

contact

The Parish of Keynsham magazine



August/September 2022

SERVICES & ORGANISATIONS

St John the Baptist, Keynsham

Holy Communion: 8.30am every Sunday

IN CHURCH @ 10.30 - in Church with choir

TOGETHER @ 10.30 - in Parish Hall

Occasional Festival Services: 10.30am

Evening Services - as advertised

Weekday Holy Communion: 11.00am Wednesdays

Holy Baptism: In public worship / or Sunday 12.00 noon
(either by arrangement)

Choir Practice: Friday 6.15 - 8.00pm -Junior Choir & Choir Club
Adults 7.30 - 9.15pm

Worship Band Practice: Wednesday 8.00pm

Bell-ringing Practice: Thursday 7.30 - 9.00pm

Mothers' Union: 1st Wednesday - 7.45pm

Wives Group: 3rd Wednesday - 7.45pm

Toddlers Group: Wednesday - 10.00am

St John's Pastoral Visiting:

Marcia Cohen T: 986 5687

St Francis', Warwick Road

Morning Service: 9.30am

1st Sunday: Eco Service

4th Sundays: Holy Communion

Other Sundays: Morning Worship

(Crèche area at back of church if needed)

Evening Services: as advertised

Holy Baptism: In public worship by arrangement

Choir Practice: Thursday: 7.00 - 8.00pm

St John Ambulance: Wednesday: 6.00 - 9.00pm

Brownies: Tues: 6.00pm

Toddlers Group: Wed: 9.30-11.45am (term time)

St Margaret's, Queen Charlton

1st & 3rd Sundays: 10.30am - **Holy Communion.**

St Michael's, Burnett

2nd & 4th Sundays: **Holy Communion (1662)**

11.15am

3rd Sunday: **Morning Worship:** 11.15am

MISSION PARTNERS:

TLM Mission partner: Bangladesh: *Dr Ruth Butlin*

CMS Mission Partners: Lebanon: *Audrey & Colin Gibson.*

CMS Prayer partner: *Ruth Radley*

Chipata South Parish, Zambia.

*A number of groups meet regularly for Prayer, Bible Study and Discussion.
Ring the Parish Office (0117 986 3354) for details.*

**Arrangements for Banns and Marriages etc.
9.30 -10.30am on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays at the Parish Office**

THE PARISH OF KEYNSHAM DIRECTORY

(www.keynshamparish.org.uk)

The Parish Office is now open to visitors from 10am-12noon Mondays to Fridays. You can make contact by email at office@keynshamparish.org.uk, by phone on 0117 986 3354, or in person during opening hours.

Office Manager: Judy Walker - Facilities Manager: Vanessa Body

Team Rector:

Rev'd. Dr Stephen M'Caw - Tel: 0117 986 4437

Team Vicar - St Francis:

Rev'd. Anika Gardiner - Tel:0117 985 3470

Missioner and Team Vicar - St John's:

Rev'd. Mike Burke - Tel: 0117 909 9425

Curate - Keynsham Parish:

Rev'd Nigel Williams - Tel: 07850887498

Pioneer Missioner:

Trevor James - Tel: 07368 526997

Readers:

Rachel Hall, June Lowe, Rachel Shaw, Paul Thurlow

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults:

Parish officer: Wendy Harwood - Tel: 0117 986 2323

Directors of Music / Choirmaster:

St John's: *vacant*

St Francis: *vacant*

Tower Captain (Acting):

Edric Broom - Tel: 07890 364754

Parish Youth Worker:

Philippa Lovell - contact via the Parish Office

Parish Children and Families Worker:

Isobel Brown - contact via the Parish Office

Caretakers:

St John's: - *Steve Spiteri* - contact via Parish Office

St Francis: - *Jenny Minty and Katie Poynter*

Paying for Contact

There is no longer a specific charge for Contact but it still expensive to print. Many are now able to access it in full colour on-line but the printed version can be distributed to those who prefer it. Copies can also be left in public places to promote outreach. To cover these costs we would urge **all** readers to consider making a donation of **at least £5 per year**. This can now be done going to <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f2db93c0-0105-4c7e-869e-097521cf1b4f> or scanning the QR code. Cash and cheques can be left at the office marked 'for Contact'.



Manna - There is no copy of Manna issued in August but the September edition will be posted on the parish website.

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Message of the Month

August / September 2022



How time flies we say – especially as you get older. Almost before we know it, autumn with all its mellow fruitfulness will be with us and of course the harvest, accompanied by the first sighting of a pub or restaurant advertising Christmas parties. That certainly provokes in me a grumpy old man’s harrumph. But back to harvest. One of the things that will be harvested is apples and pears, which in this part of the world are frequently turned into a liquid amber.

Recently (via the Lectio 365 Daily App – highly recommended) I learned about a famous solitary pear tree in South Africa in a place called Genadendal or Valley of Grace, about 100 miles from Cape Town. This pear tree is a descendant of one planted by a young George Schmidt, a Moravian missionary who came to South Africa in 1737. He came on his own with no back up team, armed only with a letter of commission from the Moravian Christians led by Count Zinzendorf back in Germany. He was 28 when he arrived and had already spent 6 years in prison for his faith.

When he reached Cape Town, he did not stay there amongst the mainly Dutch colonists but moved out into the interior to live amongst the Khoi people. He immediately set about preaching the gospel in words and deeds; within a relatively short time, a small settlement was established. A few of the aboriginal people came to faith, among them a young woman he renamed Magdalena. Unfortunately his preaching and in particular his baptising dismayed the established church (such as it was) in South Africa and he was eventually forced to leave after only six years, leaving behind a handful of Christian believers and a few buildings. As a parting gift he gave to Magdalena a leather bound Dutch New Testament. And that might have been the end of that. Except it wasn’t.

For various reasons Schmidt was not replaced by the Moravian HQ until 50 years had elapsed. It was not until Christmas Eve 1792 that three Moravian missionaries arrived back at Genadendal, not knowing if there would be any

trace of what Schmidt has established. What they found was a few half ruined buildings, the remnants of the gardens he had planted and the pear tree under which services had been held. However, even more remarkable was the discovery of a very small Christian community, including the very same Magdalena Schmidt had baptised more than 50 years ago.

In all that time Magdalena or Lena had held onto the Christian faith that she had learned through Schmidt. Daily she prayed for the return of teachers and sang the songs she had been taught. With only the New Testament and the memories of the stories and teachings Schmidt had passed on, she had kept alive in her heart and the hearts of a few others, the light of Christ. These three missionaries stayed and over the years Genadendal became a thriving Christian community bringing to faith many from the Khoi peoples as well as the colonists whose superficial faith or questionable life styles were far from true religion. In fact it became – and still is – a place of pilgrimage.

Oh how easy, in so many ways, we have it today! Arguably too easy. Here were two extraordinary Christians whose names are unknown to most of their Christian brothers and sisters, let alone the world at large. One took the brave step of going out alone to serve God thousands of miles from home in a strange country amongst a people whose language and ways he did not understand. The other kept faithful to Jesus Christ without any of the ‘support system’ we have as Christians – churches, Christian friends, preaching, books, podcasts, apps, conferences and so on and so on. And yet, despite all these advantages, all too often, we have a lukewarm faith.

Today the grandchild of that first pear tree planted by Schmidt is still producing pears and the New Testament given by him to Magdalena is in a case made of wood from the pear tree. Visitors or pilgrims come from many places to see the Valley of Grace and be reminded of the fact that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never overcome it; to be reminded that we never know what fruit will come from our prayers and labours; to be reminded that faithful service to Jesus Christ is a thing of beauty – like a pear tree laden down with blossom or fruit.

Tom Peryer

Tom Peryer is a Reader and lives in Burnett, attending St Michael’s Church but he is also very much involved in All Saints Church Bath, from the time when he lived in Weston. He is a former Director of Education for the Diocese of Bath & Wells and the Diocese of London.

St John's Church Fete 2022

Well, what an amazing afternoon!

The morning of Saturday 25th June didn't start that well weather-wise as anyone who was out and about at about 11am may have got caught in a horrendous downpour but thankfully our prayers were answered and by the afternoon we were blessed with some blue sky and even sunshine.



The response to our weekly appeals for goods had been incredible and we were wondering how we would manage to get everything sorted but thanks to a band of willing volunteers on both the Friday evening and early Saturday morning we succeeded. By 2pm the stalls were all set up and we waited in anticipation for what we hoped would be crowds of people. We certainly weren't disappointed; within minutes the church grounds were packed and our aim of seeing the Keynsham community come together and enjoy themselves was happening.

82 brave teddies took the plunge and zip-wired down from the top of the church tower. A number of people also climbed the stairs to take advantage of the outstanding view. Many entered the church building to look around and ask questions about its history. In the hall the refreshment ladies were kept busy as people took the opportunity to sit and enjoy a drink and some homemade cake with DJ Barry providing background music. The bbq too was a popular source of nourishment. We had been provided with a superb number of prizes for the raffle by local businesses resulting in a constant flow of ticket buyers. All the stalls and games were kept busy and there truly was an amazing atmosphere all afternoon enhanced by music from a fairground organ and Chameleonz.

We really do want to say an enormous "Thank you" to everyone who in one way or another contributed to making this year's fete such a huge success and helping raise the fantastic amount of approximately £3,000. We couldn't have done it without you.

The fete committee. Marcia Cohen

The 30th Birthday of Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford

A brief history



During the 1960s a country-wide development of inter-church activity prompted a programme called 'People Next Door' to start up in local churches all over Britain, developing links with their Christian neighbours and the local community. Keynsham and Saltford churches took up this initiative and as a

follow up, formed the Keynsham and Saltford Council of Christian Churches in 1965. Anglicans, Methodists and Baptists were founding members. Since then St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Church has also joined, first providing a chairman in 1998.

The Council became Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford in 1992, aiming to serve the local community and remain faithful to the Covenant for Unity, which everyone had signed in 1989. The Elim Pentecostal Church joined as 'observers' and shares a great interest in the united ministry of the Christian church in Keynsham and Saltford. In 2018 The One Church became an 'observer' Church, and St. Monica's Trust became a full member.

Member Churches work together in a covenant relationship, which may be summarised as:

- giving thanks for all they have in common, recognising in one another's faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour according to the scriptures, and affirming that they are within the one church of Jesus Christ;
- confessing historic disunity and turning to God for their healing;
- covenanting together to pursue and make visible the unity of Christ's people in the local area;
- pledging to attempt this
through joint prayer and worship, by learning from each other's traditions, by exploring our Christian convictions and by co-operating in mission, especially in the local community.

Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford is committed to community outreach and has developed close links with Keynsham Town Council, enjoying involvement in the Keynsham Music Festival, the Keynsham Winter Festival Evening and the new Keynsham Town Regeneration Project, which will help to build a strong local community. Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford is affiliated to Somerset Churches Together.

Current projects include

- Friends in Need - providing transport for medical appointments
- Outreach to Older people (Oops) - services in local homes for the elderly
- working in local primary schools
- arranging united services
- organising Lent Studies
- organising the Good Friday town service and Walk of Witness
- Christians Against Poverty (CAP)
- Christian Aid
- Futura Learning Partnership (Wellsway School Chaplaincy)
- Believe Together programme on KTCRfm
- Christmas Day Dinner
- Meditation Groups
- Eco Church
- Eco Festival

Churches Together supports the Keynsham and District Talking Newspaper, Keynsham Food Bank and Keynsham Community Fridge but they are not affiliated groups.

This year was the **30th Anniversary of Churches Together**. We celebrated with several events, starting with a celebration service held at the Keynsham Methodist Church on the 21st June, with guest speaker Reverend Dr Stephen Finamore, Principal of Bristol Baptist College.

A Community Action Day followed on the 25th June and a Picnic in the Park on the 26th June, which brought members of the community together to enjoy a happy mix of entertainment, fun and relaxation.

'We Are Movement' held an event on Sunday the 17th July at St John's Church. It is a youth organisation that empowers, equips, trains, and releases young people to reach the potential that God has intended for them.

It only remains for Churches Together to thank most sincerely the clergy, all the members, and the people who bring their own special skills to help with all the projects and who have taken part in these most recent anniversary events.

And, most important of all, to ask for your prayers to encourage and sustain the future of Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford.

With every blessing

June Lowe CTKS Secretary

St. John's joins the Heritage Open Days scheme

Saturday 17th September 2022 from 2.00-4.30pm

Each September thousands of volunteers across the country invite you to experience local history, architecture and culture. All for free. Heritage Open Days will be back between 9-18 September 2022.

*Right: The War Memorials
(© Jim Allen)*



This year as part of the national Heritage Open Days, The Friends of St. John's are organising an Open Afternoon

when the Church, including the Tower, will be open to visitors. This will take place from 2pm to 4.30pm on Saturday 17th September 2022.

St. John's Church is of great historical interest, with its wonderful architecture dating from over 750 years ago and a wealth of memorials and many other historic

features. The Tower has a fine ring of bells and, from the top, far-reaching views across Keynsham.



*Left: Silver given to St John's by Sir Thomas and Lady Ann Bridges
(© Bert Heaven)*

We look forward to seeing you there.

John Lye The Friends of St. John's

DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

In this month of holidays and summer travel, it is awful to think that the crisis in Ukraine simply goes on. More than 13 million people have fled their homes. Millions of families have been separated, people have been injured and killed, and their homes blown up. Critical infrastructure such as health facilities, water supplies and schools have been damaged or destroyed.

The UN estimates over five million people have now fled Ukraine. The refugees have fled to Poland, Romania, Hungary and Moldova, often arriving with only what they could carry.

Another eight million people are displaced within the country. Many older people, and those with disabilities, have no option but to remain in their homes. They are now isolated, unable to access food and basic necessities.

In such a crisis, the DEC charities in Ukraine and neighbouring countries are working hard to meet the needs of people affected by the conflict. They say:

£30 could provide essential hygiene supplies for three people for one month

£50 could provide blankets for four families

£100 could provide emergency food for two families for one month

If you can help, please go to: www.dec.org.uk

Ukrainian soldiers treat Bible like ‘a life-saver’

Since the war broke out more than six months ago, Bible Society has been making the Bible available to soldiers as well as civilians in Ukraine.

Recently, Serhii, the commander of a military unit, told Bible Society colleagues in Ukraine how vital the Bible is to his troops. He said, “It is very important for soldiers to have the Bible. Things are very tough at times and many soldiers are praying to God. “They may have never attended a church before. They may not have believed in God before. But now they are turning to Him. Many of them treat the Bible as a life-saver.

“I have a friend, an officer. He also received a Bible from our chaplain. Sometimes he faces situations that seem to be desperate. He turns to the Bible....and he says, ‘You wouldn’t believe it. Every time I find an answer. The Bible has a way out! I do as the Bible says and everything works well.’”

Serhii added, “So, for those people who are facing enormous pressures on the frontlines, who experience hardship, both physical and moral, when they have this Bible in their pocket, when it gets very hard, a soldier can open it and find words that he needs to hear at that very moment. It is very important. Thank you!”

6th August The Transfiguration, a glimpse of glory

The Transfiguration is one of the few major events in the Church calendar at this time of year. It happened when Jesus' ministry was popular and people were seeking Him out. But on this day, He made time to take Peter, James and John up a high mountain, possibly Mount Tabor (where there is a great church today). High up on the mountain, Jesus was suddenly transfigured before His friends. His face began to shine as the sun, His garments became white and dazzling. Elijah and Moses, of all people, suddenly appeared, and talked with Him. A bright cloud overshadowed the disciples.



Peter was staggered, but, enthusiast that he was he immediately suggested building three tabernacles on that holy place, one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. But God's dwelling with mankind no longer depends on building a shrine. It depends on the presence of Jesus, instead. And so a cloud covered them, and a Voice spoke out of the cloud, saying that Jesus was His beloved Son, whom the disciple should 'hear'.

Then, just as suddenly, it was all over. What did it mean? Why Moses and Elijah? These two men represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, but now they are handing on the baton, for both the Law and the Prophets found their true and final fulfilment in Jesus. Why on top of a mountain? Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the sacred covenant in the form of the Ten Commandments; now Jesus goes up and is told about the 'sealing' of the New Covenant of God with man, which will be accomplished by His coming death in Jerusalem.

The Eastern Churches have long held the Transfiguration as a feast as important as Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension and Pentecost. But it took a long time for the West to observe the Transfiguration. The feast starts appearing from the 11th and 12th centuries, and the Prayer Book included it among the calendar dates, but there was no liturgical provision for it until the 19th century.

Bishop's letter

I'm new around here. Following retirement from ordained ministry last year Somerset has become my adopted county and Bath and Wells my adopted diocese. Sally and I are delighted to be full time now in this lovely and stimulating area. We join many of you who have been part of this diocese and county for a lifetime or for decades, and also some who have recently arrived like us.

We have chosen to be here. Others arrive here because of a range of circumstances and decisions. Perhaps sometimes the journey seems haphazard or inexplicable. Some people come here as refugees fleeing persecution, injustice, or war, especially from Syria, Afghanistan, and Ukraine. They arrive with uncertainty, and often anxiety or trepidation in an unknown and entirely new place far from home.

In our churches and Christian communities, we are committed to welcome everyone – those settled here and also those who are newer. We know we are sisters and brothers in God's family, regardless of background, nationality or indeed any other thing which distinguishes us. God's family is the family of humankind. It's not that we pick and choose whom to call family; we share the same flesh and blood.

St Paul tells us that each one of us has been adopted into that family which is divine and human. God sent Jesus "so that we might receive adoption as children" enabling us to be gifted with the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 4:4-7)

We don't belong out of personal choice, in contrast to my decision to choose here as my adopted diocese and community. We don't pick and choose our ultimate citizenship. God chooses and calls us without us desiring or deserving such adoption. That's why, following God's adoption of us, we never select who to welcome into our church or parish. All belong and all are welcome without hesitation.

We have been adopted into God's family and we are thrilled to adopt everyone into our communities. Thank you for welcoming me!

+Christopher Foster (Honorary Assistant Bishop Bath and Wells)



Rachel and Graham Shaw recently spent a week in our Link Parish, Chipata South, Eastern Zambia, representing Keynsham Parish.

Keynsham to Chipata South: Travel Journal

Tuesday 21st July

V. early start after days of packing and weighing laptops. Despite worries about rail strikes and check-in delays, all went smoothly at Heathrow, with plenty of time.

Wednesday 22nd July

Touched down in Lusaka's swanky new airport. Fr Rogers Hamsini (Zambia Anglican Council) met us, delivered us to Nomads Hotel and relieved us of the two heavy cases of laptops.

Slept!

Thursday 23rd July

Isaac (ZAC) arrived in a smart people carrier and set off with baggage and us. Oil light came on. Problem! While waiting for a replacement car chatted politics with Isaac: recent Zambian elections, (good for democracy but will Hakainde Hichilema [HH] deliver?) Brexit, (apparently Zambians, like so many of us, were disappointed we left



Europe), Partygate etc..... What is the big talking point in Zambia?: The mishandled economy, refusal of another IMF loan, failure of Zambia to repay debts.

Short flight to Mfuwe airport.

On landing could already hear the welcoming oom-pah-pahs of the Chipata Boys Brigade Band, and were met by the beaming smiles of Peter Ngoma and Father Cornelius.

1.5 hour drive to Chipata, settlements alongside the road, clusters of huts, villages and townships, roadside stalls and extravagantly-named shop units, children walking home from school in their smart uniforms, driver expert at avoiding potholes.

Reached Chipata and turned into a familiar looking street and there was the red -brick mini-Anglican building of St Paul's – a scale model of an English parish church. And - joy - children playing in the playground of the new school.

Met by Febby, Gertrude, Robert, Jodrick, Absolom, Monika Amanzi (my host in 2018 – same beautiful smile but her braids are now grey.) Meal with Fr Cornelius then on to our hostess Mrs. Angelina Ambali's comfortable home on the outskirts. I'd forgotten how early and quickly night falls in Zambia and how dark houses become. Glad of our head-torches.

Friday 24th July

We were picked up by Father Cornelius, Peter and William (driving) squeezing into their car for a very bumpy two and a half hour ride to the mission station and cathedral town of Msoro. Enjoyed watching the morning rituals of people setting up roadside stalls, driving out goats and cattle to pasture, ox carts, bicycles laden with produce for market, (including strapped-on pigs and goats) and children walking to school.



William manoeuvred the car skilfully along the dusty dirt road, peppered with potholes, subsidence, roads partially washed away, collapsed bridges.....the drive was uncomfortable to say the least. But plenty of time for conversation with Peter, with more insights into recent Zambian politics, the increasingly repressive actions of the previous regime (that we know nothing about), and the unexpected but very welcome election of 'HH' .

Finally reached Msoro, beautiful setting on a hill, amongst trees. Met Dean Edward, the amazing priest who runs the cathedral, 6 other churches **and** the clinic. As a trained midwife he is on call every night and delivers on average 30 babies a month. Also shown round St Luke's secondary school, where Peter Ngoma was a boarding pupil and later headmaster.

Back to Chipata, stopping en route to bargain at roadside stall for sweet potatoes and large bundles charcoal.

An evening Eucharist service at St Paul's. Gave sermon on 2 Timothy 1. Reunited joyfully with James Amanzi, (mainstay of the Link Whatsapp Group and now a good friend)

Bed early. Very tired.

Saturday 25th July

A day of meetings at St Paul's Church:

First a gathering of the parish council to meet members discuss the Parish Link. Then I was asked to meet MU leaders at their regional conference. Talked from Matthew 16 and from the heart.

A dash over to the Priest's house for a wonderful spread and then a *rest!*

Summoned by Monika to meet a Girls Brigade gathering, smaller than expected due to the unusually cold weather which everyone is complaining about. The girls were shy at first but soon warmed up telling me about favourite GB activities, which included evangelising, camping, and singing and dancing. That was my cue to teach them the 'Butterfly Song', or as much as I could remember, with actions. They picked it up!

Then I met the St Paul's MU members while Graham had good discussions with members of the Anglican Mens Union. Interesting to hear from younger women who have joined MU, and the older women wanting to support women feeling the isolation of being a new mum. Stories of practical Christian compassion.

Sunday 26th July

Joint parish confirmation service at All Saints Church. What a change! Last time I was there the congregation was worshipping in a wooden thatched shelter and the walls of the brick church were no more than shoulder high. Now the building is finished, almost completely roofed and fully functioning. In 2018, I photographed Robert Newa under the mango tree where prayers for the new church began. Now that self-same tree is incorporated into the new, large church building.

A joyous service, the bishop confirming about 30 confirmands, mostly young but several adults as well. Fantastic worship, Febby, leading the singing, has an outstanding bluesy voice. A vastly expanded Sunday school, many young mums, lots of blue and white uniforms. At the end we presented the Link banner that Naomi made and were presented with two lengths of fabric which we duly donned as a chitenga and a chief's cloak. Much laughter! And then there was the goat!

Shared lunch at a church member's house, then whisked off to the Ngoma's beautiful home to pray with Peter's wife Janet who's been very unwell and off work for a while.

Someone heard that the cases with the laptops had arrived at Father Cornelius house after a bus journey from Lusaka, so back there to check all contents were present and correct.

Monday 27th July

A meeting of the School Trustees at the John Osmer's Centre next to St Paul's church. (John Osmer's was the first bishop of Eastern Zambia. Much loved and recently deceased.) In 2018 the Centre was a bare breeze block building. Now finished, shiny and clean, a smart car park with well tended flower borders and Christabel (of Boys Brigade) at the front desk. Pink painted exterior and a plaque proclaiming its opening by President Lungu.

A hiatus for me and Graham while important things were done to prepare for tomorrow's big event.

Robert rushed over, we grabbed a takeaway meal from Choppies supermarket, and were whisked off to Chipungo village. Very warm welcome, singing, dancing and a traditional meal for honoured guests, spread out on a ceremonial bamboo mat. (lunch number two that day!). James translated throughout. Wonderful. Spotted that our gift of a St John's 750 tea towel had already been pinned up. We gave Violet (church warden) the knitted jubilee decorations.

Running behind schedule, we took an impossible short cut to St Luke's church, between houses and stalls – not exactly a road or even a track.

10 minutes later off again to have a meal with Bishop William and his wife, Mary.

Tuesday 28th July

All hands on deck for the spectacular dedication ceremony for the new school, attended by Bishop William and the Deputy Provincial Education Minister

(and us). Much protocol and many speeches and presentations. Memorable. A



feat of organisation. Unfortunately the cold weather continued and there were even a few spots of rain, which we personally apologised for! Afterwards chance to mix with the children and parents, for Graham to teach some songs to a trio from St Paul's church choir and for another meal.

Time off and a walk with Robert Newa to the old colonial part of Chipata with its very English golf course, and an impromptu visit to his old secondary school, Hillside, also built originally for whites only, (as, shockingly, were the colonial era churches like St Paul's).

Wednesday 29th July

Our last full day, and a very interesting morning with Naomi and Maureen who run the St Paul's Children's Project. They support children who wouldn't otherwise be able to go to school. They have links with four schools and we went to one which is both a skills and an academoic college. Brilliant. Very practical skills training: metalwork, carpentry, brickmaking and laying, tailoring, shoemaking....

Pupils supported by the charity gave a presentation and we heard some of their difficult stories. Fr Cornelius gave an impassioned talk urging them to value and persevere with their education as a means of rising out of poverty and saying no to the lure of easy money through drugs and prostitution.

Finally a treat for us as we spent the rest of the day with the Amanzis, and Graham could see where I had stayed in 2018. And to round off, back home to Angelina to change into our new Zambian finery for a farewell party at the school. We all joined together for 'Amazing Grace' and 'Bind us Together' and many goodbye hugs, photos, blessings and hopes for the future.

Contact Rachel (rachrishaw@gmail.com) or text 07974412261 if you'd like to support our parish link by, for example:

committing to regular prayer for Chipata South

joining the Chipata Keynsham Friendship Whatsapp Group

becoming part of the Zambia Action Group (ZAG) as it seeks to build our Parish Link over the next 5 years.

:

ABOUT RIDE+STRIDE

This year's event: 10th September 2022

This is Somerset Churches Trust's most important fund raising event. Take part in a sponsored bike ride, walk, horse ride or even drive between the historic churches and chapels of Somerset, enjoying the countryside and exploring the beautiful buildings along the way. It takes place every year on the second Saturday in September.

It is part of the much wider National Churches Trust annual Ride+Stride with county trusts organising events across the country. The money raised helps to repair churches, chapels and meeting houses throughout England.

Planning is underway and further details will be issued soon.



Blood and Fire

August 20th is the day the Anglican Calendar remembers William and Catherine Booth, the founders of the Salvation Army.

William Booth (1829-1912) was born in Nottingham in 1829. Booth's father was relatively wealthy, but descended into poverty, so in 1842 13-year-old William was apprenticed to a pawnbroker. Two years into his apprenticeship Booth was converted and became a Methodist preacher, with his best friend Will Sansom, who sadly died of tuberculosis in 1849.



In 1849 William's apprenticeship ended and unemployment drove him to London, and work as a pawnbroker. Here he began open-air evangelising in the streets and 1851 joined the Methodist Reform Church. On his 23rd birthday, he left pawnbroking to become a full-time preacher in Clapham; he also became engaged to Catherine Mumford.

His work

The Methodists appointed him preacher at the Bethel Chapel in Brighouse in Yorkshire in 1851, where he and Catherine campaigned against the employment of seven-year-old girls in a local mill. By 1859 they moved to Gateshead, a blue plaque on the wall of the old Bethel Church, now a Wetherspoon's pub, recalls his ministry.

Although Booth was now a prominent Methodist, Methodism did not provide the opportunities he wanted for campaigning evangelism, so he became independent. In 1865 William and Catherine set up The Christian Revival Society in the East End. It was hard work and sometimes met physical violence, but in due course it became The Christian Mission and then in 1878 the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army adopted the military metaphor, with its flag, (Blood and Fire), music, military ranks and uniforms and William Booth as the General. Practical help for the poor was always a feature, from soup kitchens to campaigning for the match girls.

The early years were lean but the movement soon spread internationally, to 58 countries during Booth's lifetime. He also wrote songs and several books; it was

his 1890 publication of "In Darkest England and the Way Out" that set out the blueprint for the Army's social welfare approach.

The opposition

At first the Salvation Army faced a great deal of opposition, especially from those in the alcohol-selling industry, as the Salvation Army was fiercely teetotal. The Skeleton Army, related to the alcohol industry, opposed and disrupted The



Salvation Army Rally

Salvation Army's marches against alcohol. Clashes between the two groups led to the deaths of several Salvationists and many injuries. During 1882 alone 662 Salvation Army soldiers were assaulted. William was also accused of lack of financial transparency and nepotism. The Blood and Fire motto was attacked as meaning the blood of sinners and the fires of hell, instead of its true meaning of the blood of Christ and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The Church of England was also hostile to Booth and The Salvation Army, the philanthropist Lord Shaftesbury described Booth as the "Anti-Christ". One of the main complaints against Booth was his "elevation of women to man's status". His personal leadership style also produced discord within the Army's ranks.

Later life

Gradually opposition faded and General Booth became an establishment figure. He continued to preach and travel widely until 1910. When he died in 1912 his funeral, attended by Queen Mary, was held at Olympia with forty Salvation Army bands playing.

Catherine Booth (1829-1890) was born in 1829 in Derbyshire, in to a Methodist family. A serious and sensitive girl, she had a strong Christian upbringing, having read the Bible through 8 times before the age of 12, when the family moved to London. From an early age she was a vehement supporter of Temperance causes, but in 1850 was expelled from the Wesleyan Methodists

for refusing to condemn the Methodist Reformers. She then ran a girls' Sunday School class in Clapham, where she met William. They married 3 years later.

Her ministry

After the move to Brighouse Catherine was inspired by the American revivalist Phoebe Palmer to begin to preach herself. This was considered outrageous at the time. At first William was opposed to women preaching, but he was persuaded by her arguments. Subsequently the value of female ministry was proclaimed by The Salvation Army and a statement regarding sexual equality in ministry was published in The Salvation Army's Orders and Regulations. With William's encouragement she wrote a pamphlet "Female Ministry: Woman's Right to Preach the Gospel" in 1859.

Although her pregnancies came regularly she continued to preach, still maintaining the fight against alcohol. For a while she and William worked together as travelling evangelists, but Catherine soon came to be much in demand as a preacher in her own right.

In 1865 she joined William in setting up the Christian Mission, which became the Salvation Army. When William became a General, she was widely known as the Mother of the Army. Women as well as men flocked to join and many became officers. Married men were important, because their wives were expected to help to run the Army, but they did not have to undertake the Army training scheme so were not commissioned, nor did they appear on the lists. The Booths encouraged officers to marry, their social views were not so radical that the wife kept her pay- both salaries were paid to the husband.

Catherine was active in the development of the social welfare activities for which the Salvation Army is so famous, and also designed the flag and the women's bonnets.

Her ministry was cut short by her death from breast cancer aged 61.





Things you do on holiday but never at any other time

Lend your key to a neighbour and spend half an hour explaining the knack of locking the front door which entails pulling, turning, and pushing at the same time.

Worry about your hanging baskets and runner beans.

Worry about your cat.

Spend an hour looking for window lock keys which you have not seen since last year and why aren't they in THEIR SPECIAL PLACE?

Get up at 3am to drive to an airport.

Eat and sleep beside total strangers.

Climb on a bus without knowing quite where you are going, or where to get off.

Wear a swimming costume while shopping.

Miss having a proper cup of tea.

Buy postcards.

Eat chips with almost every meal.

Wonder if your cat is okay.

Have a pocketful of foreign coins which you try to spend on your last day.

Go to a quarry museum and try to convince yourself it is interesting as you never knew there was so much to know about slate and that it comes in so many colours of grey.

Get on another bus and hope it is headed back to your hotel, whose name now escapes you.

David Pickup

Jonah

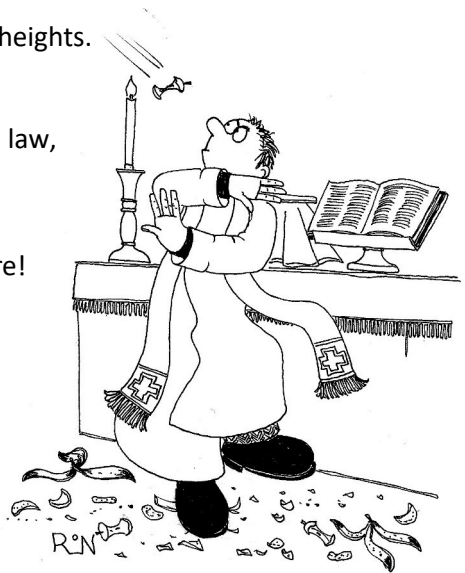
Now Jonah, one fine sunny day,
Was told by the Lord, "Nineveh!"
So he upped and got dressed
But turned and went west
When east was the Nineveh way!

Ignoring the Deity's wish
He boarded a boat for Tarshish
But up blew a storm
Till, wet and forlorn
Poor Jonah was gulped by a fish!

Three days and three rather yuk nights
He 'enjoyed' its internal delights
But though it was smelly
He prayed in that belly
And the Lord heard his prayer from the heights.

Dear friend, if you're broken and poor
And you're lost 'cos you fled from God's law,
Like Jonah, cry out
God will hear your shout
And will reach out and bring you to shore!

By Nigel Beeton



*Weeks after the Pet's Service, nobody
had claimed the monkey*

Some special Days to enjoy food that is not always so good for us, such as:

4 August: Chocolate Chip Cookie Day

11 August: Bakewell Tart Day

12 August: The Glorious Twelfth marks the start of the shooting season for red grouse and to a lesser extent the ptarmigan in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is one of the busiest days in the shooting season, with large numbers of game being shot.

17 August: Cupcake Day

18 August: Pinot Noir Day

19 August : Burger Day

29 August: Lemon Juice Day

The good news is that one delicious truly British treat is the Bakewell tart and we can all do homage to this on 11 August, yes, it is Bakewell Tart Day! The pudding was invented by Mrs Greaves, landlady of the White Horse Inn in Bakewell, around the late 18th or early 19th century. There are at least three shops in Bakewell claiming that they are selling tarts made from the original, and highly secret, recipe. So, if you are in the Peak District during the holidays, go to Bakewell and let me know which is the best!

The following week, on 17 August, there is some confusion about whether it is cupcake day or not. A Google search gives a wide choice of different days throughout the year, so just in case the 17th is the day, make sure you eat one. If it's not, don't worry, you will have enjoyed the cake anyway!

There's no confusion about the UK Burger Day being on 25 August or indeed, Lemon Juice Day on 29 August when as well as using lemon juice in whatever you are cooking you are encouraged to wash your hair (if you have any hair) in it

Smile Lines

As you enjoy your children during the holidays, remember ...

You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 telling them to sit down and be quiet.

Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young.

Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.

The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children even more awful than your own.

So far so good

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm going to need Your help. Amen



Everything is wonderful

My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty, the cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.
I think I might never put my glasses back on.

"Due to our failure to secure a holiday-relief organist, the next hymn will also be sung to the tune, *Chopsticks*."



Chew Valley Choral Society

[Calling all singers!](#)

Chew Valley Choral Society is keen to welcome new members

We have an exciting programme for our concert on 26 November, including Pergolesi's Magnificat, Haydn's St. Nicholas Mass, and Vaughan Williams' Three Elizabethan Partsongs.

We rehearse on Tuesdays, from 7.30 – 9.30pm, at Church Hall, Church Lane, Chew Stoke, BS40 8TX. We will be starting back on Tuesday 13 September and you are welcome to join us then.

Alternatively, on 20 September we have a **taster session**, which is a chance for those new to singing or those who haven't sung for a while to sing alongside regular members to see how they get on. The session is free of charge and all sheet music will be provided. The session will be led by our musical director, David Bednall, and we will also be joined at this session by voice coach, Angela Hickey. Some music-reading ability is an advantage but support will be given to those with less confidence including thirty-minute **booster sessions** with Caroline Lowe before our regular rehearsals.

You are welcome to turn up to our regular rehearsal on 13 September or to our taster session on 20 September - no need to register in advance, but to give us some idea of numbers it will be helpful if you let us know if you plan to attend and what voice you prefer to sing.

For more information about the choir and all these events, please visit our website: <http://www.chewvalleychoral.org.uk>

or

email: info@chewvalleychoral.org.uk

FARM DIARY

In the Field. The combine harvesters should have started everywhere in Somerset by now as certainly the winter sown barley and some oil seed rape were being harvested in the middle of July. The stems of the cereal crops are left in swaths by the combine and baled and hauled for animal bedding. The stems of non-cereal crops like beans or oil seed rape are often chopped and spread by the combine as the seeds are gathered. This returns organic matter to the soil when it is incorporated. The south-west of England has a large number of grazing livestock as the soil is often poor and is only suitable for grass. As a result a large amount of bedding is required and you may pass lorry loads of straw on the motorway coming into the area.

Sri Lanka. Reported by Matt Ridley in The Daily Telegraph of 15th July, the Sri Lankan president in April 2021 announced that its farmers were to go organic. He banned most pesticides and all synthetic (I.e. man-made) fertiliser. As a result, tea exports halved within months cutting foreign exchange earnings. Rice yields plummeted leading to an unprecedented requirement to import rice. Unable to service its debt the currency collapsed; a truly man-made disaster. There must be a lesson here. This writer has mentioned before that man-made fertiliser, in particular ammonium nitrate, is a way of “buying” expensive acres of land. One can produce a lot more of any crop if this fertilizer is used. With the world’s population growing more food is always required and using fertilizer enables this without cultivating new and often unsuitable areas of land. There are three macro elements that crops require; nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Ammonium nitrate has nitrogen in both parts of the molecule.

Butterflies. The annual big butterfly count to help scientists understand how environmental changes are affecting insects lasts until August 7th. Take part by visiting bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org

Richard Graham

So let me get this straight. I go to to the grocery store and buy 300g of sliced ham wrapped in plastic, a loaf of bread in a plastic bag, a litre of milk in a plastic jug, a pack of napkins wrapped in plastic, a Greek salad in a plastic container, a plastic bottle of mustard and a plastic bottle of ketchup, and they won't give me a plastic bag to carry it home because the plastic bag is bad for the environment?!

Parish Register & Diary for Aug/Sept

BAPTISMS

Date	Name	Church
5 th June	Ava Ann Blackmore Delilah Beau Blackmore	St Margaret's
12 th June	Kylo Shay Theo Lane	St John's
3 rd July	Nia Rose Bryan Esther Lydia Watkins	St John's
3 rd July	Lucas Vile	St Francis

WEDDINGS

Date	Name	Church
9 th July	Paul Maggs & Leonora Mullen	St John's
23 rd July	Paul Richards & Victoria Barry	St John's
30 th July	Lewis Amos & Holly Monks	St John's
30 th July	Richard Yeo & Ella Gregory	St John's

DEATHS

Date of Death	Name	Age
29 th June 2022	David Harvey	83
2 nd July 2022	Judith Ogg	77

DIARY

August

Date	Time	Activity / Event	Venue
3 rd	7.30pm	Mother's Union	Parish Hall
14 th	6pm	Impact Club for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
14 th	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
14 th	6pm	Choral Evensong	St John's
17 th	10.30am	Holiday at Home	Parish Hall
17 th	7.45pm	Wives Group	Parish Hall

18 th	10.30am	Holiday at Home	Parish Hall
19 th	1pm	NHS Blood Transfusion Service	Parish Hall
20 th	9.30am	Who Let The Dads Out	Parish Hall
20 th	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
26 th	1pm	Trio Paradis Lunchtime Concert	St John's
27 th	9am	Who Let The Dads Out	St Francis Hall
28 th	12pm	Church Meal	Parish Hall
28 th	6pm	Impact Club for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
28 th	6pm	Youth Group	OCT

September

Date	Time	Activity / Event	Venue
3 rd	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
6 th	7pm	PCC Meeting	St John's
7 th	7.30pm	Mother's Union	Parish Hall
9 th	1pm	NHS Blood Transfusion Service	Parish Hall
11 th	6pm	Impact Club for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
11 th	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
11 th	6pm	Choral Evensong	St John's
12 th	7pm	CTKS Council Meeting	Upper Room
13 th	7.30pm	St John's DCC Standing Committee	St John's
17 th	9.30am	Who Let The Dads Out	Parish Hall
17 th	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
19 th	7.30pm	St Michael's DCC Meeting	St Michael's
20 th	2pm	Friends of St John's Committee	St John's
21 st	7.45pm	Wives Group	Parish Hall
24 th	9am	Who Let The Dads Out	St Francis
25 th	12pm	Church Meal	Parish Hall
25 th	6pm	Impact Club for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
25 th	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
30 th	1pm	NHS Blood Transfusion Service	Parish Hall



St John's Fete

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