

The Parish Magazine
Ashford in the Water and Sheldon
www.ashfordparishchurch.co.uk
February 2011

Dear Friends,

The Feast of Candlemas (February 2nd) marks the end, within the Christian Church, of the Christmas and Epiphany celebrations, and whilst you will have packed your decorations away some time ago, hopefully our celebration of God revealing the fullness of his love, light and peace in Jesus Christ, will continue to fill your life and experiences in a positive way through the rest of 2011.

The end of the Candlemas service sees the congregation gathered around the font with their candles lit and the words spoken by the priest and people encourage us to turn our faces and thoughts from the infant Christ child to his eventual rejection, betrayal, passion and death on the cross of Good Friday for the people of the world. The last words in the service poignantly remind us that the cycle of earthly life is intertwined with a God who shows us that strength does come out of weakness; that joy can come out of sadness; that hope can displace despair; that light will penetrate the deepest of darkness and that life comes out of death.

Reflecting upon human history provides no evidence that human beings can find solutions to the problems of the world merely by their own efforts. If you were to look at the first chapter of St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians you would see a part of Christian tradition that holds that the weakness of God is stronger than human strength and the foolishness of God is wiser than any human wisdom. We need to find through our prayer and worship an openness to the strength and wisdom of God that will enable us to both recognise and respond to God's call, learning to see the world through God's eyes and to be able to respond to things in God's strength.

A faith in God is not an escape from the world, but it allows us to draw up a little higher to find a vantage point that enables us to see the reality of situations, to inform our prayers that are offered in worship and to begin to recognise ways in which we can serve God and our neighbour. Then perhaps we feel a little less helpless and a little more hopeful, filled with God's strength and peace.

With love and prayer. Tony

If you would like to speak to the vicar, or would like him to visit, please use the following contact details:

Rev. Canon Tony Kaunhoven: 01629 814462; jazzyrector@aol.com

Services at Ashford

Sunday: 9.45am

- 6 Feb - 5 before Lent: All Age Worship
- 13 Feb - 4 before Lent: Sung Eucharist
- 20 Feb - 3 before Lent: Sung Eucharist
- 27 Feb - 2 before Lent: Sung Eucharist

Thursday: 10.30am

Said Holy Communion
10, 17 and 24 February
No Service on 3 February.

Services at Sheldon

- 13 Feb. – 9.00am: Holy Communion
- 27 Feb. –9.00am: Holy Communion

The Methodist Chapel

Great Longstone

Sunday Services at 10.30am
Minister – The Rev. David Briggs.

The Roman Catholic Church

- 6.15pm Saturday Mass at Bakewell
(1st Sunday at Hassop)
- 10.00am Mass at Hassop
(1st Sunday at Bakewell)

Thank you very much for your cards, best wishes and prayers on my being made an Honorary Canon of Derby Cathedral. The evening of January 9th in Derby was a very enjoyable occasion and thank you to those able to travel for helping to make it so.
Tony

Church Bookstall

Please support your church bookstall. We have a good selection of greetings cards, prayer cards, bios and guide books, plus various items showing an attractive photo of the church, including postcards, notepads and much more.

Ashford Church Notes

The last issue of our magazine was made before Christmas, so all our services had still to take place, but it is good to report that they all went very well and were all well attended. Our Carol Service was very much appreciated by the congregation and we thank the choir, our organist, Ian, and of course, our choir master Richard for all their hard work. The carol singing round the village, on an extremely cold evening, was also enjoyed by all, as was the warm reception at Dorothy Daybell's after the tour of the village! The Crib Service on Christmas Eve, taken by Rev. JP was especially well supported and the children loved placing the figures and animals into the crib. Our Midnight Mass service and the Christmas morning service also went very well.

Unfortunately, all did not go well with the plumbing in the vestry during the freezing cold weather. We had bursts from the pipes under the sink and on the wall, soaking all the cupboards and the carpet. We had to hire large air blowers to dry the place out, which has obviously taken some time and resulted in our inability to serve coffee after the service on some of the coldest Sundays of the year! Thankfully our insurance company, Ecclesiastical, have informed us that they will pay for the hire and the electricity bill for the heaters and for a replacement carpet.

All was not doom and gloom, however. Some good events took place, beginning with Rev. Tony

announcing that he was to be made an Honorary Canon of Derby Cathedral. The service of collation, which took place in Derby Cathedral on the 9th January, was presided over by the Bishops of Derby and Repton, and was led by the choir of the Cathedral. Many congratulations, Tony. Another happy occasion was the celebrating of the 90th birthday of our friend and long time sacristan, Lilian Edwards. Lilian was presented with a basket of flowers and a card signed by members of the congregation.

A mixture of sadness and well-wishing was the feeling when Rev. JP announced that he would be leaving us to take up a new posting as Chaplain to the Bishop of Gloucester. We are all very sorry to lose him; he has become our friend as well as our priest over the last couple of years and will be sadly missed. At his last service here in Ashford, we said farewell with a gift of an Ashford marble candlestick, a print of Ashford church and an orchid. We then all enjoyed a glass of wine and a slice of cake, which had been beautifully made and decorated by Brenda Smith. We wish JP and his wife, Liz, all the very best for the future, with our love and best wishes. Rev JP's last service for the benefice is to be held in Bakewell church on Sunday, 23rd January.

On Epiphany Sunday, we welcomed into our Christian family little Gabriel George William Tindall, grandson of Terry and Kath Williams, long time residents of the village. We send all our good wishes to Gabriel, his

parents, godparents and grandparents. The lovely service, taken by Rev. Tony, also included the arrival of the Magi at the crib of our Lord. The children in the congregation were thrilled to be asked to find the figures of the Wise Men (who had been journeying round the window sills) and then invited to place them into the crib.

The Christmas period, however, did see a very tragic event take place with the sudden and heartbreaking death of our friend, Fraser Mack. Fraser and his wife, Anne, had been members of our congregation ever since their marriage here in Holy Trinity several years ago. He had strongly supported the work of our church, being a keen bell ringer and having only recently fitted out the vestry with new cupboards and working tops, giving hours of his time and expertise. He will be very sadly missed and our deepest sympathy and condolences are sent to Anne and to their family and friends.

One more happy event will shortly take place here in Ashford, and one we shall all celebrate, is the 99th birthday of our lovely Rev. Graham Foster on the 21st January. We shall all look forward to congratulating Graham and wishing him many more happy years here with us all in our village and our church.

Thank you to everyone at Holy Trinity Church for the lovely basket of flowers, good wishes and cards for my 90th birthday.

Many thanks too for the lovely carol singing.

Lilian Edwards

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Sheldon Jottings

John Herbert writes:

Welcome to our newest residents, John and Anne, from Newmarket near Cambridge who are leaving the delights of that part of the world for the even greater beauty of Sheldon. A warm and heartfelt welcome to you both. Good to see you both settling in to Spinney Cottage. Meanwhile work goes on at the other two cottages that have changed hands since before Christmas. A busy buying and selling time in Sheldon.

Sincere condolences to Gill Harper and her family. Gill's mother died suddenly at the beginning of January. Our thoughts are with you at this sad and difficult time.

The Nativity service this year was due to take place on Sunday December 19th but alas, for the second year running, unbelievably, the snow came and it had to be cancelled, which was a great pity, although necessary. But at least the intention was there, which I suppose is the main thing! Dare I mention next year? Or is that really tempting fate.

19 Village Ladies are heading off to Manchester Palace Theatre to see Calendar girls on the 25th February, door to door transport very kindly arranged by Alan. I'm sure a fun filled night will be had by all! Who knows, what next, a Sheldon calendar?!

Georgina is busy organising a special Sheldon celebration for April 29th, the Royal Wedding day! Village hall is booked all day. We will have the oldest Sheldon resident present to preside! And the youngest as well, with hopefully all ages in between. Maybe even commemorative mugs for all the young people in the village. As Georgina says: "We may be a small village, but we don't half pack a punch!" More next month.

You might have seen an article in the local papers regarding "counting stars" and light pollution. John Tanner is the technical lead on a project to preserve the dark skies of the National Park and he needs our help to produce a map of night sky quality. It's called Orion in the Peak. If you know anyone in the local area who might be interested in taking part, please feel free to spread the message. John is very keen for children to get involved, the more the merrier. The idea is to measure the darkness of the night sky between 28 January and 2 February to produce a map of night sky quality in the Peak District National Park. It is all at <http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/darkskies> Contact John Tanner if you want to be involved.

Congratulations to Andrew Lester, fully licensed driver now, passed his driving test first time. Well done Andrew.

And finally, after a very happy Christmas and New Year and six months of tender loving care (yes really) Colin and Lindsey's Oxford sandy and black pigs are off to the big pig sty in the sky. (Orders been taken for half pigs!)

Dates for the diary:

Parish Meeting: Wednesday Feb 8th at 7.30

Village coffee morning: February 8th Village Hall 10-11

Ashford Women's Institute

Sheila Wilde writes:

Pat Hall was the speaker at our January meeting reciting her poems and telling stories of everyday life in general. She also has a hobby of collecting amusing clips and handy hints from the local papers, some of which she read out to us, giving an afternoon of delightful laughter.

Some of our members are looking forward to an evening out at Youlgrave Pantomime on 27th Jan.

Our next meeting is on 3rd February when our speaker will be a physiotherapist. Also Kath. Williams will be telling us about the Ashgate Hospice Shop in Bakewell and collecting good quality clothing.

why not come and join us for a pleasant afternoon in a friendly atmosphere.

Christmas Morning on Christmas Morning

On Christmas Day a band of bell ringers from Ashford, Bakewell and Tideswell rang a quarter peal of a method called Christmas Morning Surprise Minor. We rang 'Christmas morning' on Christmas morning and finished as the clock struck 12 noon. We hope you all had a Merry Christmas.

BAKEWELL MEDICAL CENTRE

0844 477 3408

www.bakewellmedicalcentre.net

Closed for Training - 23rd February from 1.30pm to 4.30pm (surgery will re-open at 4.30pm).

Holiday Vaccinations - you will need to complete a travel vaccination form for submission to the Practice Nurse

and book into the travel clinic. The form is available from the surgery or on-line via the surgery website under FAQ's, travel information.

Ashford War Memorial Institute

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 19th February 7.30pm
"PENGUINS & HUSKIES"

An illustrated lecture by Mark Vallance on 2 years in the Antarctic where he was Base Commander of Halley Bay Station. Tickets : 01629 812559

Wednesday 2nd March 7.30pm

The New Perspectives Theatre Company presents:

"LARK RISE TO CANDLEFORD"

Tickets: 01629 640328 or 812559

Tuesday 8th March 12 noon – 2.00pm
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE LUNCHES



The third producer, Apicoop, which Angela and I visited in Chile was in some ways the most interesting and most impressive. It is a co-operative of 400 members producing honey and, more recently, blueberries. The members are spread over a huge area which does spread the risk of crop failure due to adverse weather or bee diseases, but also presents logistical challenges.

Chino Henriques, the manager, has been involved in the project for nearly 30 years, and is extremely able. He is totally committed to fair trade and is currently president of the national Fairtrade certification board.

We hope to be able to talk about our trip at some future event, but in the meantime do ask us any questions you would like to. Peter Bird (01629 813087)

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My name is George Hilton, Instructor at the local Tae Kwon-Do Club. Call me for more information on: 07861 303449

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Brief Extract

Public Conveniences: The parish council wish to thank all parishioners who have returned their questionnaires. There have been 39 responses, the majority of which are in favour of the parish council taking over the responsibility for the public conveniences, thus retaining this facility in the village. If you have not returned your questionnaire as yet, it is not too late; they can be left either at the Post Office or at Ibbotsons'

Grass Cutting: Mr Chris Whitham has been nominated to undertake this for 2011

A big **Thank You** from the Carol singers to all who opened their doors to listen to us on a freezing cold night, and plied us with mince pies and chocolates, and to Dorothy for mulled wine, mince pies and a warm house at the end of the evening.

Bakewell & Eyam Community

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Magazine Contributions

Please send any articles for the March edition to Linda Foster by 16th February

Tel: 01298 871647

email:

lindafoster07@btinternet.com

The editorial committee reserves the right to shorten, omit or reformat articles submitted