

Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland



*A very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*



See inside for details of Christmas services and events

Winter walks and time by the fire

I love winter walks: wrapping up warm, crisp ground underfoot, sun low in the sky and seeing your breath. Having just got sorted with our first delivery of logs I am also looking forward to some cosy evenings by the fire. Timothy Radcliffe in his book 'Why go to church?' describes how the beginning of a church service is like coming in from the cold and being warmed up. We come into the love of God expressed in the gathering of people in worship and our spirits, souls and hearts are warmed. This is what many of us will be drawn to and experience as we attend Crib, Carol and Christmas services over the coming month. As we hear, celebrate and experience again the story of Jesus' birth we will feel our hearts warmed.

Many church services begin with a prayer of confession, a moment where we bring all of our lives to God for his love and healing. In this we come in from the cold and are warmed again by God's love. I have been reflecting on this way of beginning and an ancient prayer that accompanies it:

Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)

Christie Eleison (Christ have mercy)

Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)

My reflections often end up in songwriting. You can find the results of this in a song I



recently wrote on the Beacon Parishes Mission Community website:

<http://www.missioncommunity.org.uk>.

Radcliffe also describes confession as being like warming cold hands by a fire. I will think of this as I come in from winter walks in the beautiful countryside in which we live and warm my icy hands - I always forget or lose my gloves!

I really look forward to being with many of you over the Christmas period as we meet together to have our hearts warmed by God's love expressed in the gift of Jesus. What is true at Christmas is also true in the New Year and all the time... the open and loving arms of God inviting us to be warmed in his embrace.

As John's Gospel puts it 'God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him'.

Season's greetings to you all,

Andrew

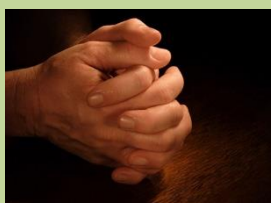
Study group: "Approaches to prayer"

Four sessions looking at different aspects of how to pray

Led by Hillarie Griggs

January 16th, 23rd, 30th and February 6th

Contact Hillarie on 01803 812197



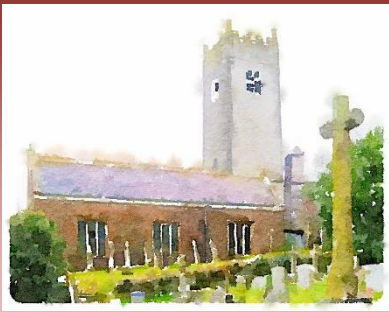
Christmas Services & Carols

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sun 2nd Dec | First Sunday of Advent | |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist Woodland | Mission Community Advent Carol Service |
| Sun 16th Dec | Third Sunday of Advent | |
| 6pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Carol Service |
| Mon 17th Dec | | |
| 7pm | Ipplepen | Carols in the Square |
| 7pm | Broadhempston | Carols in the Square |
| Tue 18th Dec | | |
| 6.30pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Carol Service |
| Thurs 20th Dec | | |
| 6.00pm | Denbury | Carols at Brambledown |
| Fri 21st Dec | | |
| 6.00pm | Denbury | Carols on the Green – collection for HITS |
| Sun 23rd Dec | Fourth Sunday of Advent | |
| 4pm | St Mary's Denbury | Carol Service |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Carol Service |
| Mon 24th Dec | Christmas Eve | |
| 4pm | St Mary's Denbury | Crib Service |
| 4.30pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Crib Service |
| 9pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion** |
| 11pm | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| Tue 25th Dec | Christmas Day** | |
| 9.15am | St John the Baptist Woodland | Communion |
| 10.30am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 10.30am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 11am | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Morning Worship |
| Wed 26th Dec | Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr | |
| 7pm | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| Thur 27th Dec | John, Apostle and Evangelist | |
| 7pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| Fri 28th Dec | The Holy Innocents | |
| 7pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Communion |
| Sun 30th Dec | First Sunday of Christmas | |
| 11am | St. Mary's Denbury | Mission Community Communion |

****Note that the main changes from previous years are that the Ipplepen Christmas Eve communion service is earlier than normal at 9pm and that on Christmas Day there is no 8.00am Communion Service at Ipplepen**

News from Woodland

**St. John the
Baptist**



The long, relatively dry, autumn has ensured that our village farmers have had opportunity to harvest late developing crops, tidy up the hedgerows and get many of next year's crops into the ground to start growing before the cold winter weather hits. Plenty to be thankful for, therefore, in our village Harvest Festival service. This is always a service of great importance in our parish as we have a very large proportion of our residents who owe their livelihoods, both directly and indirectly, to agriculture. Consequently, a large number of us gathered together, on one of the very wet days of September, with quantities of flowers, fruit and produce from our village gardens and orchards. With alstroemerias and asters; dahlias and sunflowers aplenty the floral displays were superb and judging by the quality of the apples, pears, potatoes, tomatoes, etc. also decorating our church the bounty of our gardens has remained good despite the summer drought.

I don't know for how many years Woodland has also celebrated the end of harvest with a harvest supper but I do know that there are some old photos of previous harvest suppers in the archives in our parish hall. This year's harvest supper was held, once again, in The Rising Sun – this time trialling a hot main meal rather than the usual cold buffet. It was an evening which encompassed the whole age range of the parish, from oldest to youngest; new comers, people who have lived here for many decades and previous neighbours who have moved away but returned to celebrate with us. As always, the stars of the evening

were the desserts. Created in kitchens all over the parish there was a huge variety of delicious home baked contributions to tempt us with. Good food and good company – what more could anyone wish for!

Delicious home cooking was also in abundance at the Macmillan coffee morning, hosted in the Village Hall at the beginning of October. I am very pleased to be able to say that we raised nearly £400 for this worthy cause which offers so much practical support and advice to those affected by cancer, right from the moment of diagnosis onwards. Our next coffee morning and library session will be on 1st December, right at the start of the run up to Christmas.



Looking forward to the Christmas festivities throughout December, at time of writing not all the dates of our Christmas services have been finalised but our candlelit Advent Carol Service will be on the evening of the 2nd December. The church lit up purely by candle light always gives this service a special atmosphere. We will also be having a pre-Christmas get together in the form of a parish Christmas lunch at the Rising Sun on 15th December. Further details can be found on the notice board outside the village hall. There will also be our usual Christmas Carol service, hopefully just before Christmas, but that is still currently in the planning stages and I am not sure if the date has yet been confirmed.

Helen Pearce

News from Denbury

St. Mary the Virgin



The huge success of the 700th Anniversary celebrations remains very much in our minds, however the village has now pretty well returned to normality. The beautiful Mosaic created by the children of Denbury school and Monica the artist has been stored away for the time being awaiting the sanction of a Faculty from the Diocese following which this will be erected in the churchyard at an unveiling ceremony and will be a permanent reminder of the Anniversary weekend for many years to come.

Our harvest weekend began with a Soup and Sweet lunch held on October 6th in Church Cottage. This event once again proved very popular and attendees were treated to a choice of four tasty soups and a multitude of delicious sweets to sample. A collection held at the lunch raised over £200 which was forwarded to the Tsunami Appeal Fund which aims to support those in the Philippines affected by the natural disaster in that area.

On the following Sunday the church was decorated for the Harvest Festival service with traditional harvest loaves on display. Many generous gifts of produce were donated at the service to be distributed to those in need.

Our midweek service held on 7th November marked All Souls Day and included the reading of the names of loved ones who are no longer with us.

The Remembrance Day service included a two minute silence which was started and ended by a bugler playing the Last Post and Reveille. As the service drew to an end the congregation moved outside the church to assemble around the Cistern at the heart of the village which bears a memorial to those of

Denbury who gave their lives in the service of their country. Following prayers and the reading of the names of those listed on the memorial, wreaths were laid to bring this moving service to a conclusion.

The self guided tour of the church, which came about principally as a result of the mountain of information which came to light following research into the background of the church prior to our 700th celebrations, remains a popular feature and is an ideal way for visitors (and locals) to learn much about the church and its long history.

Looking forwards now to Advent and Christmas, preparations are underway to assemble a village choir under the direction of Chris Eastman to sing a mix of traditional and modern carols at our annual Carol Service to be held on December 23rd. The choir has been a much anticipated feature of the Christmas celebrations at St. Mary the Virgin for many years and 2018 is no exception.

Mike Bray

Smile



There was once a great Czar in Russia named Rudolph the Red. He sat looking out of the window of his palace one day while his wife the Czarina Katarina sat nearby knitting. He turned to her and said "Look my dear, it has begun to rain" without even looking up from her knitting she replied "It is too cold to rain, it must be sleeting". The Czar shook his head and said "I am the Czar of all the Russia's and Rudolph the Red knows rain dear!"

Pam Perriman

Heard in Newton Abbot Pannier Market

Stallholder: *"I didn't expect to see you here this morning George – I thought you'd be at Farmer William's funeral"*

George: *"Well, I thought about it, but he isn't going to come to mine now, so why should I go to his?"*

Stephen Bryant

News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



We had a successful Harvest Fayre and Gift Day on Saturday October 6th it was good to see Rev. Andrew, Claire, Charlotte and Joe chatting and getting to know us all. The Harvest Festival service followed on Sunday 7th the church was beautifully decorated by our talented flower arrangers with fruit and vegetables as well. Tins and packets of food donated by the congregation went to the HITS food bank. Andrew mentioned in his sermon how he sees and reflects on God's beauty whilst driving through the country lanes.

The Tuesday midweek Holy Communion service was also a healing Service which Rev. Andrew made quite special and moving with words and reflective music. He took the lovely services on the 14th and 21st, Hillarie Griggs from Denbury who is training to be a Reader gave the address on the 21st.

Morning Worship was led by Jo Innes-Lumsden on 28th October which was Bible Sunday and that was the theme of the address by Graham Whittle who reminded us all to read the Bible regularly.

On November 4th we celebrated 'All Saints Day' at the morning Communion service. Rev. Andrew said we should not just think of saints as in the past but ordinary people amongst us in the congregation or community. The 'All Soul's' service at 6pm was very moving, we remembered the departed, their names were read out and a candle was lit with each name by Sue and Gary Hird at the front of the church, and also as reflective music was played we all individually took a lighted candle from Andrew or Sue to put on the altar. All the candles lit looked so beautiful. It was quite emotional but so lovely to remember our loved ones.

The church was packed for the Remembrance Service on the 11th November. Rev. Andrew arrived from Denbury where he had taken an earlier service to start at 10.15am. Whilst singing the first hymn the colour parties of the various village organisations processed to the front. After the service everyone processed to the sound of the bells which were muffled for this occasion to the War Memorial. There were many villagers gathered already around the square. The two minutes silence was observed before the wreaths were laid by representatives from many organisations from the village. The names were then read out by Alistair Dewhirst of those men who died in both wars. We ended with a prayer and the National Anthem. The church looked splendid with the poppies in floral form and knitted ones surrounding the display of photos prepared by the History Society.

In the evening at 7.05pm the ringers rang, in unison with over 1000 other towers in the country, a hundred changes to commemorate the Armistice.

We look forward to the Shoebox Service at the Methodist Church, the Candlelit Lantern Procession, St. Andrew's Patronal Service followed by lunch, Christmas Coffee Morning and of course Advent and the wonderful Christmas Services.

Christmas Greetings to you all.

Marilyn Clark



*Diana Harris's photograph
from the All Souls service*

Love at Christmas

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully-adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, sing carols in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the family.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.

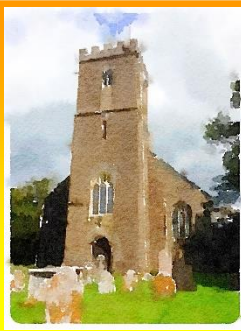
(See St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 13 – Editor)



*Some images from
Remembrance Sunday
at St. Andrew's*

News from Broadhempston

St. Peter and St. Paul



Didn't they do well! I am referring to the school and the Community Shop with their great contribution to the HITS Teignbridge Food Bank. We had two Harvest Festival services, our regular Church celebration and the schools own special one. It is always great fun with songs, poetry and other activities. We had a full church with many of the parents attending.



Andrew and some pupils with the gifts for HITS



A full church!

From the happy occasion of Harvest the sadder time of Remembrance Day comes. We have had a great display in the Church by the Broadhempston Archive and Local History Group telling us of life in our village at the time of the Great War and also the lives of the three soldiers who went to serve from our village but did not return.

Many others from Broadhempston also went to fight but were able to return to their homes and families. We, I am sure will always remember what they all did for us and their country.



Pam with pupils studying the display



Andrew leading the discussion

Throughout most of my life war seems to have been raging somewhere. I once read a quote by T.S.Eliot saying 'The peace of the world is always uncertain unless men keep the peace of God.' So let us hope that one day all this will come about.

Now as the shops have been reminding us for the past six weeks we approach Christmas.

The first of our events will be a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday December 8th. This will be in the village hall. There will be many stalls with various Christmas goodies together with morning coffee, soup lunch, mince pies and shortbread; a good start to the Festive Season.

I am sure we will all be visiting and supporting village events in our Mission Community and on behalf of Broadhempston I wish you all a very joyful Christmas.

Pam Perriman

Sing somewhere different!

Marilyn Clark, who sings in St. Andrew's choir, writes of her recent experience singing somewhere different! She writes:

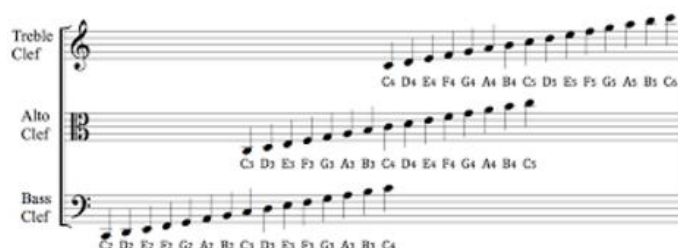
I am sure many of you enjoy watching 'Songs of Praise' on television. I have watched it for years and never thought I might actually see myself singing in the congregation. I remember a few years ago seeing Rose and Claire Chamberlain on the programme which was in a church in London.

I was lucky to be invited by a friend to go along to St. David's Church, Exeter, on Thursday 6th September for the BBC recording. We were told to be seated by 6.15pm when announcements were given and then at 6.30pm sharp we began singing the first hymn 'Shine, Jesus, Shine' led by Graham Kendrick who wrote the words and music to this hymn, and several others that we sang. His band accompanied us.



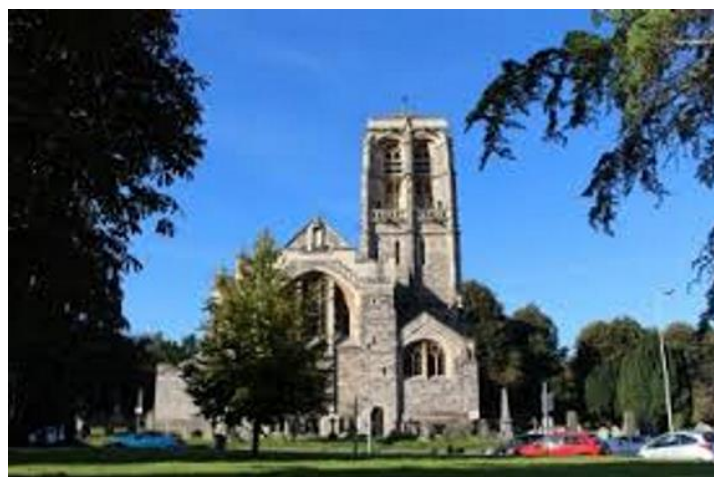
We sang hymns several times until they were happy with the recording. He taught us a couple of his newer hymns and sang solo on the first verse. The cameramen quietly move up and down the side of the aisles and there were cameras high above us.

We finished with the lovely hymn 'Meekness and Majesty' another of Graham Kendrick's compositions at exactly 9.30pm. Prebendary Nigel Guthrie finished with thanks



to everyone and a prayer. A wonderful evening and experience.

The service was broadcast on September 23rd, and whilst we were singing 'God of the Poor (Beauty for Brokenness)', we spotted three of our Methodist friends - Maria Alsop, Stephen and Angela Major, and also Janet Kenyon who used to worship in St. Andrew's before moving to the Exeter area.



St. David's, Exeter

So, who saved Christmas?

After the Civil War, when Oliver Cromwell and his Puritans abolished Christmas celebrations (amongst other things), Christmas was just another working day and nobody wished each other 'Happy Christmas' because it wasn't! Even the restoration of the Monarchy didn't help matters and by the early 19th century, the burgeoning industrial revolution was taking over. A lot of villagers had moved to the towns and cities. Industrial output was the prime consideration and it seemed that the rural Twelve Days of Christmas celebrations would soon be confined to history.

Then, in 1843, 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens was published and, although he was hoping that Christmas might return to the more joyful times that his forebears had known, what he really wanted was to turn a profit from his book. So, to publicise the book, he gave readings of his tale, sometimes for charity but usually for a fee for himself. But so many people were touched by the story and by his 'gift of the gab', that some of the factory owners decided that perhaps they should shut their premises on Christmas Day and give their workers the day off to be with family and friends!

As a child, Dickens' life had been bleak. He'd worked in Warren's boot-blackening factory and his own parents were never as family-minded as the Cratchits. Ironically, through this best-seller and his subsequent writings, he became as rich as his hero, Ebenezer Scrooge. All the money he made turned him into a passionate champion of the poor, campaigning for changes to the child labour laws and improvements to the conditions in the workhouses. 'A Christmas Carol' really caught on, as did the Christmas celebrations that he had written about. No

longer did people work on the day itself but the return to a twelve-day party was not to be achieved until our own recent times. But people could, and did, spend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with their families, and they could also find time to spread a little goodwill among the poorer people of the towns.

So, who saved Christmas? Why, Ebenezer Scrooge of course!

Certainty in an uncertain world

Events over the past few months may have left some of us wondering what the world is coming to. It may be the political uncertainty and turmoil of Brexit and Donald Trump as president of the USA; the continuing conflict in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere; or recent natural disasters, but the world seems to be an uncertain, unpredictable and often dangerous place. It is almost as if our ability to understand the world has been through some seismic shock so that, if we are not careful, it can undermine our optimism for the future.

An ancient Chinese curse says: 'may you live in interesting times', with the word 'interesting' implying difficult or uncertain. I think many journalists or commentators today would classify recent global history as 'interesting'. Because we are now much more globally aware than we were even 20 years ago, all this 'interesting' news is often immediately available world-wide, almost in real time as it happens.

Perhaps we should remember that the world has always been unpredictable and uncertain. History, no matter how far back you go, has plenty of examples of turmoil, conflict and political uncertainty. Cont'd.....

Certainty in an uncertain world - continued

This was as true of 1st century Palestine and the world of Jesus and his disciples as it is for us today. Their country was occupied by a foreign army, with puppet rulers intent on securing obedience to Rome, often at any cost. With religious and political division, safety and security were by no means certain. Yet out of that world and environment came a tangible and human reminder of the certainties of God's promises. Indeed there came the new promises that we as Christians have as the basis of our faith.

Our modern world is far from ideal. Often things that happen are difficult to understand, but as Lamentations 3 reminds us: 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning ...'

In amongst the human uncertainty of our world, let us try to hold on to the certainty of God's steadfast and unconditional love. For us, as for all the Christians who have come before us, keeping sight of God's promises will enable us to face uncertainty with confidence and optimism instead of despair and despondency.



Local Community Fund



Thank you!

The CO-OP in Ipplepen have raised £1471.30p towards Denburys' bell restoration appeal. I had a call on Friday asking me to go there yesterday and be presented with the cheque and have a photo taken for their in-house magazine. I rallied a few ringers to come with me where we were met and welcomed by Kevin the manager. An absolutely fantastic result and very welcome. The cost of our scheme is estimated at £120,000 of which we have so far raised approximately £100,000. Thank you to the COOP for their generous support and to everyone who has supported us either through direct donation or via shopping there. What a fantastic community resource.

Steve Bassett (Sunday November 25th)

A last minute article received from Steve just before we went to print. CPQ

More updates from Broadhempston

Renovation Project

The PCC has now received approval from the Diocese for the following works:

- Permanent removal of pews in south Aisle
- Furniture for an Heritage Area in the south Aisle
- Installing steel support beams for bell frame.

This work will be carried out over the next few months.

Early in the New Year, Carrek, the contractor who re-rendered the outside of the south Aisle wall, will return to repair the damaged plasterwork on the inside of the wall. This is a 4 to 6 week project and will, in its initial stages, create a lot of dust and debris as the old plaster is removed. We will try to keep the church open over this period and use dust sheets to protect other areas of the church, particularly the Rood Screen.



"The Leisure Society" in Broadhempston

The Gig!

The gig held recently in the church featuring "The Leisure Society" was a sell-out success. Over 130 people attended from the local area together with fans of the group who had travelled from as far afield as North Yorkshire!

An immense "thank you" to Devon Sent who promote these events devonsent.org. All proceeds go to the Church to better equip the building for wider community use. So far, well over £4,000 has been raised in this way.

Whist Drive

A Whist Drive was held recently to raise funds for our Church Renovation Project and for the Devon Historic Churches Trust. The evening was great fun if a little frustrating for the experienced players! Over £1,000 was raised on the night thanks to the extraordinary generosity of those attending."

Contacts

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Rector | The Reverend Andrew Down | ☎ 01803 813403 |
| 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 |
| | Miss 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 Tessa Amies | ☎ 813993 |
| 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

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Mrs Carol Robinson | ☎ 812800 |
| Local Advocate | Mrs Ann Holroyd | ☎ 411373 |

The Beacon

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|----------|
| Editor | Dr Michael Price | ☎ 813472 |
| Production | Mr Charles Quartley | ☎ 812238 |

Services for December and January

We begin a new Church year throughout which we will be hearing from Luke's Gospel

Advent: a time of preparation

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Sun 2nd Dec | First Sunday of Advent | <i>Jer 33. 14-16; 1 Thess 3. 9-end; Luke 21. 25-36</i> |
| 11am | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Mission Community Communion |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist Woodland | Mission Community Advent Carol Service |
| Sun 9th Dec | Second Sunday of Advent | <i>Mal 3 1-4; Phil 1. 3-11; Luke 3. 1-6</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Morning Worship |
| 11am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 4pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Communion |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Communion |
| Sun 16th Dec | Third Sunday of Advent | <i>Zeph 3. 14-end; Phil 4. 4-7; Luke 3. 7-18</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 11am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 4pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Evening Worship |
| 6pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Carol Service |
| Tue 18th Dec | | |
| 6.30pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Carol Service |
| Sun 23rd Dec | Fourth Sunday of Advent | <i>Mic 5. 2-5a; Heb 10. 5-10; Luke 1 39-45</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 11am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Morning Worship |
| 4pm | St Mary's Denbury | Carol Service |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Carol Service |

Christmas: a time of celebration

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Mon 24th Dec | Christmas Eve | <i>Isa 52. 7-10; Heb 1. 1-4; John 1. 1-14</i> |
| 4pm | St Mary's Denbury | Crib Service |
| 4.30pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Crib Service |
| 9pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 11pm | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| Tue 25th Dec | Christmas Day | <i>Isa 9. 2-7; Titus 2. 11-14; Luke 2. 1-14</i> |
| 9.15am | St John the Baptist Woodland | Communion |
| 10.30am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 10.30am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 11am | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Morning Worship |
| Wed 26th Dec | Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr | <i>2 Chron 24. 20-22; Acts 7. 51-end, Matt 10. 17-22</i> |
| 7pm | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| Thurs 27th Dec | John, Apostle and Evangelist | <i>Exod 33. 7-11a; 1John Ch1 John 21. 19b-end</i> |
| 7pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| Fri 28th Dec | The Holy Innocents | <i>Jer 31. 15-17; 1Cor 1. 26-29, Matt. 2. 13-18</i> |
| 7pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Communion |
| Sun 30th Dec | First Sunday of Christmas | <i>1 Sam 2. 18-20, 26; Col. 3. 12-17; Luke 2.41-end</i> |
| 11am | St. Mary's Denbury | Mission Community Communion |
| Tue 1st Jan | The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus | <i>Num 6. 22-end; Gal 4. 4-7; Luke 2.15-21</i> |

Services for December and January - continued

Epiphany: a time of revelation

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Sun 6th Jan | Epiphany | <i>Isa 60. 1-6; Eph 3. 1-12; Matt 2. 1-12</i> |
| 11am | St. Andrew's Ipplepen | Mission Community Communion |
| Sun 13th Jan | Baptism of Christ | <i>Isa 43.1-7; Acts 8 14-17; Luke 3. 15-17, 21-22</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Morning Worship |
| 11am | Methodist Church, Ipplepen | Joint Communion Service |
| 4pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Communion |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Communion |
| Sun 20th Jan | Third Sunday of Epiphany | <i>Isa 62. 1-5; 1 Cor 12. 1-11; John 2. 1-11</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 11am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| 4pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Evening Worship |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Evensong |
| Fri 25th Jan | Conversion of St Paul | <i>Jer 1. 4-10; Acts 9. 1-22; Matt. 19. 27-end</i> |
| 7pm | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Communion |
| Sun 27th Jan | Forth Sunday of Epiphany | <i>Neh 8. 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor. 12. 12-31a; Luke 4. 14-21</i> |
| 9.15am | St Mary's Denbury | Communion |
| 11am | St Andrew's Ipplepen | Morning Worship |
| 4pm | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Communion |
| 6pm | St John the Baptist, Woodland | Communion |
| Sun 3rd Feb | Presentation of Christ in the temple (Candlemas) | <i>Mal 3. 1-5; Heb 2. 14-end; Luke 2. 22-40</i> |
| 11am | St Peter and St Paul Broadhempston | Mission Community Communion |

Intercessions for the Mission Community – December & January

| Sunday | Mission Community | Ipplepen | Denbury | Broadhempston | Woodland |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dec 2 nd | Those who decorate the church | Churches Together in Ipplepen | The Union Inn | Community Shop | Library |
| Dec 9 th | Baptism ministry team | The Wellington Inn | Denbury Primary School | Radfords | Parish Rooms |
| Dec 16 th | Vergers & sextons | The Post Office & Co-operative Shop | Fairfield Farm | Beaston | Levaton Farm |
| Dec 23 rd | Our churches | Ipplepen Primary School | Community Groups | Downe | Bremridge |
| Dec 30 th | PCCs & Rector | Parish Council & local businesses | Parish Council & local businesses | Parish Council & local businesses | Parish Meeting & local businesses |
| Jan 6 th | Wardens & Deputies | Ambrook & Dainton | The Union Inn | Knowle | Waye Farm |
| Jan 13 th | Secretaries | Barn Park & Barn Park Cottages | The Manor | Hemsford | Gurrington House |
| Jan 20 th | Treasurers & finance/stewardship committees | Beech Drive & Orchard Drive | Fairfield Farm | Village Hall | The Old Parsonage |
| Jan 27 th | Safeguarding officer & reps. | Biltor Road & Conniford Lane | Community Groups | Monks Retreat & Coppa Dolla | Lake Farm |

Mid-week Services for December and January

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

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|----------------|
| Wednesday | 12 noon | Denbury | Holy Communion |
| Thursday | 12 noon | Ipplepen | Holy Communion |
| Thursday | 4.30pm | Denbury | Evening Prayer |

Dates ahead – December and January

December

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Saturday 1 st | 10.30am to 12 noon | COFFEE at CHRISTMAS at St. Andrew's |
| Saturday 8 th | 10.30am to 2.00pm | CHRISTMAS BAZAAR – Broadhempston Village Hall |
| | 3.00pm to 5.00pm | MESSY CHURCH – Crafts & Cooking - St. Andrew's Church Hall |
| Thurs 13 th | 8.00pm | BROAD HARMONY CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Broadhempston Church |
| Sunday 16 th | 6.00pm | Carol Service – Ipplepen |
| Monday 17 th | 7.00pm | Carols in the Square – Broadhempston |
| | 7.00pm | Carols in the Square – Ipplepen |
| Tuesday 18 th | 6.30pm | Carol Service – Broadhempston |
| Thursday 20 th | 6.00pm | Carols at Brambledown, Denbury |
| Friday 21 st | 6.00pm | Carols on the Green, Denbury – collection for HITS |
| Sunday 23 rd | 4.00pm | Carol Service – Denbury |
| | 6.00pm | Carol Service – Woodland |
| Monday 24 th | 4.00pm | Crib Service Denbury |
| | 4.30pm | Crib Service Ipplepen |
| Monday 31 st | | Home Communion <i>(Please contact the Rector or Tessa -813993 if you or someone you know would like to receive communion in their own home)</i> |

January

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---|
| Wednesday 16 th | 1.30pm | Prayer Study Group |
| Wednesday 23 rd | 1.30pm | Prayer Study Group |
| Monday 28 th | | Home Communion <i>(Please contact the Rector or Tessa -813993 if you or someone you know would like to receive communion in their own home)</i> |
| Wednesday 30 th | 1.30pm | Prayer Study Group |

February

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---|
| Wednesday 6 th | 1.30pm | Prayer Study Group |
| Saturday 9 th | 3.00pm to 5.00pm | MESSY CHURCH – St. Andrew's Church Hall |

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:

Tom and Joan New in celebration of their Wedding Anniversary and Joan's Birthday.

In Memory of John Abraham, 23rd July 1933 - 4th December 2017, Sue.

December, to celebrate the birth of her Great Granddaughter Luna Emily - Fran Howells

January, a parishioner who loves to see the tower lights when returning home on a dark evening.

Ipplepen:

Retrospective

Oct 14th Tony and Marilyn Clark and family in memory of Margery Clark on 18th October

Nov 4th Mark, Karen, and Ken Squire remembering Pamela who passed away 6th November 2011

Nov 4th Rose and Roger Chamberlain to celebrate the birth on 25th October of their second grandchild, Charles Spencer Chamberlain, to Paul and Charlotte. Also the Wedding Anniversary of Rose and Roger on the same date.

Nov 11th Sheila, Graham, Beckie, and Hannah Needs remembering dear Michael on his birthday on 10th November

Nov 11th Tony and Marilyn Clark and family in memory of Jim Clark on 11th November

Nov 25th Rex Osborn and family in loving memory of Wendy who died 30th November 2017

New

Dec 9th David, Linda, Hannah and Katie Simmonds in memory of Hope and Faith

Dec 9th Malcolm Deen in loving memory of his wife, Peggy, who passed away 28th September. It would have been their 53rd Wedding Anniversary on 11th December

Dec 16th Denis and Pat Eales in loving memory of their daughter, Alison (Duncan), who passed away in December 2009 aged 43

Dec 23rd Peter Mason remembering his wife Jan, whose birthday would have been on 23rd December



“We don’t just do this to be ‘nice’ but because our faith in Jesus Christ compels us to.”

First census of the church’s social impact

Church is the higher power behind 32,000 schemes as Church of England parishes organise or support more than 32,000 community aid projects including food banks, toddler groups, debt advice services and night shelters, according to the first census of the church’s social impact.

The internal survey of almost 13,000 Anglican churches showed that they ran 13,100 “social action projects” last year, hosted 3,600 schemes run by other groups, worked in partnership with external groups to run 4,900 projects, and supported 11,100 more with volunteers, donations or other church resources, about 8,000 were involved in the running, staffing or supplying food banks and a third ran or hosted parent or toddler groups. A quarter had lunch clubs for older people and almost a fifth ran night shelters. Debt advice services, community cafes and youth work were among other most common services provided.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, said:” These figures spell out for the first time the sheer scale and range of our churches’ commitment to their communities. We are doing more to love and help people in need than at any time since 1945. We don’t just do this to be ‘nice’ but because our faith in Jesus Christ compels us to”.

From a report in the Times 6th November 2018 - Editor

A Christmas Prayer



We praise you, O loving God,
who gave your very self in human form,
your majesty born into our poverty,
your love lying in an out-house.
We thank you that,
amidst Bethlehem’s noisy rush,
we find in you
a focus for our activity,
a hope for your humanity,
a love for all eternity.

But we confess that
Christ’s birth has gone unnoticed.
Now, as then, we have not made room
in our day to day lives.
Now, as then, we have mislaid
your message of reconciling love.
Now, as then, we have ignored
the stillness of your presence.
Gift-giving God, forgive us.
Free us from our self-centeredness.
Help us to accept your love
so freely given that we may live
as you have called us to live. Amen.

from www.methodist.org.uk

Straplines

- We have some busy people in our church, but no matter how busy they are, they are never too busy to stop and talk about how busy they are.
- Ultimately our greatest joy is when we seek to do good for others. (Desmond Tutu)
- To err is human, but to mess things up in a really big way requires a committee.
- They say experience is a good teacher, but perhaps we should say it's a hard teacher, because it gives the test first and then the lesson.
- There is but one way to train children in the way they should go and that is to travel that way yourself. (Abraham Lincoln)
- There are times when nothing is often a good thing to do and a clever thing to say.
- Instead of telling God how big our crisis is, perhaps we should be telling our crisis how big our God is.

Smile



A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" He answered, "Yes, sweetheart, God made me a long time ago." She paused, then said, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" Grandpa told her that God made her just a little while ago. The little girl looked up and said, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

.....

After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny started sobbing in the back seat of the car on the way home. His father asked him what was wrong and through his tears the boy said, "That priest man said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with the family I have now!"

.....

After a worship service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year old boy told the preacher how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. She said, "About halfway through your sermon, I leaned over and whispered, 'If you don't be quiet, the preacher is going to lose his place and he will have to start his sermon all over again'. I am glad to say it worked."

.....

Devon recipe for boredom/depression – let me know if you need a translation!

"Du zummat – du gude if 'e can. but du zummat"

"I always heard things rather than saw them, so radio was always going to be my preferred method"

A well-known face in the Diocese of Exeter is becoming an even better known voice in Devon thanks to his continuing success with a radio programme.

Canon Andrew Godsall, who has had many roles in the Diocese including Canon Chancellor of Exeter Cathedral, has a long history of working in the media, dating back to university when he worked for Pebble Mill Studios.

Five years ago, he set out tentatively with new designs on Radio Devon's Pause for Thought slots – and these have been received with acclaim by listeners.

He said: "I started in television, many moons ago when I was 18 and at university in Birmingham. Alongside my studies, I worked at Pebble Mill Studios. But I always heard things rather than saw them, so radio was always going to be my preferred method.

"I worked for BBC Radio 3, producing Choral Evensong with Barry Rose, among many other things. It was a huge amount of fun and took me all around the country to cathedrals and college chapels.



Then I went to train for ordination and my ministry took over for a number of years.

"About five years ago, I was listening to Pause for Thought and contemplating how interesting it would be if it was not just talk, but was mixed with music.

"I love 80s music and I play the drums in an 80s band, so I drafted some programmes and sent them to Radio Devon. They liked them and asked me to take on weekly slots. I have a three-minute slot and I do a week's worth for Radio Devon at a time.

"My programmes focus on one particular song and then I use this to write my thought for that particular day. I tend to pick a theme for the week – my most recent one was 'Getting home' – and then find songs that fit.

"I sometimes ask friends to suggest songs too. 'Bridge over troubled water' was a recent one, and that has a story about Bickleigh bridge associated with it – sadly untrue, but a great story!"

Laura James, Early Breakfast Show presenter on Radio Devon, said: "We've all got a favourite song, and our own personal reasons for loving them, maybe memories from our childhood, or a loved one, or a moment in our lives.

"We love listening to Andrew's Pause for Thoughts because he brings a song to life. He talks about songs that have featured throughout our lives, classics from the likes of Elton John and Rod Stewart, but he makes us look at them from a different light, with fresh eyes.

"Andrew helps bring these thoughts and feelings to life, with a moment to reflect before we start our day."

Andrew's next Pause for Thought series can be heard in the week beginning January 14.



Andrew takes to the stage with his band.

Ecclesiastical Independence

Many of you will know of the Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). He was the much-loved Squire and Rector (Squarson) of Lewtrenchard in north-west Devon from 1881 until his death in 1924 at the age of 90. He is probably best remembered for writing the hymn *"Onward Christian Soldiers"*, and locally for restoring Lewtrenchard Church and House, while ignoring all ecclesiastical authority, especially bishops. As a curate in a Yorkshire parish, when he was just over 30, he fell in love with a 16 year old mill girl in his congregation and married her soon afterwards. Suffice it to say that no-one from either of their families attended the wedding. But she made a wonderful wife, moving eventually to Lewtrenchard as lady of the manor, as well as having 15 children. A (probably apocryphal) story goes that the children of Lewtrenchard parish vied for the honour of guiding Rev. Baring-Gould home after evensong on winter evenings. One dark night, having walked home hand in hand with a small child, he asked "And whose little girl are you?" Silence - then a small voice sobbed "I'm yours papa".

Mr. Baring-Gould wrote numerous books, some fiction, some religious and many hymns. Amongst the best known are *"Onward Christian Soldiers"*, *"On the resurrection morning"*, *"Through the night of doubt and sorrow"* and *"Now the day is over"*. Sadly none appear in our hymn book today, although one or two of his rather sloppy Christmas carols are there, and a much plagiarised *"Onward Christian Pilgrims"* appears under someone else's name. Mr. Baring-Gould had a half brother, Arthur, equally

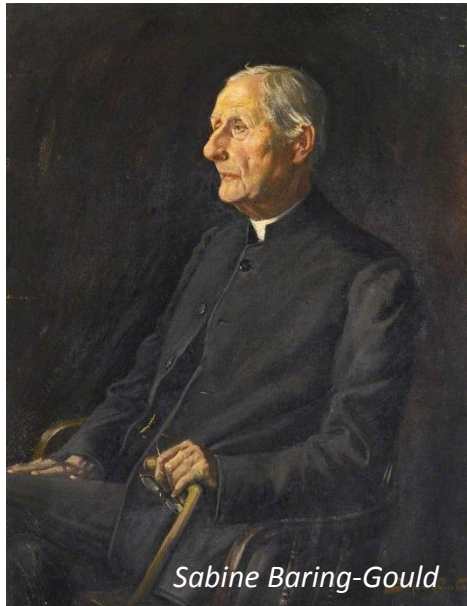
long-lived, who was a chaplain at Dartmoor prison, then curate at Brixham and eventually vicar of St. Martin's, Haverfordwest where he served for forty-seven years. He was equally idiosyncratic and is remembered for his

shortest sermon which went like this:

"May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be now and always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord our strength and our Redeemer. Last Sunday I rebuked you for your unfaithfulness in coming to church. I observed no improvement today. I am fed up with you. And now to God the Father.."

Both Baring-Goulds were wonderful men, inspirational and caring pastors. We are fortunate that others still follow in their footsteps.

Stephen Bryant



Sabine Baring-Gould



Lewtrenchard Church



Lewtrenchard Manor [now Hotel]

“Their name liveth for evermore”



CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

You may have seen two new notices on St. Andrew's lych gates stating that there are Commonwealth War Graves in the churchyard.

These signs have recently been placed there by the Commission, who regularly visit and maintain their graves. Getting permission to place the signs there has been a long drawn-out process, with a number of people in the Exeter Diocese having to be consulted, as well as dealing with the Commission itself.

St. Andrew's has seven war graves and they are:

- ✚ Ernest BOWDEN - a Private in the Gloucester Regiment, who died September 16th 1917
- ✚ Alfred John BISHOP - a member of the Royal Army Service Corps, who died April 9th 1921
- ✚ Clarence EMMETT - a Private in the Wiltshire Regiment, who died February 8th 1919
- ✚ George GARRETT - a Private in the Devonshire Regiment, who died April 18th 1917
- ✚ Leonard LUSCOMBE - a Private in the Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry, who died October 26th 1918
- ✚ Jack Herbert OSBORNE - a Wing Commander in the RAF, who died December 9th 1943
- ✚ Norman Channing SPRATT - a Group Captain in the RAF who died June 28th 1944

We are indebted to Madeleine Fedrick and Stephen Bryant for obtaining the two new notices at the lych gates at St. Andrew's which are a fitting tribute marking the 100 years since the First World War ended and to Stephen for this informative and valued article. Editor

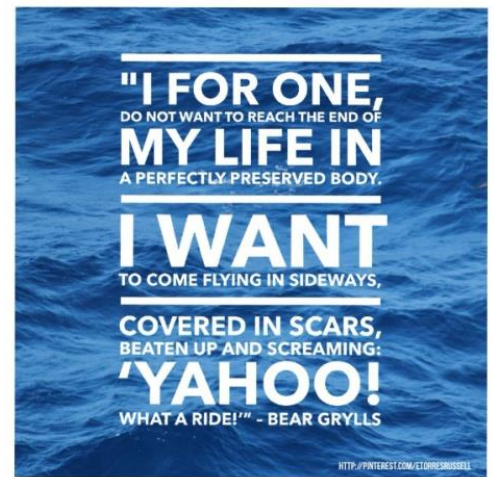
Ipplepen Lantern Procession

Some images of the Ipplepen village Lantern Procession, which finished with refreshments and prizegiving at St. Andrew's



Life is precious, so live it boldly!

"I for one do not want to reach the end of my life in a perfectly preserved body. I want to come flying in sideways, covered in scars, beaten up and screaming: 'Yahoo! What a ride!'"



So says Bear Grylls: British adventurer, survival expert, television presenter, writer, Chief Scout, Christian. He says life is precious so live it boldly. He loves the thrill of adventure and taking risks, but he also says that faith is the backbone of his life.

I don't know that Religious Education in school equates very closely to his Survival School television series (if you haven't seen it, he takes a group of teens into the wilderness and teaches them survival techniques like foraging, shelter building, trapping, snaring, preparing and eating what they've caught...). Possibly the biggest challenge is the giving up of technology and social media first! But I might argue that while he is supporting physical survival, RE attempts to support students' spiritual health in an ever more complicated and demanding world.

How does RE do this? One way is through examining a range of different beliefs. If we understand that we all look at the same world, but interpret it according to our own culture and background, then we might begin to understand more about other people's beliefs and values, as well as then having a deeper understanding of our own. Such questions of value and meaning resonate with the recent centenary commemorations of the 1918 Armistice. One example from the new A' level course for Religious Studies is a study of Bonhoeffer and his actions during the Second World War.

Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran Pastor who challenged the prevailing view that Hitler was sent by God; rather, Bonhoeffer said Hitler was the 'anti-Christ'. He challenged Christians to take up their cross and act to change what is wrong in the world. He himself didn't take the easy option of staying in America during the War, but returned to Germany where he was eventually executed for conspiracy to kill Hitler. He refused to accept what he called the 'easy grace' of a comfortable life of forgiveness for sin without acting to meet the challenge of Jesus' call. 'Costly grace' he said involved acting immediately on the call of Jesus to live a life of self-denial and love.

In their A' level work students have debated whether Christians should obey the state or practise civil disobedience; they have grappled with whether it is possible to know God's will; and whether the call to discipleship taught by Bonhoeffer has any relevance today. While linked to History, the study is deeply theological, and the reflective and analytical demands are specific to the study of religion. Students are free to come to their own conclusions, but they are given the resources and skills to think, question, evaluate, and decide.

A recent consultation on RE suggested that it should change its name to 'Religion and World Views'. Perhaps an alternative name would be 'Spiritual Survival School'?



Jacqueline Hunt

Ipplepen Clock - update

As many villagers will know, the church clock stopped working back in February, and its hourly chime has since been missing from the soundscape of Ipplepen. The clock has been there for over 350 years and was probably built in Totnes. The hour has therefore been struck over 3 million times, and tenor bell sounded over 240 million times. The poor old pendulum has swung back and forth over 4 billion times!

The cause of the silence was that a little stud locating a ratchet on the main weight drum failed. On investigation by the professionals it was evident that the whole clock need to be removed and overhauled. So at the end October, once the necessary faculty had been obtained to have the work carried out, two engineers from the Cumbria Clock Company (www.clockmaker.co.uk) came along, and with help from St. Andrew's ringers, the clock was removed and is now up in Cumbria. The current plan is for it to be re-installed early in the new year.

Huge thanks are due to Alistair Dewhirst for allocating funds from his District Councillor's Community Fund and his County Council Locality Budget, to the Ipplepen Community Fund and to the people of Ipplepen who contributed so generously to the recent Gift Day at St. Andrew's. The total cost of the work has been covered!

Big thanks are also due to Tom Allen from the village (Quay Scaffolding) for providing, at no cost, the safety railings which we had to install around the trap doors in the ringing and clock chambers. A recent working party also gave the clock room a spring clean ready for the return of the clock.

Once the clock is back it should be good for another 350 years! Can't wait!!

Charles Quartley



The clock before dismantling and removal



The clock in bits!

The Gift of Christmas unwrapped

Up until the end of the nineteenth century, brown paper was generally used for wrapping Christmas presents.

Then in 1917 Joyce Hall, who ran a stationery store in Kansas, ran out of brown paper at Christmas. In desperation, she sold French envelope lining paper instead, and the rest is history! The true gift of Christmas is Jesus, God's Son born in human form.

But how did God gift-wrap him? The wrapping he chose tells us a lot about the gift inside. Wrapped in humanity, Christmas reminds us that God came to dwell with us in human form as a baby. Jesus was humanly gift-wrapped, because God wanted to enter fully into our world, to reveal the immensity of his love for us and that we could know the eternal God personally. You have to be divinely human and earthly present to do that! Wrapped in poverty, Jesus' birth graphically illustrates how he was born in poverty. The stable or cave with its animals, smells and straw was not easy!

The poverty in which Jesus was wrapped is significant. The swaddling cloths could have been strips of cast-off clothing, or they may have been taken from linen that was carried on long journeys by travellers in case of death. This powerfully reminds us that Jesus was born to die, wrapping him with our own sinfulness. This was not the gift-wrap of a king, yet only the King of kings allowed himself to be gift-wrapped in this way! Through his poverty we are rich, as he offers us forgiveness and a new relationship with God.

The envelope with French lining carries this great Christmas message. The plain exterior looks similar to any other (the humanity of God), yet the inside dazzles with colour and beauty, reflecting the glory of God himself!

Mike Price

Messy Church is going well ! We had a very good turnout for our Harvest meeting and are now planning our next meeting on 8th December.

We'd like to put out an invitation to anyone who would be willing to VOLUNTEER with either the CRAFTS or COOKING. Each meeting finishes with a meal, with parents and children sitting round a friendly table eating pizzas, baked potatoes, lasagne, fruit, cake etc. Nothing too complicated !

It's very simple !

We would love to hear from people who would be willing to organize the meal. We only have 6 meetings a year, so with a couple more people on the rota this is likely to be just a once a year event. Not too onerous and a wonderful way to help the younger generation.

If this is something you feel you could help with please contact Tessa (813993) or Linda (812619)

Or come to our next meeting on the 8th December or 9th February, Ipplepen Church Hall, 3 to 5pm to try us out !

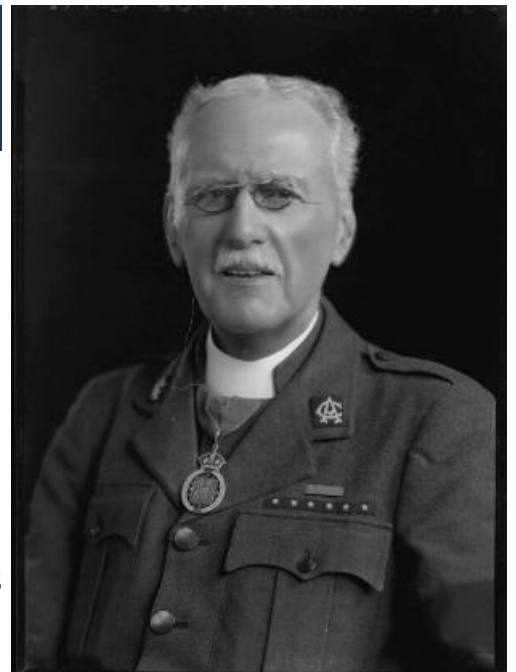


Who will tell them?



John Usher writes:

I am a great admirer and supporter of the Church Army because of the vital work they do in difficult circumstances; I certainly have not the courage to do their work. The Church Army is the evangelistic arm of the Church of England and was founded by the Rev. Wilson Carlile a curate of St. Mary Abbot, Kensington in 1882. He later became a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral. The Rev. Carlile trained ordinary people to work as Church of England evangelists among the outcasts and criminals of the Westminster slums. The Rev. Carlile thought Christian work amongst such people would be more effective if done by lay people adopting unorthodox forms of Christian meetings rather than aristocratic clergy in formal worship.



The Rev. Carlile stated *"We do not seek to drag the Church of England into the mud but to bring some of the social mud into the Church"*

The Church Army was very active in both world wars. In World War 1 the Church Army set up and operated 2,000 social clubs across France and at their peak welcomed more than 200,000 men each day.

Today the Church Army has over 300 evangelists involved in a number of key projects such as the Cardiff Residential Services which involves working with homeless young people in Cardiff providing them with accommodation and helping them back to independent living. The Church Army provided 47,684 "bed nights" in their homeless hostels in London and Cardiff. The Church Army operates from 21 Centres of Mission across the UK and Ireland.

The Rev. Carlile's vision still guides the Church Arm today as indicated by their current Mission Statement below:

"Church Army is a mission-focussed community who, since 1882, has been pioneering mission and evangelism. Their vision is that everyone everywhere has the opportunity to encounter God's love, and to be empowered to transform their communities through faith shared in words and action. They are committed to enabling and resourcing the Church and its members to share the Gospel. Church army work across the UK and Ireland in a variety of contexts, helping those most in need - the homeless, the marginalised, young offenders, the lonely, those on disadvantaged housing estates and many others"

Archbishop Justin Welby said:

"Church Army exists both to talk to people about Jesus and bring them to faith in Jesus but it also does this extraordinary work of serving the poor and the poorest parts of the country and that speaks to the value of human beings"

The Church Army has recently launched a campaign called **WE WILL TELL THEM.**

This campaign is focussed on bringing the Christian message to children and young people.

Research shows that over 75% of adult Christians in the UK came to faith before the age of 18. Considering that fact, the current profile of Church attendance does not bode well for the future.

Cont'd.....

Who will tell them? – cont'd

Do these statistics currently apply to the Beacon Mission Community? In the past parents played a vital role, but I suspect it is a lot less now which makes this campaign more relevant and necessary.

The Church Army's 21 Centres of Mission are equipping and inspiring Churches to reach out to the unchurched. Hundreds of evangelists are doing pioneering work to share the gospel with children in relevant and engaging ways through:

- After-school clubs
- Providing lunches in school holidays
- Sports coaching and chaplaincy
- School assemblies and RE lessons
- Messy Church
- Youth work

The campaign, which is coordinated by Hannah Ling, is already reaching more than 7,000 children every month.

The list above shows the Mission Community is already involved in the campaign through Messy Church. The future of the Church will depend on many factors, not least, attracting young people, which beg the question - Does our Mission Community give sufficient support to Tessa Amies and her team?

If you want more information on this important campaign you can contact the Church Army:
Tel: 0300 123 2113, E-mail: Hannah.Ling@churcharmy.org, Web: www.churcharmy.org
Address: Church Army, Wilson Carlile Centre, 50 Cavendish Street, SHEFFIELD, S3 7RZ



Their light shines on

Our loved ones leave behind a light
That will never dim or fade,
It's kept bright by the love we feel
And the memories we made.

It can warm us like a candle's glow
And help bring comfort too.
And no matter where you go, you'll find,
It's always close to you.

And in the darker times, remember -
In our hearts their light is strong.
So every time we think of them
Their memory shines on.



*Diana Harris's photograph
from the All Souls service*

Thanks to Sue Hird for forwarding on this poem from Deanery Synod

Job Advertisement – Personal Assistant to the Rector, and Mission Community Administrator

Position: Personal Assistant and Administrator working in the Beacon Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland

Hours: Part time. 16 hours per week. Which days per week to be agreed

Pay: £10 per hour

We are looking for a self-motivated person with experience of working with church and community groups to help administer and co-ordinate a number of aspects of the Mission Community. Communication and people skills essential. Good IT skills also essential. Accounting experience desirable. The PA will be responsible to the Rector working from the Church Office, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen

Closing date for applications: 1st February 2019

Short listing and interview dates to take place soon after on dates to be advised

References and an Enhanced DBS Disclosure will be required for the post-holder

A full job description and application form can be obtained from the Beacon Mission Community website www.missioncommunity.org or by contacting Dr Michael Price on 0784036911 or email michael_price@lineone.net

From the Editor



Welcome to this Christmas edition of the Beacon, a bimonthly newsletter for everyone about our Mission Community.

You may be reading this for the first time, if so a particular welcome.

We have our new Rector, Andrew, well in post and we have tried to deliver this magazine to as many in our communities as possible. I have asked our contributors to bear our larger audience in mind and they have responded. So that that this is for all, regular churchgoers or not. I hope you find this worthwhile for you and an interesting and enjoyable read!

I am grateful to our photographers whose contributions add so much to bring to life the events that our reporters from the four parishes recount.

I am particularly grateful to two who took up my request for articles. John Usher from Woodland gives a graphic account of the Church Army and its work at the 'coal face'; together with food for thought in our own community. Jacqueline Hunt from Ipplepen teaches RE at a secondary school in Torquay and gives us an insight into how the syllabus is so challenging and relevant for students and her article for us today. I commend both contributions to you.

Enjoy the Beacon and a peaceful Christmas to all our readers.

Articles, photos and flyers for the next Beacon should reach me by January 18th.

www.missioncommunity.org.uk

Mike Price