

The Vicar's Letter

Macaroons, Missionaries and Money

Sarlat, near to where we stayed on our family holidays this summer is a beautiful old town. Its medieval buildings rise crookedly up over narrow streets, and overlook the town square (which for the time we were there was bathed in glorious sunshine). The town is famous for Pâté de Foie Gras (yummy) and there are pictures of geese and ducks everywhere. There's even a statue of three geese just off the main square. But because Sarlat is in France the town is also well populated by the 'French Patisserie'. I always stopped to look at the beautiful creations in the shop windows, made from pastry, fruit, chocolate and shiny glazing. One particular shop window I noticed was full of macaroons. Now you might think a macaroon is a macaroon but all these macaroons were coloured in the most bright, vivid and varied way. The display was just awash with colour. WOW! It all made me wonder just what people see when they look into our shop window, the church.

The church has a reputation of being old, out of date, colourless and just a bit dusty. Certainly not attractive like a mass of multicoloured macaroons. It's a perception that we often have to live with... but it's a perception we don't have to live up to. Church is full of brightly coloured personalities each with their own texture and colour. We are people who smile, people who pray, people who laugh together, people who cry together, people who welcome, people who give great advice, people who give of themselves sacrificially. The choirs and band members that spend time rehearsing, Junior Church leaders that use their time and skills to share the faith with children, PCC members who contribute time, effort and patience sometimes, to enable the vision of the church to succeed, various committees and individuals that ensure our finances and building remain in good order, and people who reach out into the community in order to share the amazing love of God.

Earlier this year, Margaret Dunne moved out to Romania in order to follow God's will for her life. She took the love and mission of St. James

and is now working with children and adults in Casa Spiranta (House of Hope). This year at Thornton we'll be welcoming back to church Nigel and Joan Bull who work in Pakistan. Great missionary works, but we are all missionaries really, we're just differently coloured. We all share our faith with those around us in our own spheres of influence. Family, friends, neighbours, colleagues, and mainly in the way we live, how we speak, act and give.

Which brings me to my third 'M', MONEY. Talking about shop windows.... a number of years ago when we lived in Clayton our local corner shop was sold. It had been very successful, and usually had most things that you needed. The owners sold up and retired and it was bought by someone who really didn't have much of a clue on how to run a corner shop. Before long the stock was depleted which meant that they very rarely had anything you needed, which in turn meant that people stopped going in, which in turn meant that the new owners could afford even less stock. Pretty soon the shop was up for sale again. The fact is, just like shops, churches need money to continue. This year we celebrate 45 years of St Saviours being where it is, and St James has been serving Thornton for over 140 years. Both churches have lasted so long because previous generations have been generous and faithful with their giving.

Giving what is 'right' and not what is 'left' is an important Christian principle, actually it's an act of worship, and I know that times are tight and often our giving is pulled in various directions. Jesus talks a lot about giving and I'm convinced that giving isn't really about money but about 'faith'. Faith to give to God what is his and to rely on his blessings to us. Beautiful macarons don't come cheap, and we should make our shop window the best it can be. We might just get some new customers.

Andy

OCTOBER PARISH DIARY

SUNDAY 2nd FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 a.m.

Holy Communion and Junior Church

Tuesday 4th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 5th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 6th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

SUNDAY 9TH SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion and Junior Church
Tuesday 11th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 12th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	Ings Way Lunch Day
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 13th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

SUNDAY 16TH SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	9.30 a.m.	Parade Service and Holy Communion
Tuesday 18th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 19th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	PCC meeting in vestry
Thursday 20 th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

SUNDAY 23rd LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY/BIBLE SUNDAY

	9.30 am.	Holy Communion & Junior Church
Tuesday 24 th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 26th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Thursday 27 th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 30TH ALL SAINTS' DAY

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
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October 13th: Edward the Confessor (1003 – 66)

This early King of England was the virtual founder of Westminster Abbey. And never mind entrance charges - at one point in his life, Edward was giving a full tenth of his income to Westminster Abbey.

Edward was the son of King Ethelred the Unready and his second, Norman wife, Emma. After various ups and downs which included a brief exile in Normandy, Edward was made king of England in 1042.

As King, Edward had a tricky time of it – trying to keep the peace for over 20 years while various Danish and Norman magnates struggled for power (which eventually led to the Norman Conquest). Scholars have argued over how much of a success he was as a king.

As a Christian, there is no doubt: Edward's holiness was evident to all. He made himself accessible to his people, he was generous to the poor, and chaste. He was also reputed to have seen visions and even achieved miraculous cures for people through prayer.

Edward did much to help the Church in many ways. His lasting contribution was the original Westminster Abbey - a huge Romanesque church, 300 feet long, with a nave of 12 bays. Westminster Abbey became the place of coronation and burial of kings and queens of England. It was finished and consecrated just before his death. Edward was buried there, and his relics are undisturbed to this day.

During the Middle Ages, Edward was a very popular saint: along with Edmund of East Anglia he was widely considered to be England's patron for a time.

Communion

Three of our young people - Jessica Allen, Joshua Ellis and Lucy Heywood - have undertaken to follow the training programme for communion before confirmation. During September and October they will follow the course in the Junior Church sessions during the main service with a view to being ready to take their first communion on 6th November. Please pray for them in this time of preparation and give them your support

as they take this important step in their Christian lives.

Christmas Fair

Looking ahead to next month, we will be holding our Christmas Fair on Saturday 26th November from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. More information will be available in the next magazine, but we hope to have all the usual stalls and, as always, would be grateful for donations to stock them. Please mark the date in your diary and come along to support us on the day.

Ings Way Lunch Day

The lunch day still takes place each second Wednesday of the month, between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. There is homemade soup, sandwiches, biscuits and tea/coffee available—and it's all free. At most sessions Mr. Peter Kitson provides musical entertainment on the piano, to which you can sing along—or dance. Everyone is most welcome to come along to share in this time of food and fellowship.

The New English Bible, (1961 - 1993).

This year sees not only the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible but also the 50th anniversary of the New Testament section of the New English Bible first published in 1961. Although this has been out of print for nearly 20 years the NEB was highly regarded in its day and is still readily available from second-hand and charity bookshops.

The Revised Version of the King James Bible discussed in my earlier article appeared between 1881 and 1894. Since then various translations had been produced in England by individual scholars such as Weymouth (1902), Moffatt (1913/24) and Phillips (1959). The Phillips version became popular for school use for a few years but is almost forgotten today. By the early post-war period the shortcomings of the Revised Version were becoming increasingly obvious and it had largely fallen out of use. Consequently in May 1946 the Presbytery of Stirling and Dunblane put forward a motion at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland that "a translation of the Bible be made in the language of the present day". The language of both the 1611 and even the RV text was very much out-of-date by 1946 and certainly scholarship had moved on

since 1611 with improved understanding of Biblical languages and the discovery of older and more authoritative manuscripts. As a result, delegates of the Church of England and the Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational Churches met in conference in October 1946 and recommended that a completely new translation, rather than a revision, be made - a crucial difference from the RV. The University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge, as experienced Bible publishers - Cambridge had been publishing KJVs since 1629 - and various Protestant nonconformist churches and other religious organisations were invited to be involved in the project. And so the great work began.

After nearly 15 years of work by the various translation committees the New Testament section of the New English Bible was finally published on 14th March, 1961. Two main formats, both in green covers were available - a popular hardback edition (7 ½ " x 5") with 432 pages priced at just 8s 6d (42 ½ p) published at Oxford and a larger library edition (9" x 5 ½") with 447 pages, larger type and fuller notes, published at Cambridge and priced at a guinea (£1.05). The library edition was also available in a case in a de-luxe binding with marbled boards and a leather (?) spine (original price unknown) - quite rare today. Other special versions seem to have been printed in small numbers.

It is beyond the scope of this short article to discuss fully the merits of the new translation or detail the principles upon which it was based. Its main purpose was simply to produce a new translation more readable, up-to-date and easier to understand than the KJV - a Bible for the 20th century.

The new translation was generally very well received and work continued with the Old Testament and Apocrypha which finally appeared just 9 years later on 16th March, 1970. This was an instant success and a million copies were sold on the first day. A wide variety of different formats and bindings - some very rare today - was available to suit different budgets and provide interest and confusion for future librarians! The most commonly seen version today is the Standard Edition complete Bible without the Apocrypha, (1536 pages) which originally sold for just £1 10s (£1.50) which was soon raised to £1 16s (£1.80) These usually had a green cloth binding with a red dust jacket.

In 1972 Oxford and Cambridge Universities, in association with the British and Foreign Bible Society, produced a second edition, beautifully illustrated by Horace Knowles. This was reprinted many times up to at least 1993. By then, however the NEB was felt to be politically incorrect for various reasons and had effectively been replaced by a modified text called the Revised English Bible (REB) in 1989.

Commoner editions of the NEB are still widely available today and are often recognisable by the distinctive octagonal badges containing a cross and floral emblems on their covers. NEBs seem to have a strange tendency to find their way into charity shops where they may be purchased very cheaply. I have rescued quite a few unusual ones over the years and recently bought a lovely de-luxe and case-bound 1972 edition illustrated by Knowles from an Oxfam shop in York. I later found that it had an inscription recording that it had been presented in 1976 to Councillor Jack Archer, the Lord Mayor of York, by the publishers, the British and Foreign Bible Society when they held their annual meeting in York. Beautiful book with an interesting history which certainly didn't deserve to end up in a charity shop. (See illustration inside front cover.)

Although the New English Bible is little used today I still affectionately remember growing up with it in the 1960s and '70s and encourage people to take an interest in it.

Ian Mc Alpine.

Gardening helps your health – in spadefuls!

As you put your garden to bed for the winter, and perhaps rake endless leaves, there is at least one very positive advantage in all that work: you are doing your health a lot of good.

Research has found that only two and a half hours of gardening a week can improve fitness levels and also reduce the risk of heart disease, the risk of type 2 diabetes, lower blood pressure, improve mental alertness, and encourage your children to get more active.

One expert says: “Gardening is a fantastic way to exercise. By digging and weeding, every part of the body gets a workout.” Certainly raking leaves is

great for toning your upper arms....

Broad

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

The glass

To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the pessimist, the glass is half empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

Evolution or Creation: Mum versus Dad.

A little girl asked her father, "How did the human race appear?" The father answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children and so was all mankind made."

Two days later the girl asked her mother the same question. The mother answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved."

The confused girl returned to her father and said, "Dad, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Mama said they developed from monkeys?"

The father answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your Mama told you about hers."

Shampoo

I don't know why I didn't realise this sooner. It's the shampoo we use in the shower. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning , "FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY." No wonder I have been gaining weight. I am getting rid of the shampoo and am going to use dishwashing liquid instead. Its label reads, "DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE." Problem solved.

46TH BRADFORD NORTH CUB SCOUTS

We currently number fifteen children and five leaders; however we hope to recruit more members to bring our pack up to full strength.

We have begun working towards the Communicator Badge; activities for this badge include: knowing how to use modern communications technology: mobiles; email; faxes; answering machines and the like. We will also be learning how visual or hearing impaired people communicate, learn some semaphore and write and decipher messages in code.

Football practice will be held on the 1st October at Speedball - a new indoor facility on Duncombe Way - in preparation for the 5-a-Side Tournament on the 8th.

On October 23rd we will join the Beavers and Scouts on a visit to the Runway Visitor Park at Manchester Airport. The children will have the chance to go on board an aircraft and sit in the Captain's seat. There will be role play opportunities to include Captain, Cabin Crew, and Air Traffic Controllers etc. We will be able to watch the planes take off and land from the various raised mounds which offer unrivalled views. There may also be a chance to see Concorde in its special hangar so long as no other event is taking place such as a conference or corporate meeting. Other historic aircraft are on site which can be seen close up.

The visitor park is a great place to go if you're interested in planes - check it out on the internet.

Bev Howard - GROUP SCOUT LEADER

Shoe boxes

As reported in the August magazine, we have again decided to support the Samaritan's Purse *Operation Christmas Child* initiative to send shoeboxes filled with goodies to children who would otherwise receive nothing - or very little - at Christmas. Last year, over 500,000 people from across the UK and Ireland got involved - including many churches, schools and workplaces. Children and adults alike wrapped and packed around 1.12 million shoeboxes full of gifts and goodies, which were then sent to disadvantaged children across Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Full instructions for filling your box are given on the leaflets in the narthex - or on the website at www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk/. Basically, wrap the base and lid of a shoebox separately with bright, Christmas paper and fill with small items of toys; hygiene items; sports things; educational items; hats, scarves, gloves; non-chocolate sweets etc. As next year is the big Olympic year for Great Britain, the organisers suggest a tennis ball, skipping rope, baseball hat, small football, inflatable beach ball, stop watch, sweat bands, swim goggles, toy medals or some other sports-related gift that would bring a smile to a child! Please ensure all items are new, and don't include anything that could be harmful or controversial.

Finally, fill in the form from the leaflet indicating the age and sex of the child the box is intended for and complete the instructions for donating sufficient postage so your box can actually be sent.

At Parade service on **Sunday 16th October**, we will hold a special service to receive completed boxes, which will then be taken to our nearest collection point for distribution.

It's great fun hunting down suitable items, choosing the paper and wrapping the boxes in the knowledge it will bring such happiness to an unknown child. Please join in!

The Black Rubric or Kneeling no Idolatry!

We don't read the small print, do we? Often, (in fact, almost always) it contains things we ought to be aware of. In the old prayer books, particularly the hand-written ones, the problem was the small print giving instructions for the conduct of services. This problem was solved by using red ink. These instructions were called "rubrics" from the Latin word *rubor* meaning red.

There was, however, one exception. Cranmer found it necessary to add a rubric at the end of his communion service of 1552 (which is the basis of the service we now call "Prayer Book") but it was always printed in *black*. It was not an instruction, but an explanation of the necessity to receive communion kneeling.

We are so used to kneeling at the altar rail, and in churches more inclined to Catholic practice, to seeing people genuflect in the presence of the Sacrament, that we wonder why it was necessary for Cranmer to do this. What was the fuss all about?

The Reformation, sparked off by Luther's 95 theses pinned to the door of Wittenburg church in 1517, threw up a wide range of groups with various degrees of opposition to all aspects of Catholic teaching and practice. The most extreme of these radicals abhorred the practice of kneeling in reverence of the Sacrament. They rejected the teaching known as *Transubstantiation*, which says that the bread and wine become the actual Body and Blood of Christ. Radical reformers of this type were found in the Church of England, as well as elsewhere on the Continent. Kneeling, to them, was worship, and worship could only be offered to God. Anything else was idolatry.

By the time Cranmer was producing his Prayer Books in English, he had moved a long way towards the radicals, and he was keen to remove any suggestion that the bread and wine changed into anything else, and he wanted to avoid any sense that they were to be worshipped. So he ordered

that the bread and wine should be placed into the hands of the congregation, not directly into their mouths. He also restored the giving of the wine to the congregation, which had not happened in the pre-Reformation church.

But when it came to kneeling, Cranmer had been pushed far enough! He instructed the congregation to kneel at the reception of the bread and wine, and rejected the arguments that the congregation should receive while still sitting. He not only rejected Biblical arguments the radicals brought forward, but also considered it irreverent and undignified. So in the Black Rubric, which is still printed at the end of the Prayer Book service, he set out his opinion that kneeling is an expression of reverence and humility; gratitude not idolatry.

So we continue to receive the bread and wine of communion kneeling (those of us who can) in humble, grateful acknowledgement of all that God has done for us.

Richard Bailey

East African Famine Appeal

A collection was held in church over several Sundays and we are pleased to have been able to send £102.60 to the East African Famine Appeal.

Notes from the PCC

The PCC met on Tuesday 6th September to consider various matters.

The main social event on the horizon was the Dedication Festival over the weekends of 17/18th and 24/25th September. We very much looked forward to the musical evening, the services and the open day to mark this and the chance to welcome the new Bishop of Bradford, the Rt. Revd. Nick Baines, and friends old and new.

The question of pastoral care was raised and we considered how we could best manage this. As we no longer have our “own” vicar who lives in the parish, it is more difficult to be aware of people who need our prayers and support. As a congregation, we all need to be alert to people’s needs and let Andy, the wardens or any member of the PCC know if someone is ill or in need. It is far better to duplicate information than to assume someone will already know! We do have the intercessions book at the back of church in which people are encouraged to write the names of those who need our support - so please make use of it. It was also decided a small group will meet after Morning Prayer on a Thursday morning to co-ordinate response to these requests. Anyone who is interested in this area of Christian ministry is most welcome to go along.

Once again thanks were expressed to all who have been involved in the refurbishment of the hall, which is looking splendid after its facelift. It is a valuable asset to the church and the community and we are to look at how it is managed to see if we can maximise this benefit.

Junior Church has recommenced after its summer break. We would love to see a few more children, leaders and helpers in its ranks. Those already involved do a splendid job and over the coming weeks they will look at ways to develop this.

*Hilary Davis,
PCC Secretary.*

October Roll of Remembrance

1st	George Singleton	(1945)
	Albert Edward Nichols	(1967)
2nd	Ethel Butterfield	(1979)
	Bernard John Lowde	(2003)
3rd	Ethel Rhodes	(1981)
4th	Ivy Sollis	(2001)
5th	Francis Garbutt	(1978)
	Arthur Marlow	(1942)
8th	Lucy Alice Holdsworth	(1973)
9th	Tommy Smith	(1981)
10th	Ronald Brown	(1990)
12th	Dorothy M. Larking	(1974)
13th	Doris Hester	(1984)
14th	Betty Presland	(2000)
	Josephine Lowde	(2003)
16th	William Preston	(1980)
20th	Sidney Holgate	(1980)
21st	Alice Hartley	(1979)
26th	Ida Emsley	(1987)
28th	Win Brooksbank	(1999)
31st	Arthur Chilvers	(1982)

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH
FAIRWEATHER GREEN**

BD8 0LU

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