Parish News

Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield

NOVEMBER 2022



In this issue...

- Challenge or opportunity? Julia Steward explains
- Muriel Freeborn on Macedonia & a forgotten war
- Allotment news and fab fungi in Nature Now

Plus the latest news from around the Benefice!

www.htboa.org

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Times of Services Holy Trinity Sundays Weekday Eucharist Daily	(Check Bulletins and notices or Church website) 8am Eucharist (Traditional language) 9.3oam Eucharist (coffee afterwards) 2nd Sundays 9.3oam 'In the Round' (coffee afterwards) 1st Sundays 6pm Evensong 1oam 1st Wednesday of the month only Morning Prayer at 8.3oam most days (please check Sunday Bulletin)
<i>mainly music</i> Choir Practice Mothers' Union Saxon Club Bell Practice Benefice website Weekly Bulletin	10.30am, Tuesdays (term-time only) 6.15pm, Thursdays 2.30pm, usually 3rd Wednesday of every month 2.30pm —4pm every Tuesday except August 7.30—9pm 2nd and 4th Mondays www.htboa.org Notices to Netty not later than Wednesday for the following Sunday please.
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Please see the bulletin or visit www.htboa.org for more details on service times and locations.





ADVENT CAROL SERVICE by Candlelight

with members of Bradford on Avon Area Churches _____ Together



Sunday, 27 November _{at} 6pm Holy Trinity, BoA



HOLY TRINITY - NOVEMBER 2022

1 Tuesday	10.30-11.45am	Mainly Music		
1 Tuesday	2.30-4pm	Saxon Club		
2 Wednesday	10am	All Souls Eucharist		
3 Thursday	10.45am	Trio Paradis Coffee Concert	St Many Tony	
3 Thursday 6 SUNDAY	8pm THE THIRD SUI	Contemplative Hour @ St MaryTory NDAY BEFORE ADVENT	St Mary, Tory	
	8am	Eucharist (Traditional Language)		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist		
	12n00n	Holy Baptism of Oscar James George		
		Laybourne		
8 Tuesday	10.30-11.45am	Mainly Music		
8 Tuesday	2.30-4pm	Saxon Club		
9 Wednesday	1.30pm	Holy Trinity PCC Meeting	The Vicarage	
12 Saturday	7.30pm	Paragon Singers Concert		
13 SUNDAY	REMEMBRANC	E SUNDAY		
	8am	Eucharist (Traditional Language)		
	10.15am	Remembrance Sunday Town Service		
15 Tuesday	10.30-11.45am	Mainly Music		
15 Tuesday	2.30-4pm	Saxon Club		
16 Wednesday 17 Thursday	2.30-4pm 11am-12.30pm	Mothers' Union Forget Me Not Café		
		-		
19 Saturday	7.30pm	Trowbridge Symphony Orchestra Concert		
20 SUNDAY	CHRIST THE KI			
	8am	Eucharist (Traditional Language)		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist		
20 Tuesday	10.30-11.45am	Mainly Music		
20 Tuesday	2.30-4pm	, Saxon Club		
, 26 Saturday	7.30pm	Bath Camerata Concert		
27 SUNDAY	ADVENT SUNDAY			
	8am	Eucharist (Traditional Language)		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist		
	6pm	Advent Carol Service		
29 Tuesday	10.30-11.45am	Mainly Music		
29 Tuesday	2.30-4pm	Saxon Club		



WINGFIELD & WESTWOOD - NOVEMBER 2022

6 SUNDAY	THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT				
	9.30am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)	Wingfield		
10 Thursday	11.15am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (Common Worship) <i>Westwood PCC Meeting</i>	Westwood		
13 SUNDAY	REMEMBRAI	NCE SUNDAY			
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Wingfield		
	11.15am	Remembrance Service	Westwood		
20 SUNDAY	CHRIST THE KING				
	9.30am	Chuppa Sunday	Wingfield		
	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Book of Common	Westwood		
		Prayer)			
27 SUNDAY	ADVENT SU	NDAY			
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Wingfield		
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Westwood		
	6.oopm	Advent Carols	Holy Trinity		
29 Tuesday	12.30-2pm	Westwood Village Lunches	Parish Rooms		
30 Wednesday	7.00pm	Wingfield PCC Meeting	Church Farm		

30 Wednesday 7.00pm

Wingfield PCC Meeting

Church Farm

ONLINE: Look out for updates at Holy Trinity's Facebook page: htwww.facebook.com/ htboa or online at: www.htboa.org





Trevor hated asking for money, but he sometimes made subtle hints

'We Shall Remember Them'

N ovember is traditionally the month of 'remembering'. We journey from the Feast of All Saints (1), to that of All Souls (2) when we remember our own departed loved ones, to Guy Fawke's Day (5) where the 'papist' plotters nearly blew up the House of Lords, to Remembrance Day (11) when we remember those who gave up their lives for us in the First and Second World Wars of the 20th century especially. And no less important or significant, of course, we then remember (with a particular focus) 'Christ' as our 'King' (20) on the very last Sunday of the church year. And it is a vital and very healthy activity for us each year. For all these memories are part of our story – they make us who we are. And they are an integral part of our faith: 'do this in remembrance of me', commanded Jesus.

Yet this year, in 2022, we seem to have gathered a whole new dimension to the idea of remembering - as life has changed dramatically for us all and continues to do so – from the international to the deeply personal level. As New Year's Day dawned, we knew that Covid was still rampant (even though we'd been able freely to celebrate Christmas and sing Carols) and we knew that energy prices were on the rise. We even knew that President Putin had started amassing troops on the Ukrainian borders and was demanding 'written security guarantees', but really had no idea of what was about to unfold... As we now take the opportunity to 'be still', reflect on the year that has passed and 'remember', we have to find the resources to grasp the staggering changes which have taken place. The War in Ukraine has brought about a dramatic transformation of the global dynamic, along with a major threat to world peace and (however indirectly) massively increased global energy costs and a global food shortage. Then we have seen the effects of climate change increasingly run rampant, extraordinary and unprecedented political upheaval at home, an ever-escalating cost of living crisis, and the death of our much loved and respected Queen of 70 years and the Accession of a King. And I'm sure there is more... So much to remember, but remember we must, and look back to the very different landscape of this time last year. What have we learned? What can we learn? And how does this impact our Christian faith?

In November 2022, let's look forward to remembering together. There is so much, and there will be so many, on our hearts and in our prayers. It can be easy to become overwhelmed, to despair – especially for those of us who find change hard. Yet we shall be holding all these thoughts and memories, together, before God and before the cross of Christ. He travels with us and shares each and every one. He urges us to cast all our burdens on his shoulders. And the various liturgies and the wonderful music which will be there for us, set it all in context, in its place, so enabling us to grow and to move forward. We are very blessed.

I don't often include a prayer in this letter, but the Post Communion Prayer from The Last Sunday after Trinity seemed to be very appropriate against this backdrop. May we be duly renewed and sustained.

'God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.'

With my love and prayers and every blessing

100m

FROM THE HOLY TRINITY REGISTERS

Funerals

Winifred Price (Semington) Muriel Metcalfe (Semington) Christian Penny (Semington) Judith Allen (Thanksgiving Service) 12 October 19 October 27 October 28 October

ARCHBISHOP VISITS THE 'SCARRED TREE MINISTRY'

A rchbishop Justin has visited Australian Indigenous ministries in the diocese of North Queensland and in Sydney, where he joined in singing Indigenous hymns with leaders of the Scarred Tree Ministry at St John's Anglican Church in the inner Sydney suburb of Glebe.

The ministry is named after a 'scarred tree' in the church's grounds: a tree from which bark was cut to create canoes, shelters, or shields in pre-colonial times. And he spoke about the power and the challenge of reconciliation, emphasising that actions, not just words, were needed to heal – in the recognition that history could not be changed: 'Terrible things had been done, but the future could be changed'. He pre-



The Team: Scarred Tree Ministries with Archbishop Justin

sented Pastor Ray Minniecon with a reconciliation award, and was given a boomerang-shaped cross in return. And he also visited an Indigenous campus for primaryaged First Nations children at St Andrew's Cathedral School, in Sydney.

'COMMUNITY AT THE CROSSING' LAUNCHED IN NEW YORK

he Cathedral of St John the Divine, New York, have opened their new cross-denominational 'Community at the Crossing'. It is made up of young people (aged 20-30) from across the USA who choose to take a year out of their normal pathway... 'in order to study; to dive into community life; to experience a radical rhythm of prayer; to serve the poor and the City of New York; and to be interrupted by God'.

The Community was inaugurated at a service during which video messages were played from the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, the Most Revd Michael Curry, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Pope, and the Ecumenical Patriarch. Bishop Curry wrote that religious communities 'have often been lighthouses to help human civilisation find its way to a way of life grounded more deeply in the ways of compassion and the ways of justice, ways of kindness, in the way of God's love. And Archbishop Justin, who founded his own very successful 'Community of St Anselm' at Lambeth Palace added: 'The best of what we do as a Church happens when we come together as a community of love.'

TWO BISHOPS RECALL HER LATE MAJESTY

he Bishop of Norwich and the Bishop of Gloucester shared their memories of The Queen.

The Bishop of Norwich told this story to the primary school children of his diocese. "I keep bees in my garden in Norwich and over the summer holidays they were busy making lots of honey. For seventy years we have had someone in our country who we have looked to for help. Queen Elizabeth II loved being at her home in Norfolk. Sometimes I went to see her there. I felt I was speaking to a very special person. I always took The Queen a jar of my bees' honey. Last weekend I went to tell my bees that The Queen had died. A lot of beekeepers tell their bees important news. The bees were very quiet when I told them. I told the bees about King Charles III too and that he cares for the environment – and for bees".

The Bishop of Gloucester was the first female bishop The Queen had received, leading to an awkward moment when she said she could not kiss the Bible in front of The Queen. She explained: "They looked at me as if it was some great theological reason... and I said, 'Because I'm wearing lipstick'." Mrs Treweek was told to put her nose in the book instead, and heard The Queen found it "very amusing" when she found out.

GRANT FOR WAR MEMORIAL

B radford on Avon Town Council have received a grant from The War Memorials scheme to conserve our memorial on its 100th anniversary. Erected to commemorate the Great War, the 1st Viscount Long of Wraxall unveiled the new memorial on 3 August 1922. There are two bronze tablets with the 125 names of those who died in the Great War – all arranged

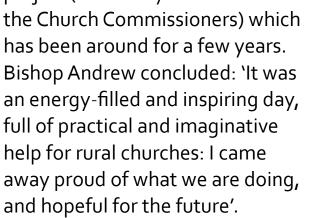
alphabetically, without rank or regiment. The stone was weathered and deteriorating, and the Council has planned a refurbishment programme with support from the local Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal team. The protective scaffolding is up, and work has begun, thus ensuring that 'the war memorial remains a focal point for the community' and that 'future generations can continue to pay their respects'.



BISHOP ANDREW'S RURAL 'HOPE' DAY

n a sunny October Saturday, there was a tremendous air of energy and enthusiasm as new mission projects were displayed and discussed by their teams.

These ranged from 'Soul Space' to 'Lego Church' to 'wandering and wondering' with 'Muddy Church' (www.muddychurch.co.uk) to a 'Messy Church Tent' to 'Quest4Faith'. 'Rural Hope' is a supportive and creative diocesan project (funded by



WINGFIELD - CHUPPA SUNDAY

Ur new fun venture Chuppa Sundays in Wingfield on the 3rd Sunday, launched in September, has been a huge success!

It's a very informal time of prayer, song and discussion – with a different theme for each month – for the young and the 'young at heart', of which there are a remarkable number! So we have had 'The Great Big Green Week' and 'Health and Healing' to date. The pews are out of bounds (except as overflow) and we sit in a circle in the

cleared chancel. And, most importantly, we both begin and end with drinks and cake! Watch out for Chuppa Carols in December.

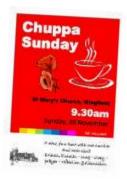
HAPPY 104TH BIRTHDAY HAROLD!

illar of Wingfield Church and resident of Bradford on Avon, Harold McDonald celebrated the dawn of his 105th year on 4 October with an 'At Home' drop-in for his many friends and neighbours.

The house was awash with cards and balloons, not to mention cake, as a good time was had by all. And, as you can see, the man himself enjoyed it too! A particular bonus this year was that Harold's daughter Ann from South Africa was able to be with him again on his birthday, the



first time since 2019. Many congratulations, Harold!



TREEFEST 2022 - 6-11 DECEMBER

beacon of light in a sea of grey was how one lady described our Christmas Tree Festival and it certainly was great to be able to reinstate one of Bradford's largest community events last year after having to cancel in 2020.

I am very grateful to all those who helped set up the festival, cleared away afterwards, provided the refreshments, acted as stewards, provided musical entertainment and, of course, staged the 64 trees. Our visitors were, I know, immensely buoyed up by the display, the friendly ambience, the music and the warmth of our welcome.

If you haven't guessed it already, I am asking you to do it all again this year by helping, attending, munching mince pies and/or quaffing mulled wine. There will be lists for you to volunteer on the Welcome Desk nearer the time and do get in touch if you would like to stage a tree or need any further information. Dates for 2022 are: Set up: Sunday afternoon and Monday, 4 and 5th December Festival open: Tuesday 6 to Sunday 11th December Clearing away: Monday 12th. Thank you in advance! John Cox (jandbcox@hotmail.com)



ACROSS: 1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni.16. Wait. 17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm. 29, Epistle. 30, Whitsuntide. DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node. 6, Soprano. 7, Theological. 8, Westminster. 12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted. 25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

You can contact the editorial team on: *ht.parishnews@gmail.com* The **Dec/Jan 2022** issue copy deadline is **Friday, 11 November 2022**.

paragon singers

conductor Sarah Latto

SAT 12 NOV 7.30PM

reimaginea

Holy Trinity Bradford on Avon

their inspiration,

the world

shoral works

interwoven with

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Your Benefice Admin Team

oly Trinity's new recruits Netty and Klaus are a few months into the job and take time out to tell PN about their experiences so far...

Klaus says: "One of my first tasks was to pay my own (and my colleagues') wages. Following some teething problems, I was finally set up for online banking – which involved spending a good chunk of time lurking outside the office with my mobile (the signal wasn't good enough inside) and being rescued from a sudden downpour by Aylene coming out with a large brolly. Since then, I gradually started coming to grips with all things to do with Holy Trinity's accounts: recording donations, preparing reports for the PCC, getting my head around VAT issues, and so on. Some of it brings back distant memories of my finance work at University of Bristol, and I'm glad I still remember some useful things from that time.

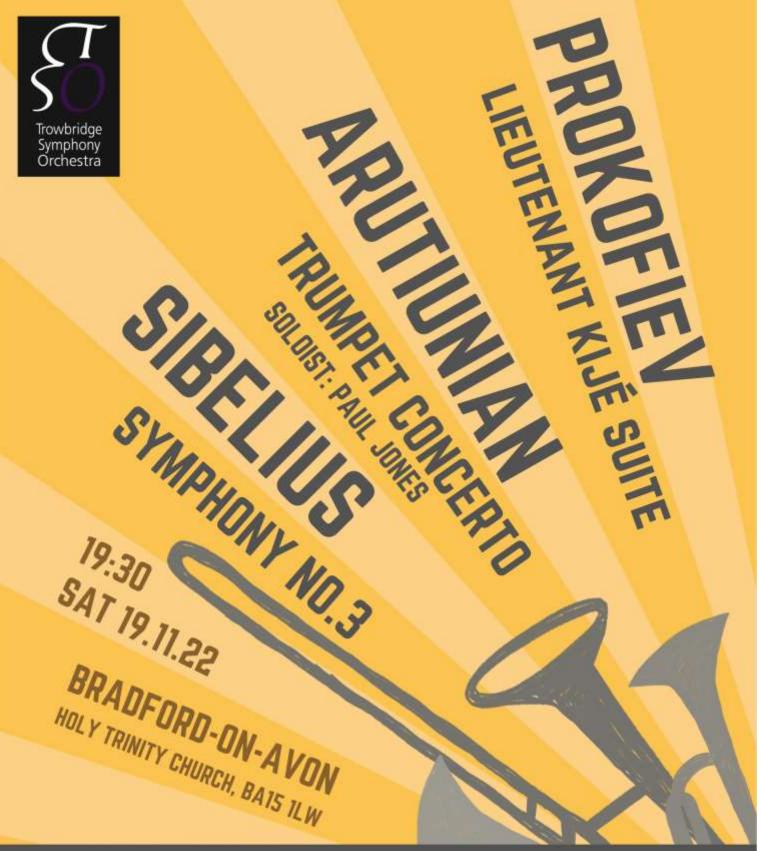
Klaus (treasurer@htboa.org)

Netty says: "I started here in Bradford mid-July and am thoroughly enjoying learning new ways of working. I am mainly working from home but will be in the office on Fridays to do all your printing.

However, if needed in the office, I can be available at other times. We are looking at relocating the parish office from Woolley Street to the Holy Trinity office in the next few months so I look forward to putting some faces to names. It is my role to produce the weekly Bulletins and help Joanna with rotas and general admin. I also manage the Holy Trinity church bookings, including arranging cover with wardens or church folk to welcome groups for these events - probably the most difficult part of the job trying to find willing volunteers can be challenging! Thank you to everyone for their warm welcome since I have joined the team - I look forward to working with you all into the future.

Netty (beneficeoffice@htboa.org)

Aylene says: "I've been so excited to welcome Netty and Klaus to the team and watching them getting stuck into admin and finance has been a joy. My work in the Chaplaincy at Bath University is now taking up most of my time, but if you need any posters, flyers or leaflets, info on social media or would like to contribute to the Parish News, I'm very happy to help. Just drop me an email! *Aylene (comms@htboa.org)* TROWBRIDGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS



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WWW.TROWBRIDGESYMPHONYORCHESTRA.CO.UK - REGISTERED CHARITY 1049949



Challenge or Opportunity?

'A truly beautiful Church; a marriage of old and new at its best. Very peaceful'

his comment from the visitors' sheets this month is typical of many. Churches are places of pilgrimage; they connect us with our past and provide a refuge from the clamour of twenty-first century demands which too often drown out the inner calm we all need.

Yesterday I came across Bradford on Avon residents showing friends from Wales around the church. You don't need to be a church-goer to value our heritage. Yet keeping churches open is one of the challenges of an increasingly secular society with a church-going population – particularly in rural areas – which consists largely of individuals of pensionable age.

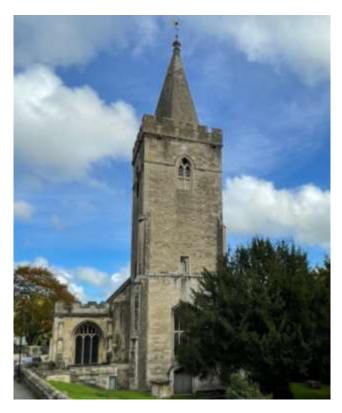
Living with Covid restrictions was difficult for all of us. At Holy Trinity, some individuals drifted away from their commitment to church; projected funds were lost since there were no public performances and hence no hire fees. If you (like me) have been wondering how you will be able to cover inflated energy costs during the coming winter, you will appreciate that funding church energy bills is an urgent priority for the PCC. We are blessed with an army of volunteers who do an amazing job of keeping things going. Nevertheless, we are less-wellresourced than we were before the pandemic. Whether or not we consider ourselves part of a team within the church, if we don't all recognise that we have a part to play in ensuring that our church remains as a place of worship, peace and pilgrimage, we risk its future.

TIME FOR CREATIVITY

One of the PCC's responses to this challenge is to make it easier for visitors to contribute to the cost of keeping the church open. Look out for the facility to make cashless donations, coming soon. In the absence of a magic money-tree we need to think creatively about how we meet the challenge of increasing costs at a time when personal budgets may also be squeezed. Are there other resources we could give - time or talents, for example? We can't all offer to replicate our Director of Music's phenomenal hymn-playing

marathon, but suppose we were to focus for a moment less on increasing finance and more on increasing community? What ideas could we come up with, given time and focus? We can all be part of a ministry of welcome, for example. I can't be the only person to have visited a church where the congregation is so busy talking to their friends, that the visitor gets overlooked, or worse still, viewed as an inconvenience. I know that there are several members of the congregation who already go out of their way to connect with newcomers. It is well-documented that when under stress, individuals become more self-focused. That's something we need to guard against. We can all be guilty of assuming that 'everybody knows' (for example where the toilets are; how long the service is; what the term 'eucharist' means; or that some sections of the service are not printed in the service booklet).

We are used to the idea that we need to focus on ensuring the sustainability of the planet; what can we do to ensure the sustainability of our church? If we face the current challenge as an opportunity to grow our community through making the church a place



Holy Trinity: Magnificent architecture needs a lot of heating...

of welcome for all, not only will we increase our collective resources; more importantly, we will be demonstrating Christ's love in action.

How fortunate we are to have an army of volunteers who help our church to run smoothly week by week: sidespeople, flower team, coffee team, choir, music group, churchwardens team, lessonreaders, intercessors, not to mention those who help at annual events, such as the Christmas Tree Festival or Church Fete. We couldn't do without them. As demands increase and society changes, we may need also to think differently to maintain and grow our witness as people of God.

Julia Steward - PCC Member

MOTHER AND CHILD

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2022, 7:30PM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, BRADFORD ON AVON

A CONCERT OF SUBLIME CHORAL MUSIC FOR ADVENT

FEATURING RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS' MASS IN G MINOR

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Prayer Paths: Advent—A Beginning or an Ending?

he season of Advent marks the beginning of the Christian year, the Church's calendar of liturgical celebration. This year Advent Sunday is on 27 November.

On the opening Sunday of Advent all three years of the scripture reading cycle seem to speak of ends, not beginnings. The season announces itself with the fanfare of apocalypse. From

the beginning of November we are encouraged to think about 'the Last Things'. All Saints day is followed by All Souls', a day remembering our Christian dead, and then Remembrance Sunday with its various commemorations of those who died in wartime and conflicts.

In many Roman Catholic countries the month of November is dedicated to prayer for the faithful departed. Perhaps too the natural Christian desire to pray for those we have lost is comforting as we hope for 'a place of light, consolation and peace'. Ancient peoples feared the onset of winter and its deprivations and so the autumnal sense of the ending of things echoes the collective apprehension. The season of Advent then has a twofold focus: the coming of Christ both at the end time and at his human birth. To herald this we meet John the Baptist, who appears in the readings on at least two of the four Sundays in Advent. John acts as a bridge between the Old and New Testaments, the 'hinge' on

> which Advent turns. Traditionally Advent is still seen as a penitential season, like Lent, and vestments of violet are worn. More recently, we experience the

season as a time of 'joyful and spiritual expectation'.

God of light, dawn on us with the new day of salvation, and awaken your people to walk in your light. Make your Church a gathering place of nations, that, hearing your word, all peoples may learn to transform the weapons of war into the tools of peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Christ, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Opening Prayer for the First** Sunday of Advent. Sarah Jackson



Our forgotten World War I soldiers in Macedonia?

his issue Muriel Freeborn reflects on Macedonia, St Paul and conflicts that marred this beautiful but wild land.

In the Acts of the Apostles chapter fifteen, we read that whilst he was in Troas, St Paul had a vision which called him to Macedonia, to help the people there understand the Good News of the Christian faith.

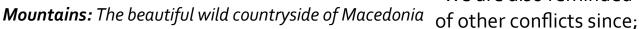
Macedonia features prominently in his letters; Paul twice visited the city of Thessalonica, the coastal town in the Gulf of Thermai in the Aegean Sea. He was welcomed by those who understood and accepted the Gospel, but he experienced antagonism from the Jews who were established there. Nevertheless, through St Paul, Christianity was rooted there by AD₅6.

The history of Thessaloniki, (Thessalonica, Salonica) is a fascinating one; but what of the country of Macedonia? During the early days in the month of November, leading up to Remembrance Sunday, I now think of both, the country and its city port, for personal reasons. I wonder if St Paul ever walked the twelve miles inland to the north of Thessalonica to the top of an insignificant hill, where he would have had a good view of the surrounding country?

I quite recently read in a book, which had belonged to my father, that its author, Harold Lake, did just that in 1917. He was sent to Macedonia by higher military

> command to fight against the Bulgars of Bulgaria.

As Remembrance Day approaches with the solemn ceremonies at the Cenotaph in London and at other memorials up and down the country, our focus is on those who gave up their lives in the first and second world wars. We are also reminded





of individual bravery in all conflicts recorded in book and film. The poppies we wear recall the flat land of Flanders Fields in Belgium where so many soldiers were killed. What did our soldier of 1917 see as he looked across the land of Macedonia, where thousands of our soldiers were sent to wage war? I doubt from his description in an impossible terrain. Many laboured and suffered, creating an infrastructure before combat could take place with the heavy modern weapons of that time. Back home, much was expected of men who strove valiantly against more than one enemy.

My father was one of those who was sent there. No mention was

that its development had not changed, at least by the hand of _____ man, since AD56. He saw the different kinds of terrain

What did our solider of 1917 see as he looked across the land of Macedonia? ... I doubt that its development had not changed since AD56

which make up the country; the harsh mountains, the narrow valleys and the wide wet plains. To him Macedonia appeared little short of a wilderness. No attempt had been made to drain the swamps, which presented a serious problem of malaria from the infestation of mosquitoes. The land was not developed beyond the needs of poor villagers.

And why? – because, I read, that from the dawn of history, Macedonia had been fought over again and again. The inhabitants saw no point in cultivating beyond their simple needs, for others to come and take it from them. Our brave soldiers were sent to fight a war experiences. I e would not have bt known anything about the war in Macedonia had I not reached

ever made of his

down and opened the revealing book entitled "In Salonica with our Army". It had resided for many years in the family bookcase, finding its way into mine, silently showing its faded spine until lockdown. Curiosity drove me to open it and read its personal note inside, and then the book.

There were no celebrations of great victories made there. The campaign was bedevilled by a combined leadership with divided aims. The impossible was asked of brave men who gave their lives to keep an enemy occupied there, away from major theatres of war. Lest we also forget them.

Muriel Freeborn

Remembrance Sunday

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SUNDAY, 13 NOVEMBER

Parish Eucharist 8am

TOWN REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

10.15AM followed by the

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE at Westbury Gardens

10.55AM

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

ST MARY, WINGFIELD REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Seattle 1



Come and join us for a Service of Remembrance and then for soup and sausages in the Parish Rooms afterwards. Sunday, 13 November **10.50AM** St Mary the Virgin, Westwood



SUNDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 9.30am Come and join us for a service of Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance

Tearing Down Barriers

arlier this year, Bishop Rachel travelled to Israel & Palestine on an 'Embrace the Middle East Encounter' Tour. She reflects on the need for us to tear down our own barriers and let in the love of Christ.

During our visit we marvelled and rejoiced at so many doors of entry: the beautiful doors on the Church of the Annunciation; the gates of the doorways into Jerusalem; the doorways of the first century house at Capernaum, the entrance to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the narrow entrance into the crypt at the Church of the Nativity. We were inspired by Father Kevin seeking to re-open the Anglican church of St Peter's in Jaffa (the place to which Jonah fled in order to leave and escape); and as we visited the Palestinian Bible Society in Jericho, we were welcomed through the doors of their newly renovated building and heard about the work with young people regarding leadership, not least encouraging and enabling young Christians to stay rather than depart.

Yet amid all these places and inspiring stories of open doors, our delight resided alongside our lament and tears. Not only was it sad to see so many doors of shops locked and closed, presumably hit hard by the lack of tourism during the pandemic, but there were also the strong emotions and thoughts within us regarding entry and barring. Points of entry can indeed be about welcome and hospitality but they can also be about keeping out 'the other'.

This was stark as we waited at the checkpoint to enter and leave Bethlehem, observing an everlengthening wall, and more roads and land open to some and not to 'others'. This included the continually emerging Israeli settlements appearing on land where entry has not been invited.

The rejection and keeping out of the other was also present in the pictures and stories of the Holocaust History Museum of Yad Vashem. Vivid words and images of people seen as 'other' driven out from homes and communities before entering the terror of the concentration camps and being met with torture and horrific death.

I am sure that for many of us our fairly impromptu cup of tea with Sara (not her real name) was something we will never forget. We were welcomed into her home and shop surrounded by the wall and were struck by her determination to stay and shine Christ's light. The nativity

22

crib I purchased there will be treasured, not least because it has been crafted with a wall between **Bethlehem** and the visitors to the manger. Earlier that day we had gone through the narrow



Aba in Ja Lef Bish

entrance into the tomb space at the Garden Tomb. Likewise, the day before we had stooped low to enter the Holy Sepulchre though a small doorway. Who knows which, if either, of these places was actually the site of Christ's burial in the tomb belonging to Joseph of Arimathea? But either way there was a sense for me of entering a small physical space which actually represented a gateway to spacious freedom, life and love where 'othering' has no place.

As I remember the different entrances we encountered on our tour, rooted in the stories of people and place, and as I look at people fleeing their homes in Ukraine, and barricades being built on street

Above: The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem **Left:** The Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester

corners to prevent entry, I not only cry yet more loudly 'Lord have mercy' but I also give thanks for the people who are committed to being gateways of welcome and hospitality, and who desire not only to let in the light of Christ, but who seek to tear down metaphorical walls and unlock love and hope. Thank you Embrace and all those you partner with who are being and doing just that.

> Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester

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View from the Allotment: Time for Tea

am sure no one could have failed to notice the arrival of Autumn at the end of September. Not only did the temperatures drop both by day and night but we also had strong winds and heavy rain. Yet despite all the rain we have had since, if you dig down a few inches, the ground is still very dry, it's going to need a lot more rain for the ground to recover after such an exceptional summer.

So with temperatures falling and less daylight, it has been time to plant out the last flower and vegetable bulbs ready for next year. So in has gone daffodils, tulips and Iris for cut flowers and garlic and onion sets. The beans have all finished and been cleared away but there are still some carrots, parsnips and leeks in the ground and the brassicas are doing well. Other than that it is a case of putting most of the allotment to bed by sowing green manure crops to protect and enhance the soil.

As there is not much else to do now until the Spring, this will be my last column. I hope you have enjoyed reading about the trials and tribulations on my allotment and I hope I have also inspired some of you to get out into your gardens more. Thank you to all those who have shared their own



experiences with me. Now is the time, as I say in my top tips, to make yourself a cup of tea or coffee, and settle down to reflect on what has gone well or not this year, and plan to do better in 2023. Good luck!

Graham Dove

TOP TIPS - NOVEMBER

- Autumn Broad beans can now be sown outdoors for an early crop in June.
- Start planning for next year and look out for offers from seed companies.





Nature Now: November

he last few weeks have brought an abundance of autumn colours and tastes, as deciduous trees and bushes turn golden yellow and hues of red before shedding their leaves, and nature's abundance invites us to forage for delicious free food.

But the prolonged dry, hot spell through summer left many trees and bushes really stressed. Their response to drought was to put all their efforts into producing more nuts, fruit and seeds, so as to pass their genes to the next generation whilst under threat themselves. These weakened plants will be more susceptible to disease and even death in the near future.

Another drought next year may well see a lot more trees and bushes weaken further and die. Many



Above: The deadly Honey fungus; the common name of several species of fungi within the genus Armillaria

may succumb easier to fungal disease, such as the "white rot" of Honey Fungus. This fungus has root-like structures called rhizomorphs that spread quickly from one tree to another, and can kill its victim over a few years.

New Kingdom

But fungi are not all bad news for trees. In fact, research over the past few years has shown that they are essential to the health of the soil and the life of plants in ways that are only now beginning to be understood. Ali and I first met through our shared interests wildflowers for me and fungi for her. She still treasures the very first book on fungi that she acquired. Her "Wayside And Woodland Fungi" by W Findlay was published in 1967 and features hitherto unpublished watercolour studies of fungi by Beatrix Potter.

In it Findlay describes fungi as "plants that lack chlorophyll, that reproduce by means of spores, and that have tissues formed by the interlacing of fine threads". That was the definition we had all learnt at school. But groundbreaking research through this century has shown that fungi are not plants at all. Rather, they form a kingdom of their own, with the



Above: The pale orangey spines of the Hedgehog Fungus & **Right:** The Magpie Inkcap - Ali once painted a study of this mushroom using only its own ink



shared characteristic that they cannot make their own food but have symbiotic relationships with bacteria and plants.

Along with bacteria, fungi are essential decomposers in the soil food web. Underground fungal networks physically bind soil particles together, converting hard-todigest organic material into forms that other organisms can use. It's thought that about 80% of land plants partner with fungi that help them extract nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus.

FOREST SYSTEMS

We now know that without fungi, forest systems simply would not function. Large tree-planting schemes are currently underway in the UK as part of our response to the climate change crisis. Such schemes are learning from current research into the delicate, complex and vital relationship between the two kingdoms of plants and fungi. Researchers don't yet know enough about what happens to fungi in the soil when we plant trees, but in the future we will hopefully have enough evidence to determine how to maximise the benefits of fungi for tree health – and for other organisms too.

Naturalist and photographer Nick Upton reported coming across a really good variety of fungi in Gloucestershire - Buckholt Wood near Painswick, the Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods National Nature Reserve. One of these was the striking Magpie Inkcap. It's called Inkcap because of the black ink-like liquid that drips from its dark gills under the bollard-shaped cap when the spores are ripe. Many Inkcaps grow on dung (hence its scientific name, Coprinus). It's possible to write or draw with the black liquid - in fact Ali once painted a study of this fungus using its own "ink".

Another species Nick found was the Honey Fungus I mentioned earlier. He wrote: "This fungus is likely the largest living thing on earth as its colonies can stretch for hundreds of metres, and one colony of a USA species was shown to cover more than two miles".

HEDGEHOG LOOKALIKES

Nick also came across an interesting find he had not seen before: "I noticed a mass of dense orange 'spines' under their caps rather than the typical gills of many fungi and took some close-ups of them as they looked intriguing and I guessed they might aid identification. I should have guessed at a name for this fungus, as the spiny feature was offering a big clue....

"Now that I've checked some ID guides, this is most definitely a Hedgehog Fungus, something foragers look for as they are edible and there are no other pale orange fungi with such spines that could be poisonous. The guides I looked at suggested there are two British species, the deeper orange Terracotta Hedgehog, and the larger, paler Wood Hedgehog.

Finer details such as the spines marching down the rather fat stem match the typical description for the Wood Hedgehog more than the Terracotta, so I decided these must be this one. But I've since discovered that they may have an even better name! After posting them on an online identification site ispotnature.com that I often use for new finds of all kinds of subjects, an expert soon came back to tell me that it is now believed there are at least 4 UK species of Hedgehog fungi, including the wonderfully named Depressed hedgehog, Hydnum umbilicalis (which I think mine may be as it has a tummy button-like depression in the caps) and the Ellipsoid hedgehog, better known from Scotland. With fungi, there is so much to find and even more to learn.

EVERY LITTLE HELPS

I've mentioned the threat that the climate crisis imposes on wildlife, and there are many small projects that local people have been undertaking to make our town more friendly for wildlife and the environment. The "Green wall" in the town centre is a perfect example, and has proved quite a tourist attraction as a sort of "vertical" mini nature reserve. Think of how many butterflies, bees and other insects it will have fed already, and how many small insect-eating birds will have benefitted. It will also be helping our local environment by absorbing carbon and cooling the air around it – very important in an urban setting during a hot summer.

I recently came across another interesting initiative, where citizens have been working with local councils to transform bus stops into mini wildlife reserves, especially for bees. The shelters' little green rooftop spaces replicate natural wildlife habitats, and provide a lifeline for insects and other species that are struggling to find enough food. Nicknamed 'Bee Bus Stops', they are planted with a mix of wildflowers including Sedums, a favourite food source for a number of pollinating insects.

Leicester has been a leader in installing these bus stops, where the citywide network of "Living Roof" and solar-powered shelters are a first for any UK city and just one of the many steps being taken by Leicester City Council to respond to the climate emergency. The shelters not only provide wildlife habitats but also capture particulates from the air and so help to make any built-up environment a greener, healthier place.

Any garden and green space, however small, can be a real lifeline for wildlife. Every urban tree and bush can provide homes, nourishment and shelter for many creatures from bees to butterflies and birds. We can all make our own homes and gardens havens that help wildlife survive. The smallest pond can act as a tiny oasis for water insects and amphibians, and the pond water can be a life-saver for thirsty animals. The plants in the pond attract flying insects, which in turn help to feed birds that visit our gardens.

The berries of any ivy in your garden are great favourites for some birds such as redwing and song thrush, and are ripe throughout winter. It's worth holding off any ivy-pruning until the last fruit has gone to ensure you maximise the food available for birds. Keeping some "messy" areas of dead leaves, vegetation, log piles and twigs will make the perfect place for hedgehogs and amphibians to hibernate, as well as providing a habitat for insects.

Dave Green

Butterflies: Autumn 2022

hew! so that was 2022, a very hot dry year and stressful for wildlife as well as ourselves. By September, butterflies had virtually burnt themselves out result-

ing in a disappointing end to the season.

Unlike last year, many gardens were devoid of the colourful vanessids and the expected flurry of Red Admirals and





Top: A Speckled wood **Left:** Clouded Yellow

So, most butterflies will have mated and completed their adult

Painted Ladies and Commas, so frequent in late spring, didn't happen. However, the other regular immigrant, the Clouded Yellow, did particularly well with at least 130 recorded so far (45 in 2021). There would of course, have been many more around but not reported. The first half of October was pleasantly warm (and dry!) and a few species were still on the wing. Speckled Woods were the most commonly reported and others included Small Whites, 4 Red Admirals, 2 Painted Ladies, 1 Brimstone, 2 Small Tortoiseshells, 1 Comma, 2 Peacock, 8 Clouded Yellows, 1 Meadow Brown, 1 Holly Blue and 7 Small Coppers. For most, they are now rapidly approaching the end of their short adult lives for another year.

lives with their eggs, caterpillars and chrysalises over-wintering until next year. The half dozen that hibernate through the winter as adults will soon be tucked away in their winter quarters until next spring.

My apologies for no article in the last issue of Parish News as I was in Scotland for most of September with limited wifi/email access. It wasn't a 'butterfly trip' but a total of 6 common species were seen including a Speckled Wood flying in the Royal Mile in Edinburgh amongst the crowds queuing to enter St Giles Cathedral. Jenny and I were privileged to be two of the 33,000 who paid their respects to our late Queen.

> Mike Fuller, Wiltshire Butterfly Recorder, 13 October 2022



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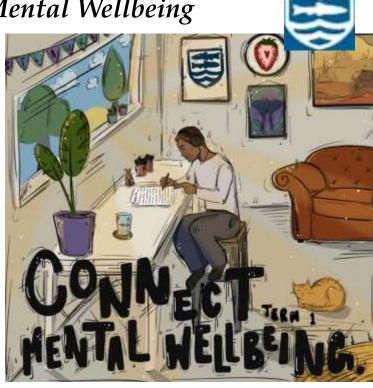
St Laurence - Mental Wellbeing

t seems like it was only just the beginning of term and yet I found myself yesterday writing the article for the end of term magazine. I am not complaining at all, the thought of a holiday in a couple of weeks is great but time seems to have gone very quickly and I started to wonder whether I had made the most of it.

Our school magazine, Connect, which is available on the school website, is such a celebration of

all the things we do here in school and also spotlights students and staff, past and present, to highlight individual achievements and contributions. In proof reading it, I was given the chance to stop and remember all that has happened over the last few weeks.

This term we had a focus on wellbeing and I was tasked with writing an article about my own approach. I am afraid to say I am really quite a simple person and the one thing that brings joy to my heart is walking with my dog. I have included a photo if anyone needed any evidence as to why I



Above: The latest issue of Connect - St Laurence school's in-house magazine Left: Gorgeous George

feel this way. Being outdoors, getting fresh air and physical exercise and the simple, although persistently repetitive joy of throwing a ball and chasing him to get it back is

something I treasure and will certainly be doing once we break up for half term. It is vitally important I think to have a moment of quiet and reflection, in the noisy, busy world in which we live, and we try to offer that to students too. But if you ever see George and I out and about, you are welcome to join! *Tim Farrer*

Saint for the Season: Martin, Bishop of Tours

S t Martin, Bishop of Tours, was born in 316 in Pannonia (Hungary) and died in office on 8 November 397 in Gaul (France). But we celebrate his Feast on the date of his funeral, 11 November. These were the very earliest days of relative safety for Christians, and

Martin had converted at a young age.

Having been urged to come to Tours in 371 to minister to someone who was sick, he was brought to the church, where he reluctantly allowed himself to be consecrated bishop. According to one version, he was so



Above: St Martin sharing his cloak - Anthony Van Dyck(1618)

with this robe.' The dream confirmed Martin in his piety, and he was baptised at the age of 18.

During the Middle Ages, the relic of St Martin's miraculous (half) cloak ('cappa') was carried by the king even into battle, and used as a holy relic upon which oaths

> were sworn. The priest who cared for it was called a 'cappellanu' or, in French, 'chapelain': hence the English word 'chaplain'. Similarly, all small churches took their name from the 'capella' (or 'little cloak') built for the relic, and were

unwilling to be made bishop that he hid in a barn full of geese, but their cackling at his intrusion gave him away to the crowd!

But Martin is best known for the legend of his cloak. While still serving in the Roman army, he met a scantily clad beggar and impulsively cut his military cloak in half to share with the man. That night, he had a remarkable dream of Jesus wearing the half-cloak he had given away. He heard Jesus say to the angels: 'Martin, who is still but a catechumen, clothed me referred to as 'chapels'.

'Martinmas' became a medieval agricultural festival widely seen as the preferred time for the butchering of 'Martinmas beef' and the ending of the toil of autumn wheat sowing. Back in the 6th century, church councils began requiring fasting on all days, except Saturdays and Sundays, from St Martin's Day to Epiphany. But, being shortened to begin a month before Christmas, this became Advent within a few centuries.

Joanna Abecassis

For Prayer and Reflection

November 2022

- The saints who have gone before us down two millennia
- Those who have lost their lives serving their country at
- any time
- Our new prime minister, Rishi Sunak, and government
- Our ministry team and musicians



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Clues across

1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all _, Lord of all _, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy'(11,3) **9** Mosesí question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?" (Exodus 2:13) (7) 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline (2,3)**11** 'At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)13 A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4) **16** 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4) 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6) 18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must _God rather than men!'(Acts 5:29) (4) 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4) 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6) 22 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat _ _ '(Matthew 13:2) (2,2) 23 Infectious tropical disease (4) **25** Tree (3) **28** 'No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you'(Job 33:7) (5)

29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7) **30** Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11)

Clues down

Clues down
2 'O Jerusalem _ how _I have longed to gather
your children together' Matthew 23:37) (5)
3 Way out (4)
4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
5 Done (anag.) (4)
6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
7 Concerning the study of God (11)
8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel
(11)
12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
14 Frozen (3)
15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
20 See 1 Across
24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
25 Time (anag.) (4)
26 Lists choice of meals (4)
27 `For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God
is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord'(Romans
6:23) (4)

Source: Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon

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This is a longstanding body which now comprises the two benefices of North Bradford on Avon and Villages and our own. We look forward to establishing a much closer bond, and the Group clergy meet regularly.

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