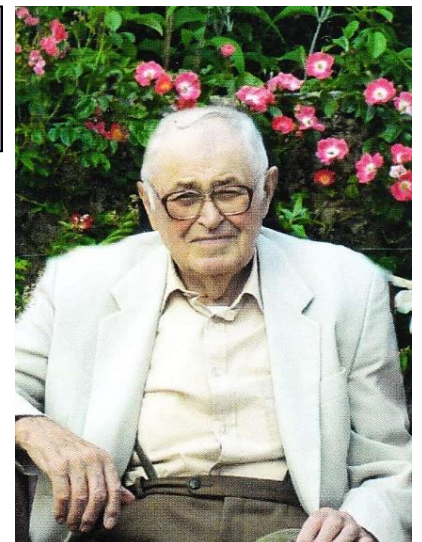
*Vanessa Bevan*

## Gerald Nathaniel Maunder

A service of thanksgiving for Gerald's life was held at St. Mary the Virgin, Denbury on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Geraldine Dennis, Church Warden at St. Andrew's writes:

The Wardens and friends at St. Andrew's, Ipplepen want to recognise and say thank you to Gerald for his loyal and faithful service to St. Andrew's. We have a work party each month and Gerald would be there with his trusty hoe, keeping paths and memorial tablets in the churchyard free from weeds. When it was time to cut the laurel hedge Gerald would be there with his chain saw. He was always willing to help and did so in a quiet and caring way as well as with humour. He talked about his farming days and what the weather was likely to be. He was a real country person.

He was very proud of cooking roast dinners and making cakes and sponges. So we thank Gerald, we will all miss him.

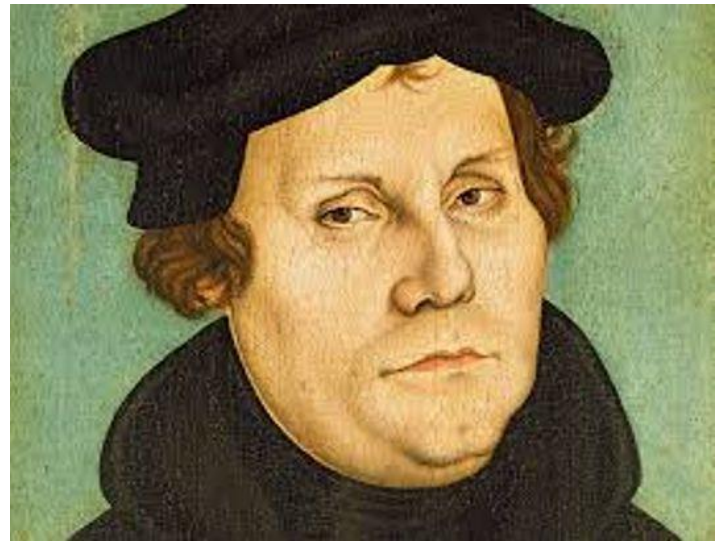


# The Protestant Reformation

The 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 represented the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary when a young German monk named Martin Luther started the Protestant Reformation, which shattered the authority of the Roman Catholic Church and set up an alternative Christian Church.

Martin Luther challenged the basic teachings of the Roman Catholic Church which were based on “Indulgencies”. An Indulgence was a way to reduce the amount of punishment one had to undergo for sins. The Indulgence might be prayer, good works or good deeds. However, the practice became corrupt and commercialised with money becoming an accepted Indulgence. Martin Luther particularly objected to the work of a Dominican friar and papal commissioner named Johann Tetzel who was charged with collecting the Indulgence as money on behalf of the Catholic Church for the purpose of rebuilding St. Peter’s Basilica. These payments were made in the belief that individuals and their deceased relatives would avoid purgatory and go straight to heaven. Tetzel would ask his audience “Don’t you hear the voices of your wailing dead parents and others in purgatory? You could redeem them with small alms”. He would chant a little ditty “when the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs”. This practice motivated Luther to change the Church.

Martin Luther was influenced by the Letter to the Romans and the concept of “the righteousness of God”. He explained further “I began to understand that the righteousness of God is that by which the righteous lives by a gift of God, namely by faith.” Martin Luther’s belief became that one’s acceptance before God could not be purchased by indulgences, nor achieved by good works or deeds, but only received through faith. He also believed that only scripture could determine the governance of the Church and the practice of Christians. I think the Church of England might reflect on



this as it seems to me governance today is based too much on political correctness. In 1505, aged 21, Martin Luther became a monk in an Augustinian House in Erfurt. From there engaged on a detailed study of the Bible at the University of Wittenburg, where he became Professor of Theology, and produced 95 Theses. Each thesis was a criticism of the Church and a list of questions and proposals for debate. As might be expected, the Roman Catholic Church refused to accept any change fearing a loss of authority. The Church would not speak to Martin Luther so he resorted to nailing his theses on the door of the Schlosskirche (University Church) - all 95 of them.

Martin Luther rejected the notion that forgiveness of sins, salvation and eternal life can be earned by Indulgencies, but are only received as a free gift from God’s grace through the believer’s faith in Jesus Christ as redeemer of sin. He challenged the authority of the Pope by teaching that the Bible was the sole source of divinity.

It is not surprising there was no agreement with the Catholic Church and Luther realised his only option was to set up an alternative Church.

I wonder if Martin Luther (1483-1546) German professor of theology, composer, priest, monk and architect of the Protestant



# The Protestant Reformation - continued

Reformation had any idea of the impact his work would have on himself and Europe, especially Britain.

In 1520 Pope Leo X warned Luther that he would be excommunicated unless he withdrew 41 sentences of his writings including the 95 theses within 60 days. Despite a number of papal dignitaries trying to act as mediators, Luther was excommunicated in 1521.

The enforcement of the ban on the 95 theses was the responsibility of the secular authorities. In 1521 Martin Luther was summoned to appear before the Diet of Worms, presided over by Emperor Charles V. In this case Diet means Assembly of the Holy Roman Empire and Worms was a city. Others reformers who had faced the Diet of Worms ended up being burnt at the stake, accordingly Luther only agreed to attend provided he was guaranteed safe passage to and from the meeting. Frederick III, Elector of Saxony provided such a guarantee.

At the meeting Luther agreed the texts were his and he stood by their contents. Luther's famous response was:

"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the Pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen"

Johann Eck on behalf of the empire accused him of acting as a heretic. Before judgement could be passed on Luther, Frederick III organised masked horsemen (impersonating highway robbers) to intercept him on his return journey to Wittenburg and take him to Frederick's castle in Wartburg.

There Luther spent a year translating the Bible from Latin to German. This translation together with the expansion of the printing press meant Luther's teachings became widespread in Europe.

Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora (a former nun) in 1525. From then on he was busy organising a new Church, creating new liturgy for services, writing hymns and theological papers; Luther was the most widely read author of his generation. His struggle with Rome continued until his death in 1546 aged 62.

As the reformation spread through Europe the rivalry between the churches became intense and resulted in many bloody wars between 1524 and 1649.

The Church of England did not break from the Roman Catholic Church until later in the 16<sup>th</sup> century over Henry VIII's divorce, but the split was no less bloody as successive monarch's religious affiliations changed. Some of the worst atrocities occurred under Mary I (Bloody Mary) 1553 to 1558 when protestant Bishops Ridley and Latimer and Archbishop Cranmer were burnt at the stake in Oxford.

Mercifully, such divisions no longer exist although I remember at school, Roman Catholic pupils were forbidden by their church to join in the daily act of worship despite it being ecumenical and conducted by the headmaster. The old religious divisions in football (Rangers v Celtic) and (Liverpool v Everton) do not appear as definitive as they once were. I was reminded of the religious divide of the past whilst watching Cilla on TV. Cilla Black's parents were alarmed that her boyfriend Bobby was a protestant.

The Archbishop of Westminster and the Archbishop of Canterbury appear to have a good working relationship and it can be argued the churches are closer today than at any time since the Reformation.

*John Usher*

# The Reformation – a continuous movement

*By Tom New (I have been asked to write of my personal odyssey in ecumenical matters)*

I come of a longstanding Church of England family. My great-grandfather and my grandfather were both priests. Their spirituality sprang from the nineteenth century catholic movement, my great-grandfather was a contemporary of John Mason Neale at Trinity Cambridge so was in on the start of the Camden Society in 1840. So I grew up as a child in the '30s staunchly high-church!

When I was ordained in the '50s I was one of six curates in a very lively parish in West London. We had no great contact with the other churches.

Indeed, when the priests of the Roman Catholic Church saw us they crossed the road. In those days it was a daring thing to observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and even when one did so we were not able really to pray together.

How matters had changed by the end of the decade! By then I was priest-in-charge of a new estate in Surrey. When John XXIII was elected Pope it had an immediate effect. The men of my congregation and those of the RC just found themselves coming together in one of the shops. We even set up a monthly meeting for men in the club room of the pub where we chewed over many quite serious matters. My opposite number and I became close friends. Around that time, the Second Vatican Council was called which had and still does have a profound effect, especially in ecumenical relations.

Twenty years later when I became vicar of Banstead, things took an even greater turn. Here we had five thriving congregations - one Roman Catholic, one Methodist, one United Reformed and two Church of England. From being just "very polite" we began to cooperate

in simple matters. Gradually this increased so that literally we did nothing apart that we could do together. We had many people to work with and five sets of accommodation, and we used them all! When a site on the High Street where the Methodists and the URC had a notice board was developed we had a new board on the parish church front advertising all five churches. Thus began, what still continues, the "Banstead Five Churches".

A significant development came when, at the insistence of our (American) URC minister we decided that we should meet every week regardless of necessary business. So on Thursdays we met in church for mid-day prayers and the repaired to the pub for lunch, which was a very public display! This was certainly a gathering of friends and colleagues with much banter with the business, and it continued just the same over many changes of personnel.

The Banstead Five Churches' activity covered everything - Children and Youth work, Lent Courses, theological study, prayer, Communion (where possible - we did not break the Roman Catholic rules), a Christmas Pantomime, Good Friday Stations of the Cross along the High Street, Weekends away together, a very successful coffee shop (which makes a lot of money for the work). If you were to Google "Banstead 5 Churches" you would find all that goes on these days.

At the bottom line, the fundamental discovery for me was to appreciate that God is not "denominational" and that any other man or woman ordained/appointed to serve Him is in every way to be as acknowledged as I would hope to be myself.

*Rev. Tom New*

# From the Editor



## Phrases that feed the soul.....

I came across a poem printed on the pew leaflet of the church where we worship when away from Ipplepen. It was September, the Rohingya crisis was escalating in Bangladesh, and we were waiting for the Eucharist to start in the quiet of the church.....

### I am the Bread of Life - Malcolm Guite

*Where to get bread?* An ever –pressing question  
That trembles on the lips of anxious mothers,  
Bread for their families, bread for all these others;  
A whole world on the margin of exhaustion.  
And where that hunger has been satisfied  
*Where to get bread?* The question still returns  
In our abundance something starves and yearns  
We crave fulfilment, crave and are denied.

And then comes the One who speaks into our needs  
Who opens out the secret hopes we cherish  
Whose presence calls our hidden hearts to flourish  
Whose words unfold in us like living seeds  
Come to me, broken, hungry, incomplete,  
I AM the Bread of Life, break Me and eat.

It is fitting to have three articles in this edition; one from John Usher together with the article in this month's Diocesan News by the Rt. Rev. Nick McKinnel, Bishop of Plymouth about events surrounding the Reformation and Martin Luther. I am writing this on October 31<sup>st</sup>, the day when the church remembers this "Reformer".

Finally I am grateful to Father Tom New to write at my suggestion of his experiences as to how Christians can come together today and what this might mean for each one of us.

My thanks to all our contributors without whom this publication could not happen.

Articles for the February - March edition of the Beacon should reach me by January 11<sup>th</sup>.

We wish readers an unrushed Advent and a peaceful Christmas.

Mike Price

[www.missioncommunity.org.uk](http://www.missioncommunity.org.uk)

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