

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



Reader trained!

The following article is from Hillarie Griggs who has just completed 3 years of training to become a 'Reader' in the Beacon Parishes Mission Community. 'What is a Reader in the Church of England?' you may well ask. Someone trained and authorised to lead worship, preach and be involved in pastoral care. So back to Hillarie.... (Rev'd Andrew Down)

September means that summer is ending, the nights are beginning to draw in, telling us that autumn is just around the corner. For many families the end of summer is signalled by children going back to school and life returning to what is often described as their normal routine. This may bring order and structure but also brings busyness, as any parent who has ever tried to juggle multiple children to various after-school activities would testify to. This constant rushing around can have an impact on people's wellbeing and mental health. The invention of the internet and especially smart phones mean that people can be contacted by their work at any time during the day or night and that means they find themselves working longer hours and then find it difficult to switch off and find time to rest. The rise in the interest of meditation and mindfulness may be a response to an unconscious acknowledgement of this fact. Certainly in the Ten Commandments, there is recognition that humans need a balance between work and rest.

Now that the majority of young people have gone back to school and having myself just finished studying, I wonder what it is that I have gained and remember from these times. It is certainly not going to be every single bit of

knowledge I was taught. Like all good education, it has built upon previous knowledge and given me the opportunity to think more deeply about things so I can question and weigh up what are the merits of opposing views and opinions. It has given me the skills that I will need to do the work I intend to do. But for me, and I am sure for anyone looking back at their time in education, it is the people who have shared this experience with

me that I will most remember. It is those I learnt alongside, the friends I made and the tutors who supported me. What was important was being part of a community where I could be myself.

The start of the new academic year is a time of new beginnings. These and other periods of transition are times to look forward but also to look back. Looking back allows us to stop and think about the choices we have made. It means we can

reflect on the things that have gone well, the things we would want to do better and the things we would not do again. It gives us time to begin to know ourselves and decide what kind of person we would like to be. To some extent these new beginnings give us the opportunity to 'reinvent' ourselves and then to show the world our best self. It allows us to become the person God always wanted us to be.

I ask for your thoughts and prayers for me as I go through my own period of transition as I will be licensed as a Reader to the Beacon Parishes Mission Community at Exeter Cathedral on October 5th at 2pm, a service to which all are welcome.

Hillarie Griggs – your now very soon to be Reader



Café Church

Andrew wrote this piece on Sunday 15th September:

Wonderful joint cafe church service at Ipplepen primary school today. The school hall was a fabulous light space to gather in. Thank you Mrs Lacey for allowing us to use the hall and the children who came to represent the school and share their favourite stories.

We began with breakfast, sang songs, thought about story telling and its role in helping us think, learn and grow. We discussed the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin - Luke ch 15 1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

To continue our reflection here are some pictures:



And a song:



https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=tIVA5_k6rfo

Peace and good wishes

Andrew

First meal on the Moon – and why NASA hushed it up



Almost everyone knows Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first people to stand on the moon. Almost everyone knows the words Armstrong said, but how many know what Buzz Aldrin did before they stepped out on to the moon's surface?

Aldrin was a convinced Christian and an elder at Webster Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas. Before the flight he had wondered about how to mark the landing. He wrote in an article in 1970 that his pastor Dean Woodruff had told him "God reveals himself in the common elements of everyday life' – like bread and wine. Woodruff gave him a silver chalice to take with him on the flight, and there was just enough gravity for him to be able to pour the wine from a plastic container. He wrote in 'Guideposts': "In the one-sixth gravity of the moon the wine curled slowly and gracefully up the side of the cup. It was interesting to think that the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the first food eaten

there, were communion elements." He also read from John 15.5: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit, for you can do nothing without me.'

Before he took communion, he radioed back to NASA: "I would like to request a few moments of silence. I would like to invite each person listening in, wherever and whomever they may be, to contemplate for a moment the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in their own individual way. NASA kept quiet about what he was actually doing, though. It was bruised by the activities of atheist campaigner Madelyn Murray O'Hair, who had fought a series of court battles – all of which she lost – against it, because the crew of a previous mission - Apollo 8 - had read out the creation story

from Genesis during their orbit. She thought it violated the constitutional division between church and state.

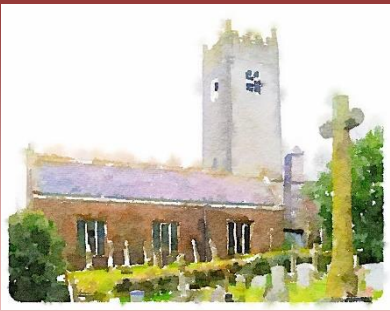
The Bible and the moon have a lot more history besides all that.. Three hundred microfilmed King James Versions were carried on the Apollo 14 mission at the instigation of the Apollo Prayer League, 100 of which went down to the moon in the lunar module with astronaut Edgar Mitchell. There's also a paper Bible still on the moon; it's on the dashboard of an abandoned lunar rover and was left there by Apollo 15 astronaut David Scott.

(Author: Mark Woods, 20 July 2019)



News from Woodland

St. John the Baptist



What a summer we have had. Nobody can deny that there has been plenty of sunshine and comparatively few days of rain – although enough to make things a little tricky finding enough consecutive days of dry weather for the farmers to harvest some of their crops. Luckily our village cream tea, held instead of a fete, took place on one of those fine, sunny afternoons and, through the generosity of some of our kind friends and neighbours, we were able to take our time outdoors and enjoy the beautiful gardens of their house right on the edge of our parish.

As I write, we are approaching our Village Harvest Festival, with a bring and share Harvest Supper on Friday 20th September in the Village Hall and the service itself on Sunday 22nd. On the theme of Harvest Festival it seems appropriate to mention the latest news from the archaeological dig just outside Ipplepen, saying that they have found evidence of professional butchery and therefore a beef trade from our little neck of the woods out to the rest of the country and beyond. This is, if you are a farmer, rather unsurprising. Local farmers know that this countryside is ideally suited for growing and raising cattle. Evidently it was ideal cattle country back in the Roman times as well!

This area also seems to have been very good for growing apples and the fruit trees that I see dotted about the parish appear to be well laden this year. Conversations with Woodland residents, who have lived in the village for a lot longer than I, have told me that most of the trees growing within every farm orchard were cider apples and very few

eating varieties were ever planted. If a farmer didn't actually make cider himself then the apples were sold to Hills Cider for about £200 each year and the museum in Exeter apparently has a large collection of harvest jugs (large ornately decorated pottery jugs particularly used for serving cider) which date back to the early 1700s. It is, however, cattle farming which is primarily responsible for the decline of these large orchards throughout the village. Apples, due to their size and shape, present a large choking hazard to both horses and cattle if they eat windfalls. Not only that but the cider apples actually ferment in a cows stomach and I have heard tales of drunken herds of cattle, swaying from side to side as they walk. The thought of having to milk a herd of drunken cattle - certainly not something to be recommended!

Even if you are not attempting something as dangerous as milking an inebriated cow, it is always good to keep your first aid knowledge updated. With this in mind, Wendy has organised a first aid course to run in the village hall on Saturday 12th October, from 9am – 5pm. Also taking place in the Village Hall is a Macmillan Coffee Morning. This will be on Saturday 5th October, 10 -12, alongside our usual monthly library and coffee event. Please do come and join us in what will be a very enjoyable morning, whilst also raising money to support a very worthwhile charity.

Helen Pearse

Smile



An old, retired vicar was beginning to feel his age, so he arranged to see his doctor for a general review of his health. On entering the consulting room, and after exchanging greetings, the vicar said to the doctor, "Well now, how do I stand?" The doctor paused and then said, "That is what is puzzling me!"

News from Denbury

St. Mary the Virgin



The new arrangements for our churchyard management at Denbury continue to raise many favourable comments, particularly now that the areas which are maintained for wildlife have become more established. Some very favourable remarks have been left in our visitor's book by people holidaying in the region.

We look forward with great interest to next spring to see how many traditional native plants will have become established throughout the churchyard to be enjoyed by everyone visiting the church.

We held our annual churchyard service on the 21st July, to give thanks for the churchyard and those who lie at peace within it. The sun shone and we were therefore very fortunate to be able to hold the service outside on the grass. The service was attended by approximately 30 visitors and supporters of the churchyard and members of the church congregation. Following a moving service including favourite hymns and readings everyone retired to Church Cottage for refreshments and a pleasant social time.

The churchyard featured again in mid August when villagers were invited to help church people give both the churchyard and the interior of the church a thorough clean and tidy up. The turnout was impressive with some 16 people helping to cut back ivy, brambles, nettles etc. from the gravestones together with clearing drains and gutters of plant debris. Not perhaps the most pleasant of jobs on a day which was quite wet early on, however a bit of mud did little to deter the enthusiasm of the workers and the cake

and cups of tea and coffee readily available in the cottage also helped things along.

Another group of willing volunteers concentrated on giving the pews, furniture and floors inside the church a thorough clean and polish. The gleaming woodwork was noticed by many on the following Sunday.

Our Patronal Festival (the church's 701st birthday) took place on 8th September. It was lovely to see the church very well attended with many friends from our Beacon Community churches joining us on the day. Following the service some 35 people walked down to the Village Hall to enjoy lunch and a further opportunity for a chat and catch up during the meal.

Our Bell Restoration Appeal has benefitted significantly from recent fundraising events held during the summer. We are now some £16,000 short of achieving our ultimate target. The Fundraising Team are chasing several possible grant sources and we are confident that we will be able to move forward on the project before too long.

Mike Bray

Smile



The graduate with a science degree asks,
"Why does it work?"

The graduate with an engineering degree asks,
"How does it work?"

The graduate with an accounting degree asks,
"How much will it cost?"

The graduate with a media studies degree asks,
"Do you want fries with this?"

Seen on the wall of a tax inspector's office:
'We've got what it takes to take what you've got'

Sunday morning sermon:

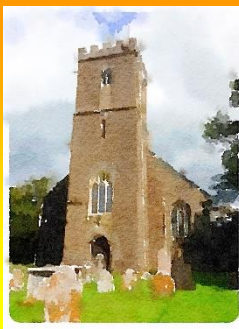
"Jesus walks on the water"

Sunday evening sermon:

"Searching for Jesus"

News from Broadhempston

St. Peter and St. Paul



The last few months have been busy ones in the Church at Broadhempston. In addition to our regular 4 o'clock Services, we have hosted a very successful Chamber Music concert, completed major repairs to the North Aisle roof and tackled a further outbreak of Dry Rot.

Bob Humphrys, who leads our Community Choir, has written the following appreciation of the Chamber Music concert:

"It's not every day that you have a performance of a string quartet in your local parish church so the appearance of a young group of players in Broadhempston on July 25th was too good an opportunity to miss. The nearly packed church was royally entertained by an enthusiastic quartet of real quality with a programme which mixed a quite challenging Shostakovich quartet in with a crowd-pleasing and more familiar Dvorak. Between the 2 quartets, the cellist stunned us with his virtuosity with a rarely heard piece by Latin American composer Gaspar Cassado."

The concert was part of the Chamber Music Festival organised by the Ashburton Arts Centre.

The outbreak of dry rot occurred at the top of the wallplate in the North Aisle and was caused by an ingress of water from a barely noticeable leak in the guttering. The mycelium threads extended over a 3 metre span and at points had penetrated down the wall between the plaster and the stone. It was whilst removing some of the plaster that we discovered a small part of what looks to be a mediaeval wall painting (see photo). The painting is badly damaged and, in part,

covered by a memorial plaque but there is no doubt that this is a wall painting of some antiquity. We are considering what further action to take and, in the meantime, will leave the remains uncovered.



Looking ahead, we will continue our 4 o'clock Services in the Celtic tradition. The PCC is looking at ways in which we can "take the church out into the community" at a time and in a way which better suits our young families. One of the ideas we are examining is to hold an after-school "get together" for children with games and craft workshops, initially on a monthly basis. More on this to come!

On **23rd November** we will be hosting another Devon Sent gig, this one a very special evening headlining Texan singer-songwriter **Jarrold Dickenson**. Already sold out in a number of other UK venues, tickets are now on sale for Broadhempston via the Devon Sent website

<http://devonsent.org> or by email on annabeadel@yahoo.co.uk

Finally, a reminder that weekly practice nights are starting up again at Broadhempston Church: **Monday 7.30pm** for Bellringers and **Thursday 7.30pm** for the BroadHarmony Community Choir. All are welcome from absolute beginners to the more experienced practitioners.

Chris Parker, Churchwarden and Treasurer

News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



On a glorious summer's day, July 28th, we enjoyed a Celtic Morning Prayer service led by Vanessa with Keith Butler as our Speaker. After coffee many people then made their way to Barton House, the home of Charles and Jenny Quartley, for a shared picnic. It was so lovely to enjoy a wonderful variety of food along with Pimms, wine or soft drinks in such a splendid garden and with good company. Strawberries and cream followed and we also held a raffle. Many of us were interested to see the quarry from where Ipplepen marble was taken. Many thanks to Charles and Jenny for hosting this event which was certainly enjoyed by us all.

Sunday 4th August, Rev. Andrew led the sung Communion Service with Steven Sheldon giving an interesting address. The following week Celtic Morning Prayer was led by Michael Price with Jo playing the clavichord. It was a real treat also to hear Nathan, grandson of Charlie and Jane Outhwaite, play music from Chopin.

Rev. Tony Meek took the Service on August 18th as Rev. Andrew and family were on holiday. His sermon was based on 'The Old Rugged Cross' and many people enjoyed singing this old hymn as we haven't sung it for a long time. Tony reported that Peter Gage was recovering from his operation and it was good to see him back carrying the cross at our service on September 1st and we also welcomed Andrew back from his holiday all

refreshed. Marian Matthews and Edward thanked everyone who attended her son Tom and Emma's Wedding on a beautiful day, August 3rd.

The previous week the Celtic Morning Prayer was led by Jane with Graham Whittle as the speaker and Marilyn Ellis playing the music.

Denbury's Patronal Festival was held on Sunday September 8th and many of us from St. Andrew's attended the Service joined by members of the Beacon Parishes. Andrew's Sermon was based on Mary and he ended by singing his own words to the Magnificat which sounded good. The Magnificat is a Canticle also known as the Song of Mary and so appropriate for celebrating this Patronal Festival.

We look forward to our Gift Day, Coffee Morning and Stalls selling produce, cakes, and preserves on Saturday 5th October from 10am until 2pm. The following day will be the Harvest Festival Service and lunch served in the Church Hall. Autumn is certainly upon us.

Marilyn Clark



Summer Picnic

Book review – ‘Remarkable Creatures’ by Tracy Chevalier

‘Remarkable Creatures’ tells the story of two female fossil-hunters, one more famous than the other - Mary Anning and Elizabeth Philpott. It is almost exclusively set in Lyme Regis and is full of real life characters with fictional accounts of their day-to-day lives.

This novel was published in 2009 by an UK-based American author, most famous for her best-seller, ‘Girl with a Pearl Earring’.

Chevalier clearly did her homework with

many historical facts interweaved in an intriguing plot. For a reader previously disinterested in fossils, it was a surprising page-turner. The book covers how women were treated by society in the first part of the nineteenth century. One (Mary) is a poor, uneducated young woman who is mistrusted and misunderstood by the townspeople. The other (Elizabeth) is a middle aged, middle class single woman who has been shipped off to Dorset from fashionable London with her two sisters by their

brother for reasons of economy. Both women are drawn to search for fossils on the beaches of what we now call the Jurassic Coast. Elizabeth collected fossilised fish for her collection whilst Mary collected fossils for her living. The idea of keeping her finds did not seem to cross her mind.

I was surprised to learn that despite the considerable skill, patience and perseverance of Mary Anning, she lived in or very near poverty. Her knowledge and skills were in

demand amongst middle and upper class fossil-hunters but she appeared poorly rewarded. According to Chevalier’s version of events Mary seemed unperturbed by the injustice of having her one of her greatest fossils being publically claimed to have been discovered by the gentleman to whom she sold it.

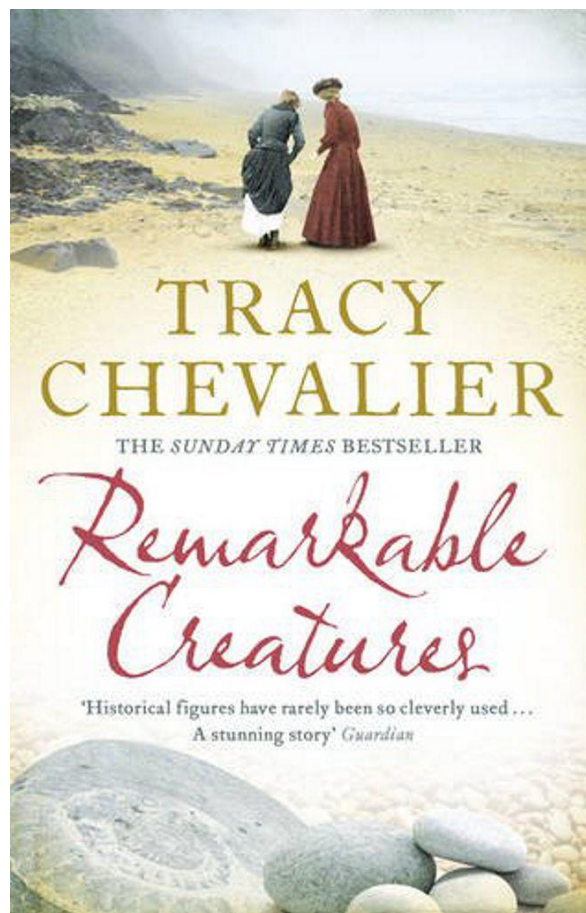
At the time no-one had come across evidence of the existence of dinosaurs. The

discovery of the fossilised remains of these ‘monsters’ threw up all manner of questions about God’s creation of the world. How could there be animals that no longer existed? Why were they not on Noah’s ark? Did God make and discard earlier models of animals? As the landscape was created before the animals, how could their bodies possibly be found encased within the rocks? Mary and Elizabeth were at the forefront of palaeontology and caused much disturbance and confusion. This did not win them many friends and

neither were conventional enough for men of their time to marry. It appears this allowed them greater freedom in some respects and they certainly led interesting lives. It is my view that the title of this novel refers both to the discovery of prehistoric animals and to the women who helped change the world view of their time.

I commend this book to you.

Claire Down



St. Andrew's Church, Ipplepen

Sausage & Mash Supper



**Saturday October 19th at 7.30 pm
In the Church Hall**

Desserts & Wine

Raffle

Quiz

Everyone Welcome Tickets £10

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Beacon Parishes Office | office@beaconparishes.co.uk | |
| PA and Administrator | Mrs Caren Martin | ☎ 01803 814178 |
| Rector | The Reverend Andrew Down | ☎ 813403 |
| Hon Asst. Priests | The Reverend Tony Meek | ☎ 814370 |
| | The Reverend Anne Burden | ☎ 813520 |
| | Canon Tom New | ☎ 813775 |
| Reader | Mrs Tessa Amies | ☎ 813993 |

St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Churchwarden | Mrs Jane Outhwaite | ☎ 812879 |
| Deputy Wardens | Mrs Geraldine Dennis | ☎ 813077 |
| | Dr Michael Price | ☎ 813472 |
| | Mr Clive Tompkins | ☎ 813695 |
| 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 Sue Sanders | ☎ 812247 |
| | Mrs Marilyn Clark | ☎ 813010 |
| | Mrs Sue Hird | ☎ 813386 |

St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|----------|
| Churchwardens | Mr Steve Bassett | ☎ 812537 |
| | Mrs Tessa Amies | ☎ 813993 |
| Deputy Warden | Mr Mike Bray | ☎ 812941 |
| Bellringing | Mr Steve Bassett | ☎ 812537 |
| PCC Secretary | | |
| PCC Treasurer | Mr Mike Bray | ☎ 812941 |
| Cottage | Mrs Fran Howells | ☎ 812971 |
| Flowers | Mrs Tessa Amies | ☎ 813993 |
| Social | Mrs Mary Head | ☎ 812092 |

Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Churchwardens | Mr Chris Parker (& PCC Treasurer) | ☎ 762543 |
| | Mrs Maggie Sercombe (& PCC Secretary) | ☎ 813790 |
| | Mrs Janice Parnell | ☎ 07811 443624 |
| | Dr Alex Paton | ☎ 812021 |
| | Dr Paul Russell | ☎ 762928 |
| Bellringing | Mr Graham Pascoe | ☎ 812102 |
| 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 |

Sunday Services for October and November

Services planned at time of going to print. Please check website / pew sheets for updates

Sunday October 6th

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

| | | |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion (BCP) | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 9.15 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Harvest Thanksgiving with the Methodist Church | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Celtic Evening Prayer | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | Sung Communion | - St John the Baptist, Woodland |

Sunday October 13th

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.15 am | Harvest Thanksgiving | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Harvest Thanksgiving | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |

Sunday October 20th

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion (BCP) | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 9.15 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Sung Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Celtic Evening Prayer | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | Sung Communion | - St John the Baptist, Woodland |

Sunday October 27th

Last Sunday after Trinity

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.15 am | Sung Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Sung Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | Evensong (BCP) | - St John the Baptist, Woodland |

Sunday November 3rd

All Saints' / Fourth Sunday before Advent

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| <u>9.00am</u> | Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Sung Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | All Souls Service | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Sunday November 10th

Third Sunday before Advent / Remembrance

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| <u>9.00 am</u> | Remembrance Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 10.15am | Remembrance Service | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 10.55 am | Remembrance Service | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | Evensong | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |

Sunday November 17th

Second Sunday before Advent

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| <u>9.00 am</u> | Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Sung Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.00 pm | Celtic Evening Prayer | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 6.00 pm | Sung Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |

Sunday November 24th

Christ the King / St Andrew's Patronal Festival

| | | |
|----------|--|-------------------------|
| 8.00am | BCP Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 11.00 am | Patronal Festival Mission Community Communion Service | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Mid-week Services for October and November

Daily Midweek Services

During August there will be no daily morning prayer at St. Andrew's
For September it will be back to normal:

Mon – Fri 9.00 am Morning Prayer - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Weekly Midweek Services

Wednesday 10.00 am Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Thursday 12 noon Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Thursday 4.30 pm Evening Prayer (said) - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Monthly Midweek Services

Last Monday (28th October, 25th November)

Home Communion - All Beacon Parishes

Fourth Monday (26th August, 25th November)

6.30pm Holy Communion (said) - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Please contact the Church Office for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

office@beaconparishes.co.uk Tel: - (01803) 814178

Intercessions for the Mission Community – October - November

| Sunday | Mission Community | Ipplepen | Denbury | Broadhempston | Woodland |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Oct 6 th | Pastoral Care Team | Totnes Road | West End Terrace | Knowle | Daisy Park |
| Oct 13 th | Newly baptised & confirmed | Townsend Hill | Denbury Down Lane | Hemsford | Higher Woodland Farm |
| Oct 20 th | Wedding couples | Tremlett Grove | Woodland Road | Village Hall | Larch Cottage |
| Oct 27 th | Scouts & Guides | Two Mile Oak | Woodland Close | Monks Retreat & Coppa Dolla | Wickeridge Cottage |
| Nov 3 rd | Dearly departed | Wesley Terrace & Wesley View | Shute Lane | Main Street | Levaton Farm House |
| Nov 10 th | Service planning group | Wrigwell Lane | Halwell Farm | Houndhead Way | Dipwell Farm |
| Nov 17 th | Vision group | Beech Trees Lane | Bramble Down | Vicarage Hill | Higher Lake Farm |
| Nov 24 th | Mission Action Plan group | Elliott Court | The Post Office and Shop | Primary School | Wickeridge Farm |

Dates ahead – October and November

Regular Weekly Events

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Monday | 3.00 pm | Monday Teapot | - Church Cottage, Denbury |
| Wednesday | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Thursday | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |

Regular Monthly Events

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Third Monday | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| First Thursday | 4.00 pm | Choir Practice | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| First and Third Thursday | 5.00 pm | Junior Choir Practice | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Second Thursday | 10.30 to 12 noon | Coffee Mates | - Church Cottage, Denbury |
| First Saturday | 10.00 am | Coffee Morning | - Parish Rooms, Woodland |

Other Specific Events

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Saturday 5 th October | 10 to 12 noon | Gift Day and Coffee Morning/Stalls – St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| | 2.00 pm | Licensing of Hillarie Griggs - Exeter Cathedral |
| Sunday 6 th October | 11.00 am | Harvest Thanksgiving – joint with the Methodist Church |
| | | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| | 12.30 pm | Harvest Lunch |
| Saturday 12 th October | 12 to 1.30pm | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |
| Sunday 13 th October | 9.15 am | SOUP & SWEETS Lunch - Church Cottage, Denbury |
| | 12.00 pm | Harvest Thanksgiving - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| | 4 pm | Harvest Lunch (Soup and Sweets) - Denbury Village Hall |
| | 5 pm | Harvest Thanksgiving - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| Saturday 19 th October | 3 to 5 pm | Harvest – Tea and Cakes - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| | | (For all the children of the Beacon Parishes) |
| | 7.30pm | Messy Church - St Andrew's Church Hall |
| Friday 15 th November | 5 pm | SAUSAGE & MASH SUPPER – St Andrew's Church Hall |
| Saturday 16 th November | 2 pm | Shoebox Appeal Service - Ipplepen Methodist Church |
| Saturday 23 rd November | 10.30am to 12.30pm | Christmas Fayre - Ipplepen Village Hall |
| | | COFFEE, CAKE & CHRISTMAS |
| | | Sales & Refreshments - Church Cottage, Denbury |
| | 7.30pm | Jarrold Dickenson Concert - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| Saturday 30 th November | 6.00pm | IPPLEPEN LANTERN PROCESSION |
| | | Village Hall and ending at St Andrews |

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 the Church office on 01803 814078



Denbury:

There are no sponsors for Denbury at the time of going to print

Ipplepen:

Retrospective

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3 rd – 9 th August | From Marion, Roger and Ed Matthews to celebrate the marriage of Tom and Emma on Saturday 3 rd August |
| 18 th – 24 th August | For Clive Ralph on his 70 th birthday on 23 rd August from his good friend Gill Farley |
| 15 th – 21 st Sept | Jane and Charlie to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary on 20 th September |

New

- | | |
|---|---|
| 13 th – 19 th Oct | For the golden wedding anniversary of Tony and Jennie Meek, married in St. Andrew's, Ipplepen, on the 18 th October 1969 |
| 13 th – 19 th Oct | In memory of a dear Dad, Arthur Bearne on 16 th October from Barbara and John Tuckett |

Straplines

- Your road in life is yours and yours alone; others may occasionally walk it with you, but no-one can walk it for you.
- I know the Bible is inspired because, more than any other book, it finds me at a greater depth of my being. (Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

Time inside

Our Editor has asked if I would write something about Prison, Prison Visiting, and a recent visit to HMP Channings Wood by Jonathan Aitken. So, where to start?



I am one of a group of 10 Prison Visitors (or Official Prison Visitors as we are now known) at HMP Channings Wood, and have been visiting there for more than 30 years. During that time I have seen many changes, both in prisons generally and the men in them.

We operate through our Liaison Officer who, as in most prisons, is the Chaplain - although we are not a religious organisation. We visit only those who ask for us, and go in as a friend and continue with that man while he is in the prison. We can take nothing in nor bring anything out, but our conversations are private, unless we hear anything the officers should know about - such as a planned riot (have never had one!), a drugs drop or an escape (they would never tell us!), or a planned suicide or self harm (that one is more difficult). I love what I do and have met many interesting people, many sad and inadequate people, and many who should be in some other form of secure accommodation. Over the years it has broadened my outlook on so many aspects of life generally, for which I am very grateful.

Prison is not a nice place. Whilst there is a tremendous amount of bravado and noise there is also a great deal of unhappiness and fear - although most men keep up a front when with others, and join in the so-called camaraderie. They say that it is only when a man is behind his cell door that he can be his real self. As PVs we

hope the men we visit trust us and feel able to talk to us openly and honestly without any fear of reprisal - something they cannot necessarily do on the Wing (the part of the prison where they are housed), or anywhere else. We make every effort to visit when we say we will and not let anyone down - so many have been let down all their lives.

There were approximately 48,000 prisoners nationally in 1986 when I started visiting, and at today's date there are 83,618. Although many prisons have improved over the years, and new ones built, there is inevitably a lot of overcrowding, and the problems that brings. Yes, they now have TVs in their cells (in 1986 they had to put their name down for a radio, and wait a long time until one became available), but their time out of cells has been restricted. In 1995 - a few years after the Strangeways Riot - a lot more fences were put up at Channings Wood, and no doubt at most prisons, and a new Wing built, thus restricting the outside area. Before that the men had had a large expanse of grass on which to exercise, play football, or just relax. Consequently they now spend more time on the Wings or in cells.

Prison Visitors now carry keys as the officers are too busy to escort us to the Wings where we visit. There were huge reductions in prison staffing in 2010, presumably to save money, but thankfully more officers are now being recruited and are entering the prison service, although unfortunately with very little experience. There are always complaints about the food, but so there are in hospitals. The attitude of many men, particularly young ones, to any sort of authority has sadly changed in so many ways. The language of many is 'colourful', and these days they carry right on no matter who is around. But it is probably the same everywhere.

Whilst some men have been in and out of prison most of their lives, and doing time is merely an occupation hazard, for others it could be their first time and it must be very daunting.

Time inside - continued

In most cases there are the families outside who are doing their own sentence while their man (be it husband, partner, son, father) is locked up. They have a different sort of sentence, especially where there are children, and it must be a struggle in many cases. Some men get regular visits, others not. The telephone, for which they pay, is a great link with family and friends outside, but numbers have to be approved. In some prisons there are in-cell phones with limited access to certain numbers - one of them being Samaritans. Drugs are a huge problem and the source of so much trouble both in and out of prison. Ways of getting them into prison are beyond belief!

Last month Rev.

Jonathan Aitken was invited by the Bishop of Plymouth to visit all three Devon prisons, and I was fortunate to hear one of his talks at Channings Wood. He was an Eton/Oxford educated MP who became a Cabinet Minister, was convicted of perjury in 1999, and sentenced to 18 months in prison (what you might call MP to HMP). He said he had had to deal with defeat, divorce, disgrace, bankruptcy and jail all at the same time, as well as losing his home. He talked about his experiences before, during, and after prison, some of which were very amusing. To begin with he was in HMP Belmarsh, a top security prison, and his conviction was in every newspaper in the country and on every news broadcast. On arrival all new prisoners were seen by the prison psychiatrist and he was asked if his family knew where he was, which they did. Did anyone else know he was in prison? to which he replied "About 15 million people I suppose". The psychiatrist queried if he really believed that 15 million people knew he had come to prison, to



which he answered "Yes". The psychiatrist took off his glasses, leaned across the table, and asked very carefully "Have you ever suffered from delusions?" (He was obviously quite oblivious as to who Jonathan Aitken was).

Whilst in prison he became attended the Alpha Course and took part in a Prayer Group, but it was not until some years after his release that he went to Theological College to train for the Ministry. He was ordained in 2018 as a NSM at St. Matthew's Church Westminster, and as an unpaid Prison Chaplain at HMP Pentonville. His main work is to do with Prison Ministry, and he said he is happier visiting prison than he ever was visiting the Ritz! A very clever and amusing

speaker, and one could not help thinking that God does indeed move in a mysterious way.

Channings Wood has a beautiful Chapel dedicated to St. Francis. It is very well looked after and is somewhere the men can occasionally go for a little peace. Every religion is covered, there are two services on a Sunday and others during the week, as well as Bible Study and various group meetings. Sometimes it is a case of "where two or three are gathered together" but services are carefully prepared and presented no matter how few attend. There is a lovely statue of 'Christ the Compassionate' on the wall behind the Altar. This was given by Rev. Frederick Buffett - one time Vicar of Ipplepen, and the first part-time Chaplain at the Prison - in memory of his wife Molly, who was a Prison Visitor.

If anyone feels they would like to become a Prison Visitor they would be very welcome - we are always looking for people. It is so worthwhile, and whatever effort it takes - the rewards are tremendous.

Winnie Bryant

History of the Remembrance Poppy



Chris Prince, a former Editor of a staff newspaper & a pensioners' magazine, writes after visiting some of The Great War's battlefields:

What connects a Canadian \$10 bill and a First World War field hospital in Flanders? Answer - the humble poppy. This is how the three came to be linked for evermore.

The field hospital in question (more properly termed "Advanced Dressing Station" - a place where wounded men would receive the attention of a surgeon for the first time) stood on the West bank of the Ieper-Ijser Canal a few miles behind the British trenches marking the front line at Ypres. In 1915, where this story begins, the Dressing Station, known as Essex Farm, comprised five semi-subterranean concrete bunkers - which can still be seen today. It was not, by any stretch of imagination, anything like the Accident and Emergency Department of a hospital as we know it today - for the bunkers had neither windows nor electric lighting.



Essex Farm Dressing Station

Still stretching along the Canal bank beside the Dressing Station is the neat Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery which marks the final resting place of the hundreds of men who died there from their wounds.



Lt Col John McCrae

The surgeon in charge in 1915 was Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a Canadian. He arrived in the area in April as the second-in-command of a Canadian Field Artillery Brigade, but as a Doctor in civilian life and as the Brigade Surgeon, he was assigned to take charge of the Dressing Station. His arrival coincided with the Second Battle of Ypres where British troops first encountered poisonous gas as a new and terrifying weapon of war. His diary tells us that, on 3 May 1915, he had spent 30 hours without a break operating by candlelight on wounded men. His last patient was a friend of his, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, who – despite desperate surgery - died in his hands. In the absence of the Brigade Chaplain, John McCrae went outside to conduct his friend's burial service. Afterwards he sat for a while in the sunshine

History of the Remembrance Poppy - continued



on the tailgate of a field ambulance. An amateur poet, he was so moved by the loss of his friend and the many others who had died at the Dressing Station whose bodies now lay buried all around him; that he took out his pocket-book and crafted this poem:

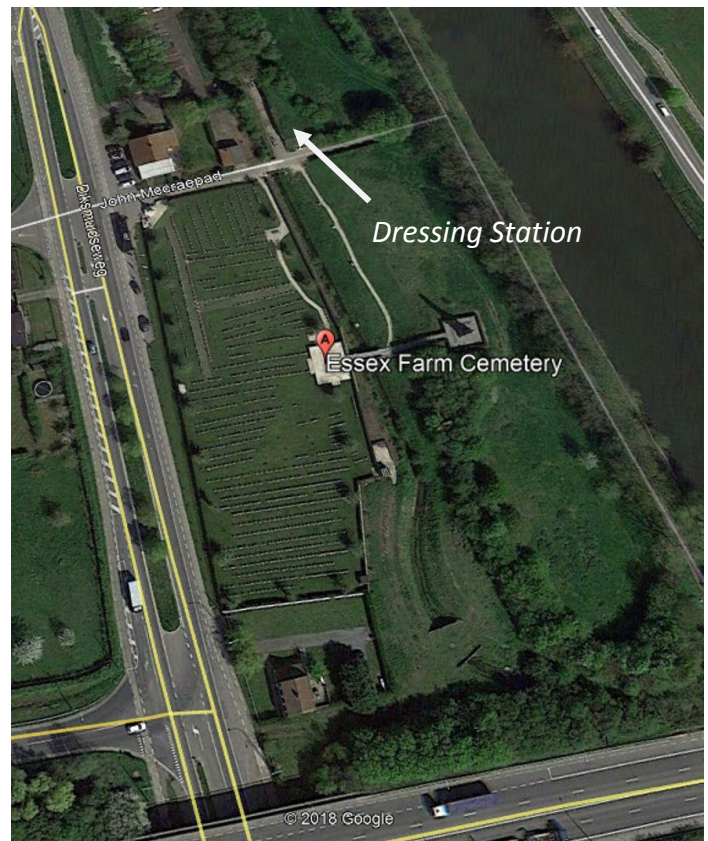
*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below...*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields...*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands, we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields...*

Later, in a self-critical mood, he threw the poem away. Happily, it was rescued by a fellow officer who sent it to "The Spectator" newspaper in London where the poem suffered its second rejection. Fortunately for posterity, 'Punch' magazine published it in December 1915 and John McCrae's poem took wings and flew all round the English-speaking world.

Twin threads emerged from this poem. Inspired by the poem's powerful imagery, American YMCA Overseas War Secretary, Moina Michael, persuaded fellow-delegates



to make poppies at the first international YMCA conference after the War where they sold the poppies to raise funds for veterans. She went on to lobby for the poppy to be adopted as the fundraising symbol of the War and in 1921 her persistence succeeded when the poppy achieved its iconic international remembrance role through the formation of The Earl Haig Poppy Fund. Thus the poppies we wear today every November are the lasting fruits of an amateur poet's testimony to the patients he could not save.

The second thread is one of a Canadian character. At their Remembrance Day ceremonies the Canadian's often do not read out the familiar portion of Laurence Binyon's 'For The Fallen' ("They shall grow not old... etc.") preferring to use the first two verses of John McCrae's poem instead. His third verse is omitted because of its supposedly warlike undertones. Such is the place of this poem in Canadians' affections that it appears on their

History of the Remembrance Poppy - continued



Lt Col John McCrae's grave at Wimereux

ten-dollar banknotes as the second fruits of a remarkable man's work.

And what, you may wonder, became of John McCrae whose writings on that distant day echo so evocatively down through the years?

In June 1915, he was transferred from his Artillery Brigade to set up the No.3 Canadian General Hospital (McGill) near Boulogne where he died, at the age of 45, from pneumonia on January 28 1918. He is buried in the Commonwealth War Graves section of Wimereux Cemetery.

Songs and prayers at Westminster

Six hundred people, including MPs, peers and Christian leaders, met in Westminster Hall on a Tuesday morning in July to sing worship songs and pray as Bishop Sarah Mullally spoke about valuing those who hold opposite opinions. This prayer by SNP MP David Linden is worth sharing:

Editor



David Linden



Sarah Mullally

"Heavenly Father, we thank you for the amazing opportunity to gather here this morning to worship and proclaim your great name and give thanks for our salvation, paid for by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And Lord, at this time, we pray for our politics, both here in Westminster and right across these islands.

"Give us wisdom, God, to make wise decisions about our nations' futures, and guide us to decisions which are just and fair. Lord, help us to demonstrate a positive Christ-like witness as we seek to navigate the tricky waters of Brexit and with our domestic politics. And for those of us who already know you passionately, Lord, I pray that we would disagree well and do so with grace and brotherly love. And Lord, help us to speak truth in power and make decisions which are not for the convenience of merely today or political expediency but instead, help us to make decisions which improve people's lives and advance your kingdom here on Earth. God, I ask that you would use these volatile times to cause people to reflect on where they draw encouragement from. We pray Lord that these too would come to know and love you and recognise the immense sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen."

Christmas Fair



Ipplepen Village Hall



Saturday 16th November

2.00 p.m.

Refreshments

Christmas Crafts

Books

Tombola

Bottle Stall

Toys

Puzzles

Preserves

Bric a Brac

'Anali' Crafts

Cakes



GRAND RAFFLE

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunrise and Sunset



Sunrise from the International Space Station

There are two very special moments each day - sunrise and sunset. Let us focus on these for a moment. Take the sun's rising; having extinguished the stars, ever so slowly and gently, it eases itself over the rim of the world. Up, up it comes from the great beyond, scattering light and radiating heat to the earth. We are amazed at how large it appears. It is at its largest when it sits on the horizon, joining heaven and earth. It seems to pose there fleetingly before it starts to climb the sky and get on with the business of the day.

And take the sun's setting. Down, down it goes. Its rate of departure can be measured by the fading light and waning heat. As it retreats, it appears to grow in size once more and is again at its largest when it meets the horizon. As at its coming, so at its going, it seems to pose briefly on the edge of the world. Then, re-lighting the stars, it slips slowly and silently away into the great beyond from whence it came.

Just as sunrise and sunset are very special moments in the day, so birth and death are very special moments in the life of a human being. At these moments, we realise that a person is absolutely unique. At birth, something comes into being that never was before. At death, something passes away that will never be on earth again. People seem



A typical summer sunset

larger to us at these two moments, when we get a glimpse of their true worth and their gifts. There is something sacred about birth and death. Heaven and earth are joined together. Each person is a mystery; each person is a gift from God.

A meditation by Deacon Angie Allport

Smile



A young minister arrived at a country church for the first time and found only an old farmer, dressed in his Sunday best, had turned up. After waiting for a few minutes, the young minister said, "It appears no one else is coming, so we should probably cancel the service today." The old man replied, "Well minister, I don't know much about preachin', but I know a bit about farmin' and if I went out in the field and found only one cow, I'd still feed it." The young minister was happy to oblige and he preached enthusiastically for almost 45 minutes. Before leaving, the old farmer said, "As I say, I don't know much about preachin', but I do know somethin' about farmin' and if I went out in the field and found only one cow, I wouldn't let it have the whole bale!"

Oldest Christian letter

Researchers have discovered what they believe to be the oldest ever Christian letter - outside of the Bible. A small fragment of papyrus – which was used throughout the ancient Mediterranean world for writing or painting on – was found dating back to the 230s AD. It's thought to be older than all the other Christian documentary evidence of Roman Egypt.

The letter originates from the village of Theadelphia in central Egypt and was sent by Arrianus to his brother, Paulinus. "Greetings, my lord, my incomparable brother Paulus," the letter reads. "I, Arrianus, salute you, praying that all is as well as possible in your life." The letter includes updates on the family and even a simple request for some fish liver sauce.



The document is part of a collection of ancient manuscripts at the University of Basel in Switzerland. The letter provides valuable insights into the world of the first Christians in the Roman Empire, which is not recorded in any other historical source. The earliest Christians in the Roman Empire are usually portrayed as eccentrics who withdrew from the world and were threatened by persecution, the researchers explained in a press release.

The letter also sheds light on the brothers' faith, with Arrianus wishing his brother well "in the Lord". "I pray that you fare well in the Lord," he adds. According to University of Basel researcher Professor Sabine Huebner, the brothers appear to have been young, educated sons of the local elite, as well as landowners and public officials.

Pastoral Care Team

At St. Andrew's we have a pastoral Care Team who try ensure that anyone absent from church is contacted to find out if all is well. Winnie Bryant contacts them to see if we can help and we have a team of visitors who can go in and chat and perhaps suggest home communion or a visit from the Rector. I co-ordinate what is going on and we meet up periodically with the Rector, to discuss how best we can serve the congregation. If you know of anyone who is unable to come to church through illness or any other reason please do contact us.

Vanessa Bevan (01803 812812)

Smile



Little Emily was at her first wedding and gaped at the entire ceremony. When it was over, she asked her mother, "Why did the lady change her mind?" Her mother asked, "What do you mean?" Emily said, "Well, she went down the aisle with one man and came back with a different one."

A punctuation joke for the Editor (and he can never have too many of those.)

Q: What's the difference between a cat and comma?

A: One has its claws at the end of its paws, and one is a pause at the end of a clause.

Straplines

- Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's love; and your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's love.
- There is only one way to describe a hangover – it's the wrath of grapes!
- There's no such thing as comfortable truth.
- A politician thinks of the next election, but a statesman thinks of the next generation.

From the Editor



A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom

John of Antioch, nicknamed Chrysostom, or 'golden mouth' is commemorated by the church on 13 September. This is one of his prayers, widely used throughout the church for centuries:

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

It is worth raising the question of prayer in relation to our Beacon magazine. When all our work is completed, an important document has been produced and one will never know how many people read it. It may get into the hands of someone who is looking for encouragement, or who needs help at a difficult time.

Our last step before shooting it off to the printer must be that I and my colleagues pray that God will bless our efforts and that there will be someone who might be prompted to open their hearts to Him, having read something in our Beacon magazine. So please join in prayer with us too.

My thanks go to all our contributors and to Charles Quartley who has been 'on call' whilst I have merely been on the end of my iPhone in the Balearics.

Articles for the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany edition of the Beacon (December/January) need to reach me by November 21st.

www.missioncommunity.org.uk

Michael Price

The Beacon is produced at no
cost to the Mission Community

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