

The Vicar Writes...

Dear Friends

This month we share together our Remembrance Day Service. We come together young and old, believer and unbeliever, to give thanks for those who sacrificed their lives in the two World Wars and in many conflicts since. We are constantly reminded of the horrors of war every week on our TV screens, and of man's incredible ability to cause suffering and heartbreak. It shows us that the evil and tragedy of war can happen again, even here! That man's greed and self-edification continues.

For the old it is a realisation that it could all happen again. What this day does is show us that no man is an island, and when one part of the human family is in distress, we close our eyes to their needs at our peril. One of the dangers that is paramount today is the misunderstanding of what freedom means, it does not mean that we can do exactly what we please; freedom must always mean restraint of some sort; my freedom must not lessen the quality of somebody else's life. In short, it demands above all else, unselfishness. We are called to recognise each others individuality: that everybody is different, is unique. God in His wisdom did not make us alike. Each of us has an indispensable part to play in the universe, a right to be here, a right to our opinion. We underestimate the power each one of us possesses for good or evil. The real war starts within. The choice is ours every day and many times a day either to add to the aggression in the world, or to be a peacemaker.

Let us this month and every month be a peacemaker. Be an example to others of God's reconciling love to the world.

'Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God'.

With all good wishes

Andrew



SERVICE OF ALL SOULS

On *Sunday 3rd November at 6.00 pm* we will be holding our annual All Souls Service at which candles will be lit by those who wish to remember a loved one. We will be writing to families of the recently bereaved to invite them especially, but this service is, of course, open to anyone who would like to come.

There will be lists at the back of church if you wish to add the name of a loved one to be remembered.

ADVENT GROUPS

The Advent Groups will start on Wednesday 4th December at 2.00 pm in the hall and will then meet on Wednesday 11th and Wednesday 18th November.

Three Cycle the Tarrant Valley Graham Nina Tom

We set off on a fresh sunny morning to cycle the churches of the Chase Benefice in the Tarrant Valley, a beautiful setting with fine views across rolling hills, the route lined with chocolate box thatched cottages. Cycling gives you the opportunity to admire the gardens resplendent with dahlias and Michaelmas daisies at this time of year. The River Tarrant, although dry at present which frequently happens during the summer months, is one of those 'little rivers' which give the English countryside so much of its charm. The Tarrant is only eight miles long but flows into the Stour, Dorset's longest river, and gives its name to the eight villages of the Tarrant Valley.

Our starting point was Tarrant Keyneston where the lady on duty welcomed us, her first visitors of the day. The church was built anew in 1853 with the exception of the tower which is 15th century. The tower holds five bells still in use, one dating from 1400. The churchyard contains the handsome tomb of the Bastard family, the famous architects who were responsible for many fine houses in the area plus the parish church and town hall in Blandford Forum.



The next church Tarrant Crawford just west of Tarrant Keyneston is located near the site of an important Cistercian Abbey. Down a track and out of site of the road, it is worth a visit for its fourteenth century mural painting in the nave depicting the story of St Margaret and the Three Living and Three Dead. On each side of the altar are monumental slabs which are actually coffin lids once in the Abbey graveyard which are all that are left of the tombs of Queen Joan of Scotland, its lay abbess and daughter of King

John and Bishop Richard Poore who built Salisbury Cathedral.

Retracing our tracks now along a field pathway to the main Blandford/Wimborne road we head north up the valley to Tarrant Rushton, where we find three welcoming ladies sitting outside in the sunshine with our first slice of apple cake of the day. This twelfth century church is built in the form of a cross, with a Norman tower. It was carefully restored in in the 1870s and again in 1963. Among the interesting features are two round earthenware pots built into the eastern face of the chancel arch to improve the acoustics. There is also a leper squint and curious scratch marks on the outside window surround, apparently made by lepers from the nearby leper hospital of St Leonards whilst observing the service.

On now to St Mary's, Tarrant Rawston the smallest of the eight churches, and hidden from the Tarrant Valley road by farm buildings where there is a butchery and farm shop. The church is unique in that it is privately owned. Regular services ceased in 1940 and it was declared redundant in the early 70s due to a declining population, and in 1973 it was sold to John Cossins, owner of Rawston Manor Farm. The church dates back to the fourteenth century. There is a seventeenth century oak pulpit and either side of the chancel window are two boards with the Ten Commandments in elegant painted lettering by 'G Stevens of Blandford 1836'.

A longer stretch now to Tarrant Monkton, probably best known for the Langton Arms pub, next to the church. The tower here dates from the 1200 but the rest of the church has been rebuilt several times and has recently received funding for roof repairs from DHCT. The tower holds a peal of three bells all cast in the seventeenth century. There is a Norman font, a finely carved eighteenth century pulpit and

an impressive east window of 1948 which depicts our Lord flanked by St George and Bishop Richard Poore. Merged in with this parish, is that of St Mary, Tarrant Launceston, which lost its church in the 1700s.

Cycling on, we cross the A354 Salisbury/Blandford road to Tarrant Hinton, noticing that the dried up Tarrant has been cleared of the summer growth in readiness for winter rains. The church here on a slope is another hidden gem of the thirteenth



century. There is a remarkable Easter sepulchre on the north of the chancel, with its delicate Renaissance detail. The Norman font and the Art Nouveau Lectern are among other interesting features. One very striking feature is the new Thomas Denny stained glass window on the south side depicting the Tarrant winding through fields at harvest time, the whole is a glorious light of yellow with blue running through detailing the river. We cycle on and pass the old rectory to St Mary's, Tarrant Gunville now owned by the playwright Tom Stoppard. We head up to the church to sign in and a welcome break for lunch. Dating from the seventeenth century the church, like many of the others was extensively rebuilt and enlarged in 1845. The fine decoration and lettering here clearly reflect the influence of the Oxford Movement. A memorial inside commemorates Thomas Wedgewood, son of the famous potter Josiah, who invented photography but was unable to 'fix' the pictures. Another on an outside wall records uncompromisingly, 'Here lieth STD., Parson. All four be but one: Earth, Flesh, Worm, Bone.

From here we thought we would head further into the country side and follow the OS map and the Jubilee trail across the fields to Chettle. This proved to be more difficult than we thought. A sign for the Jubilee trail at the start points to Chettle but like many directions they tend to fail as you go along. Coming to a point where it was difficult to decide where we should go we



headed in the wrong direction and ended up in a field with the most stunning landscape and noticeable silence.

Retracing our tracks we came to the farm buildings which we had cycled past previously, and fortunately there was a young lady in the garden there. We were now outside the Eastbury Estate, private land. We asked if we could come through the locked gate, very obliging she said 'Of course I will undo the combination', The combination had been



changed, which frequently happens, so the bikes were duly passed over, at which point Tom and I realise how heavy Nina's bike is – no wonder she is always behind - but great for going down hills! We were given instructions to reach the road again passing by the gardener's cottage and through the

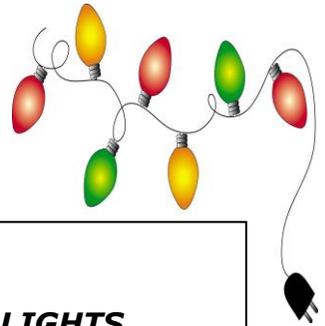
ducks and chickens. We were now right outside Eastbury House, an unusual building - very plain and solid, originally the service wing to the magnificent Eastbury mansion.

The mansion, designed by the great architect Vanburgh, was completed with new money and lots of bling and was greatly disapproved of by the Dorset aristocracy and gentry. It was eventually demolished because no one wanted it. The original arched entrance is still in place leading to the surviving buildings. Thomas Wedgwood, son of the potter, lived here for five years from 1800. It was then purchased by James Farquharson, the famous huntsman, who used it for his hounds. His family still own the house to this day.

We are now heading home, Nina, never one to give up easily flags down a passing Landrover to ask where the Jubilee trail is and where did we go wrong. The driver very obliging, told us there is a much easier route to Chettle so at least we will know another time.

This year has surpassed all others for sponsorship. The grand total is £660 which will certainly take us up the leader board in The Annual Report. Thank you from Nina, Tom and myself for your support.

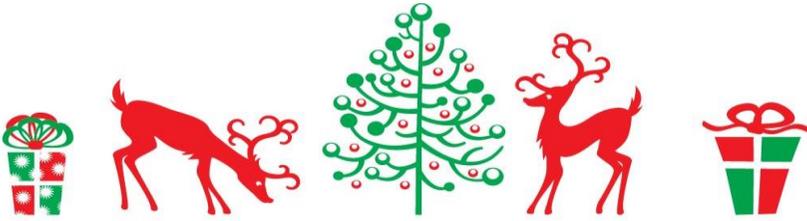
Graham Luker, Parish organiser for DHCT



CANFORD CLIFFS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Canford Cliffs Land Society is again providing the Christmas lights in Haven Road. There will be an official switch on event on Friday 29th November which will take place in the Magna Mazda showroom. The Canford Cliffs Community Choir will sing some seasonal songs and the Mayor will be attending for 5.30 pm. The event will start at 5.00 pm. Entry is by ticket at the door for £5.00 (children free), which includes a glass of mulled wine/soft drink, nibbles and 5 raffle tickets. All welcome.

George Perrins



Christmas Fayre

in the Church Rooms
on **Saturday 30th November**
11.00 am until 1.00 pm



ALL THE USUAL ATTRACTIONS



We need:
GIFTS - of almost anything.
Please see the weekly notice sheet for details.

HELPERS to prepare on Friday afternoon,
and help on the day itself.

SUPPORT – please bring your friends
and encourage others to come.

Please speak with the Rev'd Andrew O'Brien (700341)
or Anna Castley (701143) for further details.

**STALLHOLDERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS
FAYRE**



If you have any items to donate for the Christmas Fayre please get in touch with the relevant stallholder.

<u>STALL</u>	<u>STALLHOLDER</u>	<u>TEL</u>
Christmas Crafts	Susanne King & Joanne O'Brien	707265 700341
Home Produce & Cakes	Jan South & Grace Martin	768900
Refreshments	Wendy Bales	709850
White Elephant	Graham Luker	723305
Toys	Julie Bailey	701020
Jewellery	Nina Crane	376325
Toiletries	Joanne O'Brien	700341
Books and DVDs	Perry Jeandren & Wilf Fricker	706107
Vicar's Hamper	Andrew O'Brien	700341
Raffle	Anna Castley	701143
Treasurer	Michael Wright	707735

Anna would be very pleased to receive any donations of raffle prizes.

NOVEMBER



CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

Fri 1 10.30 am

Coffee Morning in hall

ALL SAINTS

Sun 3 8.00 am
10.30 am
6.00 pm

Holy Communion
Parish Communion
All Soul's Service

Wed 6 10.30 am

Holy Communion *at St. Nicolas*

Thurs 7 10.00 am
5.00 pm

Parish Art Group
PCC Meeting

Fri 8 9.30 am

Baby Group

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sun 10 8.00 am
10.30 am
6.00 pm

Holy Communion
Matins and Act of
Remembrance (*Sunday Club in hall*)
Evening Prayer

Wed 13 10.30 am

Holy Communion *at St. Nicolas*

Fri 15 10.30 am
2.00 pm

Coffee Morning in hall
Arts and Crafts Sale in aid
of Children in Need

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Sun 17 8.00 am
9.30 am
10.30 am
6.00 pm

Holy Communion
Family Service
Parish Communion
Evening Prayer

Wed 20 10.30 am

Holy Communion *at St. Nicolas*

		2.00 pm	Bible Study <i>in hall</i>
Thurs	21	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
		3.30 pm	Magazine collation
Fri	22	9.30 am	Baby Group

CHRIST THE KING

Sun	24	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Matins (<i>Sunday Club in hall</i>)
		7.00 pm	JOINT SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS

Tues	26	10.00 am	Craft Group <i>in hall</i>
Wed	27	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Sat	30	11.00 am	CHRISTMAS FAYRE

DECEMBER

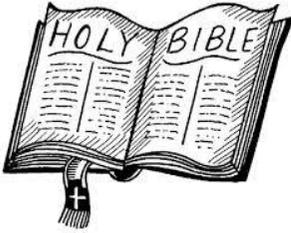
ADVENT 1

Sun	1	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Parish Communion
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Wed	4	10.30 am	Holy Communion and
			Patronal Festival <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
		2.00 pm	Advent Group <i>in hall</i>

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Our Christmas Coffee Morning will be on Friday 13th December at 10.30 am in the hall. Please come along and join us for coffee and nibbles. Everyone welcome. **This will be the only Coffee Morning in December.**





SUNDAY READINGS IN NOVEMBER

Sunday 3rd November - All Saints

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 56.3-8

God's house will be a house of prayer for all nations, not just the nation of Israel.

NEW TESTAMENT: Hebrews 12.18-24

Looking back to the Old Testament and the ark of the covenant and the terrifying power of God, Paul shows Jesus as the mediator of a new covenant.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5.1-12

In the beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus makes it clear that the kingdom of God belongs to the poor in spirit, the lowly and the persecuted.

Sunday 10th November - Remembrance Sunday

OLD TESTAMENT: Micah 4.1-5

"They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks".

NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 8.31-end

Death shall not separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sunday 17th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

OLD TESTAMENT: Malachi 4.1-2

Malachi urges a return to covenant obedience, faithful sacrifice, and tithes. He alerts the people that God will send another messenger before the Day of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT: 2 Thess.3.6-13

The words of this passage are critical. "If anyone is not willing to work, neither should he eat". The

discipline is relatively harsh, which underscores that idleness was no minor foible in Paul's assessment. The intention is to give a short sharp shock to the offending brothers to get them back into line.

GOSPEL: Luke 21.5-19

The passage speaks of the destruction of the temple and signs of the end times.

Sunday 24th November - Christ the King

OLD TESTAMENT: Jeremiah 23.1-6

God remonstrates with the neglectful shepherds and will appoint caring ones. David is to be king.

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 23.33-43

This passage describes the dreadful scene at the crucifixion. Jesus asks that those against him in ignorance should be forgiven.

Sunday 1st December - Advent Sunday

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 2.1-5

Isaiah has a vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem, the law and the word of the Lord. There will be peace.

NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 13.11-end

The day is near. Paul exhorts the people to raise from slumber and do the work of God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 24.36-44

Only the Father knows the day and the hour of the second coming – be watchful and ready.

Curate's Corner

Some of you may be aware that I went off to a conference in the middle of August, for the Prayer Book Society (PBS), held in Cirencester. I thought I might write this month a little bit about what the PBS does, what we got up to at their conference, and why I go along.

The first is easy enough, taken from the PBS website; The Prayer Book Society was formed to promote and preserve the use of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer-the traditional service book of the Church of England containing the Church's historic beliefs and its official standard of doctrine. The PBS was founded in 1972, and the patron of the society is HRH The Prince of Wales. Formed in the heyday of liturgical reform and upheaval, the PBS successfully (alongside other organisations) lobbied for the continued use and standard of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Importantly, they are not hostile to modern language liturgy in services, but rather keen to keep the Church of England grounded in its historical liturgy, doctrine and identity, all of which are exemplified and set forth in the BCP.

So the conference is a meeting point of likeminded clergy and laity of all walks of life and ages; it is remarkably diverse in this respect, with plenty of younger members, as well as a number of distinguished elder members. There is also plenty of variety in churchmanship; the BCP cannot be wholly claimed by any 'part' of the Church of England, but rather lies at the root of them all – indeed, all Anglican clergy still have to swear obedience to the 'historic formularies' of the church of England which are contained therein - the 39 articles and the ordering of bishops, priests and deacons. So there is no one way that is truly 'right' to view the BCP; it is, literally, common to everyone.

This year we focused on the Psalter in the BCP, translated by Miles Coverdale in 1535. The psalter, found at the back, has been bound together with the BCP since the 1662 edition – the edition we use today. Prior to this, editions relied on a separate psalter. Even after the official bible translation – the King James Version – became standard in churches across the land, the older version of the psalter remained in the BCP, a historical oddity, but a welcome one, as the impactful albeit idiosyncratic poetry has entered into the ‘spine’ of our language. In this theme we had 4 different talks, looking at wide ranging topics, from the use of the psalms in private meditation and prayer, to singing the psalms, to a very interesting lecture from a scholar of Middle English literature on the language of Coverdale’s Psalter – did you know that Coverdale was somewhat antiquated in his use of language even in his own time?

As well as the lectures, we had a number of services, for which I provided musical accompaniment, and enjoyed the chapel in the Royal Agricultural College for these, which is a splendid example of Victorian Gothic Revival. A formal dinner proved the social lynchpin of the event, with an entertaining after dinner speech by the Rev’d Fergus Butler-Gallie, who has recently written the entertaining and witty ‘Field Guide to the English Clergy’.

I support the PBS because I believe that it would be a tragic loss to the church, to the country, and even to the world if the prayer book was to pass out of use. In its ancient and well-worn phrases it provides comfort for the soul, but more than that, in its clear and single-minded sense of doctrinal purpose and clarity, it puts forth a vision of Reformed Catholicity from which the Church of England should fear to deviate. With the newer liturgy, it feels, at times, like the church is growing ever more diverse, and loosing that sense of common purpose which the BCP provides.

Of course, its language can be hard – but, as we heard in a talk on a children’s choir successfully using it in teeside – this is not such a hurdle as might be thought. Indeed, if the language is a stumbling block, it is also a place for education and learning, it provides a moment that asks for answers, and hopefully, guides us closer to a lively faith.

Tom

FESTIVE SHOPPING

Families shopping this festive season will receive two great giveaways telling the Christmas story. HOPE Together, Bible Society and Speak Life are working with The Entertainer toy stores to help customers appreciate the reason for the season.

The Entertainer chain is the UK’s largest independent toy retailer and each store has a nativity scene in its shop window at Christmas. This year, The Entertainer nativity scenes will feature the popular Happyland characters as Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, the Wise Men and the Shepherds.

To tie in with these nativity scenes, Bible Society is producing a special Entertainer edition of its Christmas booklet. Each family shopping for Christmas in The Entertainer stores will receive a copy.

Shoppers will also be given a copy of the *Christmas HOPE* magazine, also featuring a centre-spread with the Happyland characters telling the Christmas story. This 32-page magazine is packed with topical features to inform, challenge and entertain readers. This year’s *Christmas HOPE* cover features Tom Hanks, ‘the man behind the honours’; the new *Cats* movie; Allison Becker: the world’s best goalkeeper and Street Pastors ‘keeping party-goers safe this Christmas’.

As well as featuring the nativity scene in shop windows and giving away *The Christmas Story* booklets and *Christmas HOPE* magazines, The Entertainer stores will screen a specially-made Happyland nativity animation which is being made by the Speak Life team. The animation will be available on social media and to download for use in schools and churches.

How Armistice Day began, 100 years ago

It was 100 years ago, on 11th November 1919, that the first Armistice Day (now Remembrance Day) was marked in the UK. King George V had issued a proclamation calling for a two-minute silence at 11:00am to remember the members of the armed forces who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The two-minute silence was in fact adopted from a South African idea that had spread from Cape Town through the Commonwealth in 1919. The first minute was dedicated to those who died in the war, and the second to those left behind – families affected by bereavement and other effects of the conflict.

The Cenotaph was erected temporarily in Whitehall for a peace parade for Armistice Day in 1920. After a tremendous nationwide response, it became a permanent structure, and in the following years war memorials were created in other British towns and cities.

In 1939, the two-minute silence of Armistice Day was moved to the nearest Sunday to 11th November, so that it would not conflict with wartime production. This tradition

continued after World War II – Remembrance Sunday is still marked with a national service, and by special services in most churches throughout the country and beyond. Americans mark Veterans Day instead.

The Fall of the Berlin Wall

It was 30 years ago this month, on 9th November 1989, that the fall of the Berlin Wall began. Over two million people from East Berlin visited the West in a celebration described as *'the greatest street party in the history of the world.'* However, we are still living with walls, thinking of those dividing Gaza and Palestine from Israel. It's a strong human instinct to build walls to separate us from those we view as different and threatening.

Paul writes of how the death of Jesus has broken down the barrier between Jew and Gentile: *'His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility.'* (Ephesians 2:15-16).

Jesus is still in the business of breaking down the barriers between people of different gender, age, race and language, to bring them together in His church: *'There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.'* (Galatians 3:28).

We can easily put up barriers with others, when we make assumptions about them, forgetting that they may be thinking the same things about us. We may want to avoid making ourselves vulnerable or appear needy. Yet Jesus can break down our defences and enable us to live openly and honestly with others. As His church, He invites us to be a community of risk-takers, i.e. those who trust each other,

handle our weaknesses and fears, and who encourage one another's strengths and gifts.

'A person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges, is not Christian.'
(Pope Francis).

The Rev'd Paul Hardingham

CHILDREN IN NEED
FUNDRAISER

On Friday 15th November, 2.00 - 6.00 pm
in the church hall.

ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE

Please come along and join us for this event to
raise money for Children in Need.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

17th October Derek Roy Whittet (99)
22nd October Wendy Vernon-Browne (87)

Baptism

20th October Frederick Peter John Plant

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday 3rd November Grace Martin
Remembrance Sunday Michael Wright
Sunday 17th November Rozanne Parsons
Sunday 24th November Rozanne Parsons



MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The deadline for the December edition of the
Church Magazine is
Friday 15th November