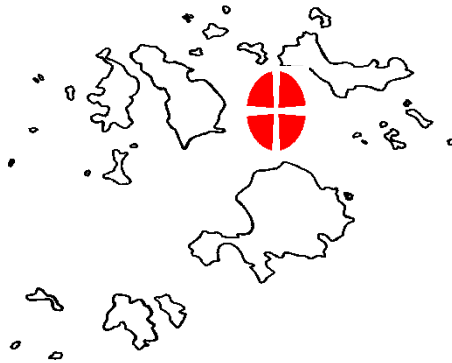


Isles of Scilly



In Touch



**Methodist Church Circuit
December 2013/January 2014**

Chairman of the District

Revd. Steven Wild M.A.

Minister

Revd. Charles R. Gibbs

Local Preachers

Barbara Hasler Len Michell
Neil Didlick Gordon Bird
Christopher Savill

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Christine Savill 423563
Mr Mervyn Bird 423117
Mr Len Michell 422409
Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Circuit Treasurer Mr Christopher Savill 423563

Circuit Meeting Secretary Mrs Rose Didlick

Church Stewards St. Mary's

Mr Philip Lethbridge Mrs Claire Jenkins
Mrs June Lethbridge Mrs Sue Williams
Mrs Beryl Read

St. Martin's Mr Derek Perkins

St. Mary's Treasurer Mrs Sue Williams (422605)

Church Council Secretary Mrs Beryl Read

Property Secretary Mrs Mary Ratcliffe

Organist Mr Len Michell 422409

St. Martin's

Church Council Secretary Mrs Jackie Perkins

Church Treasurer Mr Alan Terry

Organist Mr Rodney Ashford 423109

Connexional Link Person Beryl Read 422977

Gift Aid Secretary Mrs Stephanie Bird (423117)

Some thoughts from the St. Mary's Manse

Somehow, in a rather unique sort of way the 'depths of winter' are very special on these remote and beautiful islands. The weather and the seas can at times be quite challenging, but this is more than made up for by our mild winter climate; all very different to my nine years up in Norfolk where the icy winds from the North Sea would often bring first frost and then snow sometimes causing Church meetings to be cancelled and heating bills for the chapels that are very different to our experience here on Scilly.

This year we have had a good summer on the islands, and in particular during the autumn months we were able to welcome many regular visitors from the mainland to our Sunday worship here on St Mary's and on St Martin's.

During the months of December and January we have a lot to look forward to in the life of our Methodist Church on the Islands. It is hoped that our fellowship meetings will be in place on St Martin's, and our Friday evening meetings for Bible Study and fellowship on St Mary's have a full programme in place for the winter months with a short break for our Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Advent Sunday this year falls on the 1st December. On that day on St Martin's, at 11 am I will be leading our Advent worship with our wonderful Advent hymns and a challenge for us all to be prepared for the Gospel promise of the coming of God's Kingdom. On this same Sunday on St Mary's we will be worshipping with our Children's Church at 10 am, and Neil Didlick will be leading our Advent Worship at 11 am. Also on Advent Sunday on St Mary's there is to be a Carol Service at the Parish Church at 6 pm led by Canon Paul Miller to which we have all been invited.

One of the great things about winter life on the islands is how we approach Christmas. The Christmas lights are switched on the Saturday before Christmas at a special gathering in the

Park, which is put together by Maggie Perkovich. On the Sunday before Christmas the St Mary's Carol Service with our Walking Nativity will take place at 6 pm.

This year as usual I will be leading this worship with our much loved Christmas readings read by members and friends in our community, the band of local musicians with Len Mitchell on the organ providing the music, an item sung by the choir, and with Canon Paul Miller preaching and leading our prayers. Last year all of this was added to with many coming to the Advent Lanterns which was the result of our Sunday afternoon workshops led by Neil and Rose Didlick. We hope to do something special this year too.

Also on the Sunday before Christmas at 2 pm on St Martin's we will be having our Christmas Carol Service which is usually arranged by Heather Terry with the children from the Island giving the readings, and our much loved Christmas Carols. On Christmas Eve there will be a service of Carols and Holy Communion which will start at 11:30 pm so that we can be in Chapel at the midnight hour together.

Soon after all this, on the first Sunday in January, we will be joined by our friends from the Anglican Church, both on St Mary's and on St Martin's for our annual Covenant Service. This year Canon Miller will preach at both services. In this important act of worship we are reminded again of God's promises to us, and we will be examining ourselves to see how we have lived our lives in the light of these promises.

It would seem to me that this annual Covenant Service brings into focus just how committed we may or may not be in living our daily lives in the light of God's promise that one day His Kingdom will surely come. The words that we will be saying are not the words that we can say lightly: they call us to repent and to be ready to receive God's promises, and they call each of us to a deeper commitment to taking up our cross and following the ways of His Kingdom.

I would urge each of you to read through the words of the Covenant Service before we meet for worship on January 5th. If you would like a copy of the words and responses please ask me; if anyone would like to speak with me on this important

subject I will gladly see you at a time to suit you.

The season of Advent is in many ways an absolutely crucial season in our church calendar. The church year starts on the first Sunday in Advent. The Common Lectionary always starts on the first Sunday of Advent and this sets out the appointed Bible readings to be used for our Sunday worship for the year ahead. 'The Revised Common Lectionary' came into use after an ecumenical consultation known as 'Consultation on Common Texts' and was agreed in 1992. This means that the appointed readings in both the Methodist Church and the Anglican Church are the same. Other denominations make use of the Lectionary.

In the Methodist Worship Book (which sets out the form of worship authorized by the Methodist Conference) the prayer set for the season of Advent reads *'Almighty God, give us the grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the amour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came in great humility: that on the last day, when he shall come again In His Glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead we may rise to the life immortal!'*

The Bible from beginning to end speaks about the Sovereignty of God' and of His promised judgment upon the things of this world. Many of the parables told by Jesus to the people of his day have this as their theme, and they were told so that those who heard His words would be ready for this day of judgement and the day when the rule of God's sovereign will be seen by all. At our Autumn Harvest Thanksgiving services we always love to sing 'Come Ye Thankful People Come'. In verse three of this well known hymn we sing *'For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his Harvest home; From His field shall in the day all offences purge away. Give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast, But the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore!'* (H&P 355).

Yes the theme of God's judgement is a theme that is crucial in our understanding of the Gospel and during the season of Advent we are each called to examine our lives, repent of our failings and mistakes, and to seek new direction that we will be

ready for the coming of Jesus at the end of this age.
This year in our Common Lectionary the Gospel Reading set for the day is from the 24th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel where we read '*Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come*'(v 42)

Yes at this season of Advent we are reminded of our call to be like 'Good Servants' awaiting our master's return. It is the time of year to check that we have truly believed in the great promises of God which have been given to us in The Lord Jesus, and it is a time when we are reminded of the hope that lies at the very heart of our precious Christian Faith , that at the appointed time He will return in judgement that wrongs of this world will be put right , and that those who truly know Him as Lord will see the glories of His promised kingdom!

Charles Wesley writes of this Advent hope in his hymn' *Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free. From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee!*'

May our worship during this season of Advent make us ready for the only real hope for this world in which we live. And when we get to Christmas may we celebrate how in Jesus our Sovereign Lord has shared all that makes us human , and by His grace offered to us the hope of Life Eternal , that at the coming of His kingdom we will indeed' Be Safely Gathered In'

May He who was born to deliver us from sin to life eternal bring us hope today. May we know the child born in the stable as our master and king. May He be seen to be the one who truly reigns in us forever, and may His rule and the ways and values of His Kingdom be seen in our lives and be proclaimed in the life of our Methodist Church here on these beautiful islands.

Both Mary and I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas, and we pray that in the year to come we will always seek to live lives that are pleasing to God, that at the coming of His Kingdom we will know His promised blessings!

I remain, by the grace of our Lord, the Methodist minister on these islands for a while!

Charlie Gibbs

News from St.Martins

Rough seas have understandably caused the cancellation of two services so far this Autumn, and we are aware of the disruption to our mainland transport links during the very strong winds. All the air and sea crews who serve Scilly deserve a word of thanks for keeping goods and people moving, as long as it's safe to do so.

Some of our members have safely returned from their holidays, whilst others are hopefully still enjoying their breaks. We trust that Chris and Chris will return feeling rested and refreshed, as they have had some anxious and demanding times in recent months. Firstly, Brenda their sister in law suddenly and unexpectedly became extremely ill, and then Christopher's elderly mother died. Brenda, who worships with us when on holiday, is now recovering and her family and friends give thanks for that.

Since last writing for In Touch, Will and Morag Hensleigh have had a baby daughter. Amelia is a third grandchild for Chris Hensleigh and another niece for Jackie Perkins. Congratulations to them, and to the parents of Marcus and Cooper, two little boys who were born very close together in early October. Not since 1953 has St. Martins been blessed with so many births; four so far this year and another baby due very soon.

Our congregation on St. Martins were glad that David Pender and Isabella chose to worship with us on the Sunday after their wedding. It was good to welcome them and several friends, and share the joy of the occasion. Towards the end of the service, Charlie blessed their marriage and David and Isabella expressed words of thanks. During the tea and cake which followed, Chris Hensleigh presented a small gift and individually we were able to speak with

David, Isabella and their guests. All the Chapel folk on St. Martins wish them every blessing in their future life together.

The united Remembrance Service was conducted by Rev. C. Gibbs, with Rev. P. Prince giving the address. She underpinned her message from the Beatitudes with an uplifting true story, about a young widow and mother who lost her husband in the Afghan conflict. During the annual time of Remembrance Kirianne likes to see people wearing poppies, because she takes comfort from the fact that others are remembering with her and respecting all who have suffered as a result of war. Following the service in Chapel the congregation moved to the War memorial outside the Anglican Church. Carl Bray, a coastguard, laid the wreath and the Roll of Honour was read. After the prayers and blessing, refreshments were available for those who could stay.

Soon Neil, Rose and Lily Didlick will be leaving us to live in Cornwall. They will be sorely missed within the Methodist Circuit here. So from St. Martins, thank you Neil for coming across to lead worship and for the obvious effort you put into preparation and engaging delivery. Rose has visited with Neil and played with the band on various occasions like Easter Monday and Circuit Services. She was part of the Youth Fellowship group who camped in St. Martins School in the 1980's, under the guidance of Gordon, Fiona and Rev Colin Allen. Thank you for your support too, Rose. We wish you all well and will think of you in our prayers.

As these will be the last St. Martins notes before Christmas, I conclude by sending seasonal greetings to our friends on St. Mary's and those further afield who receive In Touch. As we recall the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem may we know the strength that he offers at all times in our lives.

Heather Terry

Dear Friends,

It now seems likely that I shall still be in Bonnie Scotland at Christmas and so I send you my love and best wishes to you all as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Last year I asked the question if by Christmas we would have drawn others to know the babe as their Saviour and friend. I pray that we will all have grown in grace and faith since last year. I have recently experienced the "peace beyond understanding." It came about after a stressful time, Beryl having being taken into hospital the previous day. It is a story being told now to bring the remembrance that we are never alone and will be shared when I eventually return. I am pleased to say Beryl is now home again and all is well and all shall be well

May God continue to bless us all

Mary



Christmas Greetings

Patti and Andy would like to wish everyone in Chapel our best wishes for a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and Wonderful New year.

We are not sending Christmas cards this year but we are making a donation to Chapel funds. Where ever we may be this Christmas we will be holding you all in our hearts and thoughts.

Patti and Andy

Many thanks

Our thanks go to Patti and Andy Brooks and to Maria who decorated the Chapel so beautifully for Bella and David's wedding.

Please also see the following article from David and Isobella

A message from David and Isobella

Isobella and David Pender would like to thank everyone who made our wedding day so special on Saturday 5th October 2013. It was a wonderful day and one that could have never been so special without your participation. The Chapel looked stunning and we know took several hours to prepare. Your love and kindness touched our hearts deeply. The musical quality of our wedding service was truly a blessing by such talented musicians, with Len playing the organ and Mervyn providing the wonderful trumpet voluntary fanfare along with great vocals from Vicki and Rose. The service, conducted by our dearest friend Rev Charles R Gibbs, was a moment in our life that we will cherish forever. We both give heartfelt thanks for the way God has moulded David's new life under the guidance of Charlie . Merryn, you excelled in your love of photography and far exceeded our expectations and Neil you were a great best man with wonderful humour. Heartfelt thanks go to Phil and Anthea who gave so freely when it came to providing accommodation in the wonderful Blue Carn for visited guests, and we thank you for the wonderful photos and donations from friends that we received and all of you who attended. It was a day in history, and you were there because you love us; that wonderful love that only Christ can provide is truly reciprocated. David is now assigned to work with the homeless this winter, and will start street pastor training in March 2014. He continues his training in faith and worship, having completed his first bible reading in Westminster on Sunday November 17th. May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless all of you. With love

Bella and Dave

We all wish David and Bella a very joyful Christmas.

News of an 'Old Boy'

Sylvia and I were very pleased to travel to the Derby area to be present at the Institution and Induction of our son, The Rev. Philip Leonard Michell at Hulland Ward Parish Church on Tuesday 8th October. Phil had been curate for the past three years at a neighbouring group of five parishes centred at Brailsford, and is now Rector of another five rural parishes between Ashbourne and Derby

All the churches are small, with the one at Hulland Ward being the largest with seating for about 100 plus a few more in the gallery at the back where the pipe organ is. With extra chairs crammed in wherever possible, and some people standing in the gallery, there must have been over 150 present for a tremendously uplifting service. The bishop of Derby (Rt. Rev. Dr. Alastair Redfern) and archdeacon of Derby (the Venerable Dr. Christopher Cunliffe) officiated with other diocesan officials assisting and various representatives of other churches and organisations (including the Methodist Superintendent Minister of the Ashbourne Circuit) welcoming Phil during the service. I was privileged to be asked to read a lesson, and it was a proud moment for us to see our son take his position in the rector's stall for his first incumbency

One thing which struck us most memorably was the excitement and warmth of the people present. There had been a break of nearly 2 years without a rector, and this, together with local knowledge of Phil's service as curate in the neighbouring parishes made for a genuine response from his new 'flock' which said well and truly 'WELCOME'. At one stage in the service there was applause with a cheer or two thrown in – could this really be an Anglican church!! We know that those who will remember Phil and his sisters in Sunday School and chapel here in St. Mary's, will give thanks to God for his continuing Christian witness and will say a prayer for him, his wife Rachel and their two little girls Rosie and Ellie, as they start a new phase in their lives.

Len Michell

Whom Shall I send?

The end of time had come. Billions of people were assembled before the great judgement throne of God. Several groups could be seen and heard near the front protesting. There was no shame in them, but belligerence and arrogance. They demanded an answer. An attractive Jewish woman demanded 'How can God judge me? How can he know about suffering?' With this said she jerked back her sleeve to reveal a tattooed number from a German concentration camp.

A black man lowered his collar' What about this?' he asked, showing ugly rope burns.' Lynched for no crime but because I am black!. My fellow brother suffered in slave ships, torn from loved ones, worked until only death brought rest' All across the throne, were thousands of such groups and individuals. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and suffering he has allowed in His World.' How fortunate to live in Heaven where everything was good and bright, where there was no weeping, no fear, no hunger, no hatred' The consensus seemed to be 'Indeed , what did God know about what men had been forced to endure in the past world? After all God led a very soft life.'

Each group decided to send out a leader, chosen because of his suffering the most. There was a Jew, a black, and untouchable cancer eaten victim from India, an illegitimate raised in an orphanage, a man and a woman from Hiroshima and a man from a Siberian slave camp. In the centre of the throng they discussed the matter and came up with a simple statement for God. Before God would be qualified to be their judge he must endure what they endured, thus they sentenced God to live on earth as a man. Since he was God, they set certain safeguards to be sure he couldn't use his divine powers to help himself. Let him be born a Jew, let the legitimacy of his birth be doubted, so that none would know who his father was. Let him champion a cause so just, but so radical that it brings

down on him the hate, condemnation and rebuke of every major established religious authority. Let him try to communicate God to man. Let him be betrayed by his closest friends. Let him be indicted on false charges, tried before a prejudiced jury and convicted by a cowardly judge. Let him know what it feels like to be abandoned by every living thing. Let him be tortured and let him die! Let him die the most humiliating death of a criminal.

As each representative proclaimed his portion of the sentence, loud firm murmurs of approval were heard from the massive throng of people. Finally, the last person read the final word of the sentence. There was a great silence. God was silent, and no-one uttered a word. No-one even moved. For suddenly all knew God had served HIS sentence. He understood.

'For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched without infirmities but was in all points tempted like we were, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need (Heb 4:15 &16)

'For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground: He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him. He was despised and we esteemed him not, surely he hath born our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we were healed' (Isaiah 53:2-5)

Author unknown – adapted by Paul J Hearley)

submitted by Trevor Adams

A bit of History

We all appreciate the beauty of the Nativity stained glass window at the back of St. Mary's Church, but perhaps not everyone is aware of its history.

For many years the artist Nan Heath was a member of St Mary's Methodist Church. She came to live on St Mary's when she married Frank Smith of Glandore and continued to paint here. There are some lovely paintings of hers around the islands and her work is still displayed in Glandore Gallery.

In the late 1980's, Nan was asked to create a Christmas decoration for the Chapel. She created a stained glass window from black paper and coloured acetate. This exactly fitted the rear window. For many years it was displayed as part of the Chapel's Christmas decorations. The original still exists, albeit it very faded, kept safely by Steve and Lois Morris at Glandore Gallery.

After Nan's death in 1995, it was suggested to Frank that he have it made into a stained glass window, and he duly commissioned Oriel Hicks to create this, as a memorial to Nan. The story doesn't however finish there.

Rev Brian Mavers subsequently asked Frank if he could create a Christmas card using the image, and asked Frank how many he thought they would need. Frank suggested 3000, to which Brian was a little taken aback. These were made with a black border to replicate the stained glass window effect. The ladies of the Chapel got together to package them.

All of the first run were sold. Since then Oriel has produced later copies, this time with a white border. The money raised went towards Chapel funds.

Val Parker

Do it anyway!

**Let every detail in your lives – words, actions, whatever –
be done in the name of the master Jesus
Col 3:17**

When Bishop Able Muzore was asked to lead the African National Council, he prayed as he had never prayed before. Most of his predecessors had been killed or imprisoned, so he struggled with this decision, until a friend handed him these life changing words.

'People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centred - love them anyway! If you do good, they'll accuse you of selfishness or ulterior motives - do good anyway! When you succeed, your friends may be false and your enemies will be real- succeed anyway! The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow- do good anyway! Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable – be honest and frank anyway! The biggest people with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest people with the smallest minds - think big anyway! People favour underdogs but only follow top dogs – fight for the underdog anyway! What you spend years building up may be destroyed overnight- build anyway! Give the old the best you've got, and the chances are you'll be despised – give your best anyway!

You say 'How is such a lifestyle possible?' Listen,' Let every detail of your lives- words, actions, whatever – be done in the name of the Master Jesus, thanking God ...every step of the way' **(Col 3:17)**

Now that's the way to live!

Submitted by Trevor Adams

Editor's note: Maybe this would make a good New Year's Resolution

Uganda Child development Fund

Gwen has received the following letter from Kate Rees of UCDF thanking us for the teddies that members of the Church have knitted. She also received some photographs which Gwen will display in the Hall

Dear Gwen and friends,

Thank you all so very much for the latest box of teddies. They are very colourful, new, hand- made and are of such a lovely quality.

In fact, whilst we were handing out the last lot you sent, just before my last visit to Uganda, I noticed a little girl who already had one. This was because she had treasured a teddy sent by you and your friends which she received a long time ago. It was obviously a great treasure to her because it had been kept clean and safe in a plastic bag. Probably these are the only toys the children receive.

Every Blessing and
much love from

Kate

If you are interested in knitting some teddies for this cause, please see Gwen for the pattern.

Gwen Clarkson

Christmas box appeal

Every year the school takes part in the Christmas box appeal. This year the Chapel and their members donated 5 boxes to this. A total of 56 have been sent from the school, so far at the point of going to press but more were coming in.



Make Music to the Lord

When I read a leaflet about a multi-choice workshop in Truro Cathedral, it seemed too good an opportunity to miss. So, I duly booked B&B s in Penzance and Truro and set off for the day, held on Saturday 12th 2013.

On arriving at the Cathedral we signed in and then enjoyed a cup of coffee. There were about 200 participants from various parts of Cornwall, some involved and some not involved with any church. The application form covered several different workshops commencing at 10:30, starting with 'The Gathering' led by the Dean, Roger Bush. We then made our way to various venues, in the Cathedral and nearby Methodist Church.

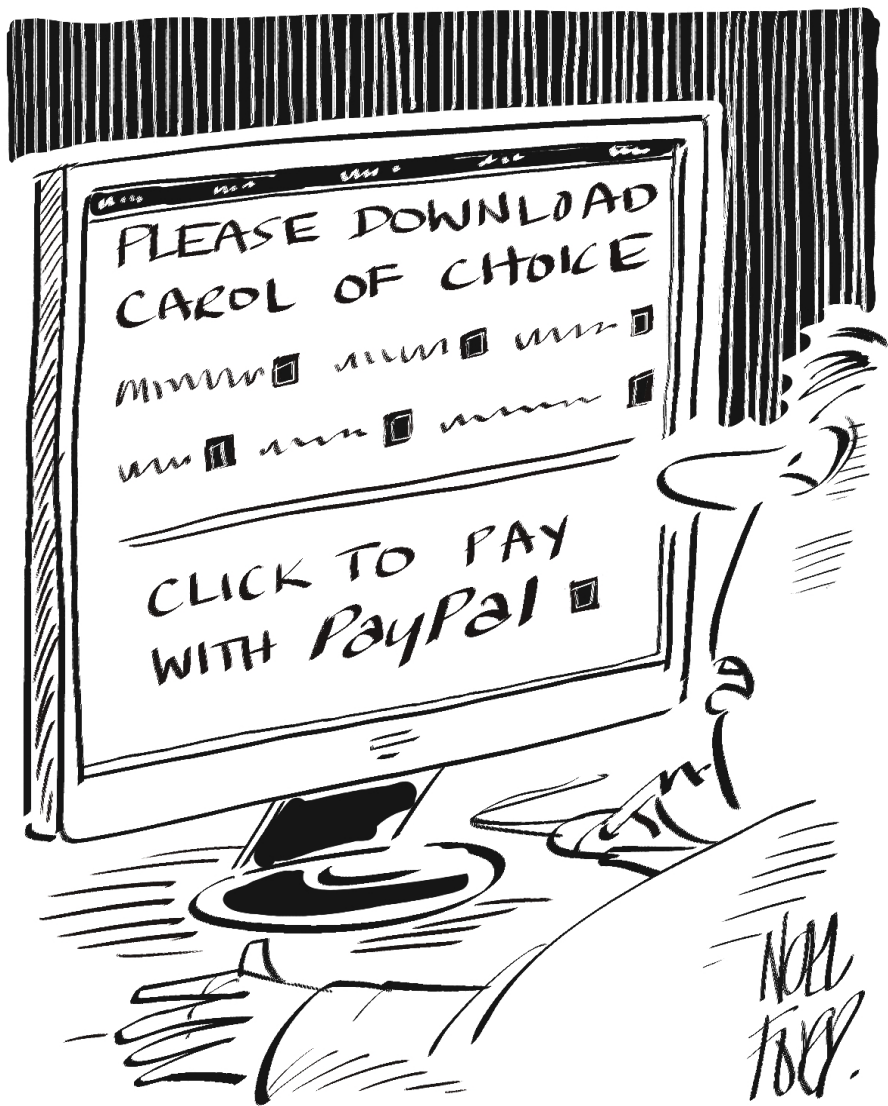
My first workshop was with Geraldine Latty, a former teacher, who now runs the Gospel Choirs and is a part-time lecturer at the London School of Theology. She gave a potted history telling us about Gospel Singing and how it really began from the slave trade. She involved us in warming up, vocal exercises and breathing, interspersed with choruses. She was extremely enthusiastic and encouraging.

'Let the People Sing' was led by Andrew Maries, a trained musician, one time conductor of Songs of Praise, now consultant for Liturgy and Music for the Exeter Diocese. He presented ideas about style and variety of music for churches, with singing basics, posture and breathing exercises. He took us through simple songs in parts, and ways to communicate the music. Being and feeling relaxed is helpful. After these sessions it was time for lunch, previously booked. I enjoyed prawn salad, roll and butter followed by coffee and a brownie.

After lunch I attended the 'Sweet Singing Workshop' held in the crypt led by Christopher Gray, Director and Organist in the Cathedral. As Director of the Cathedral Choir he has extensive experience working with singers of all ages and abilities. Some people may be reticent about how well they can sing, but to be involved with a group is very rewarding.

I was so pleased to have the opportunity to participate in these workshops and altogether it was an inspiring day.

Mary Leathers



We've got online carol-singers again!

Birthday Greetings for December go to Margaret Crane, Louis Asten, Keith Grossett, Pauline Jackson Cocking, Margaret Jones Mr S Ottery, Gladys Perkins, Merryn Smith and Josh Smith.

We also wish a Happy Birthday to those

with **January Birthdays** – Gordon Bird, Stephanie Bird, John Goody, Martin Parker, Anthea Roberts, Margaret Smith, Tony Thomas, William Thomas, Nathan Thomas and Liz Turner.



To make you smile

'Next week' said the rector, 'I will deliver a sermon on the sin of lying. To help you understand what I'm talking about, I want you all to read Mark, Chapter 17'

The following Sunday, the rector went to the pulpit and asked how many parishioners had read Mark Chapter 17. At this, every hand in the congregation went up.' Mark only has 16 chapters.' said the minister with a sly grin. 'Now I'll proceed with the sermon on lying'

Submitted by Trevor Adams

Editorial Team

Anne Gurr	e.anne.gurr@gmail.com
Mary Ratcliffe	maryratcliffe@live.com
Val Parker	martinandval.parker@virgin.net

Any contributions will be gratefully received. *The magazine uses material from the Parish Pump, a resource for editors to which we subscribe.*

Diary Dates

December 1st : Advent Service in Parish Church

December 13th : **10 am** decorating Chapel for Christmas.
Everyone is welcome to come along and lend a hand to decorate the tree and the Church for Christmas

December 18th : Community concert in Church

December 22nd : Candlelight Carol service and walking
Nativity

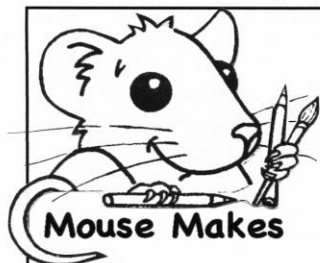
January 5th : Covenant Service

Hymn Invitation

At a recent stewards' meeting, it was suggested that as our congregation consists of so many of our number coming from different denominations, it would be a good idea that occasionally he/she should share his/her own choice of hymns with the rest of us.

It was realised that many of our hymns are sung to different tunes and we all have our favourites. If the tune or hymn isn't in our hymn books, it probably can be easily found. The Rev. Gibbs is happy to go along with this idea and the local preachers are invited to participate if they so desire. It could be a hymn that the rest of the congregation doesn't know but 'who knows'? It could become a favourite. Rev Gibbs would need a week or two's warning, so here is your chance — get thinking!

The Stewards



Mouse Makes

- Make this crib box to hang from the Christmas tree.
- Glue onto thin card then carefully cut around the outside. Fold back the sides along the dotted lines.

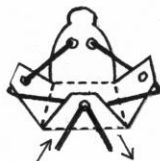
A SAVIOUR HAS BEEN BORN!
 "Good news! - **wonderful, joyous**
 news for **all** people.
 A Saviour has been born.
 He is **Christ the Lord.**"



"Glory
 to God
 in the
 heavenly
 heights,
Peace
 to all
 men and
 women
 on earth
 who please
 him."

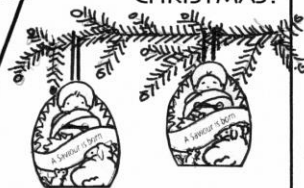
Read about the
 birth of Jesus
 in Luke
 chapters 1 and 2

- Punch out the ⊗ holes then cut 30cm of thin ribbon and thread through the holes.



- Pull together and knot to form a box. Hide small sweets inside.

HAPPY
 CHRISTMAS!



- Photocopy this page onto card to make lots of crib boxes.



JANUARY SERVICES

St. Mary's

5th	10:00	Children's Church
	11:00	Covenant Service Revd. Charlie Gibbs/ Canon Paul Miller Sacrament of Holy Communion
12th	9:15	Leader: Neil Didlick Preacher: Len Michell
	11:00	Revd. Charlie Gibbs
	18:00	Revd. Charlie Gibbs
19th	10:30	Len Michell Gordon Bird
	18:00	Barbara Hasler
26th	9:15	Leader: Beryl Read Preacher: Revd. Charlie Gibbs
	11:00	Mary Ratcliffe
	18:00	Len Mitchell

St. Martin's

5th	14:00	Covenant Service Revd. Charlie Gibbs Canon Paul Miller Sacrament of Holy Communion
12th	11:00	Barbara Hasler
19th	11:00	Revd. Charlie Gibbs
26rd	14:00	Revd. Charlie Gibbs

Park House

5th	4pm	Beryl Read
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PRAYER CHAIN

In the first instance please contact me, Mary Ratcliffe 423030 or Revd. Charles Gibbs 422406. I will then pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

Mervyn & Stephanie Bird	423117
Sue Williams	422605
Merryn & Vicki Smith	423360

Claire Jenkins	423546
Neil & Rose Didlick	422838
Margaret Snowball	422896
Gordon Bird	422550
Sonia Crompton	422854

Barbara Hasler	422208
Margaret Crane	422596
Len & Sylvia Michell	422409
Pamela Thomas	423115
June Lethbridge	422404

Beryl Read	422977
Gwen Clarkson	423106

For the Prayer Chain to be effective it is essential that requests are forwarded to the person in the column beneath your name, if that person is not available please ring the next person on the list.

December Notices

St. Mary's

1 st	10:00 Children's Church 11:00 Neil Didlick 18:00 Advent service in Parish Church
Park House 8 th	16:00 Mary Ratcliffe 09:15 Revd Charles Gibbs/ Beryl Read 11:00 Revd Charles Gibbs 20:00 Gordon Bird
15 th	9:15 Gordon Bird Barbara Hasler 11:00 Mary Ratcliffe 20:00 Revd Charles Gibbs Advent Hymns
22 nd	09:15 Neil Didlick/ Beryl Read 11:00 Revd Charles Gibbs 18:00 Walking Nativity Candle light Carol service
29 th	9.15 Mervyn Bird/ Len Michell 11.00 Revd Charles Gibbs 20:00 Mary Ratcliffe

St. Martin's

1 st	11:00 Revd Charles Gibbs –Advent service
8 th	11:00 Neil Didlick
15 th	11:00 Revd Charles Gibbs Communion
22 nd	14:00 Christmas Carol Service Heather Terry/ Revd Charles Gibbs
29 th	11:00 Chris Savill