

Parish of Penn Magazine

The Link between
St. Bartholomew's and
St. Anne's Churches and Home
January 2011



50p

Concessions 40p

The Alpha Course 2011 Starts January 20th

Click here to **TAKE PART**



Sign up online at:
www.stbarts.org.uk

or on the Notice Board at the back of the Church
Starts 8.00pm Thurs 20th January St. Barts Oak Room
The Alpha Course is open to everyone interested in discovering what
Christianity is about. Come, relax, drink coffee, share your thoughts
and explore the meaning of life...

For more information on St. Bartholomew's Church, Penn visit:

www.stbarts.org.uk



SUNDAY SERVICES IN ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong
Junior Church meets at 10am in the Oak Room

SUNDAY SERVICES IN ST ANNE'S

9.30am Holy Communion (except for first Sunday in the month)
11.45am "All Age Worship" on the first and third Sunday of the month

The Calendar for January 2011

1st Saturday		New Year's Day
2nd Sunday		Christmas 2/ Epiphany
	11.45am	Christingle in St. Anne's
3rd Monday		Bank Holiday
6th Thursday	7.30pm	G-Factor Youth Group (Church Hall Lounge)
8th Saturday	2.00pm	Wedding: Adam Hill - Kelly Goddard
	5.30pm	Evening Eucharist Service
9th Sunday		Epiphany 1
	10.00am	Parade Service
11th Tuesday	7.45pm	PCC Meeting (Oak Room)
13th Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion (Oak Room)
15th Saturday	5.30pm	Evening Eucharist Service
16th Sunday		Epiphany 2
17th Monday	7.30pm	Prayers for Healing Group (Lady Chapel)
18th Tuesday	2.30pm	Mothers' Union (Oak Room)
20th Thursday	7.30pm	G-Factor Youth Group (Church Hall Lounge)
	8.00pm	Alpha Course (Oak Room)
22nd Saturday	5.30pm	Evening Eucharist Service
23rd Sunday		Epiphany 3
	3.00pm	Covenant Renewal Service in URC, Penn Road
	8.00pm	Informal Service (Oak Room)
24th Monday	7.15pm	Baptism Preparation Group (Lady Chapel)
25th Tuesday	8.00pm	Bell-ringers' AGM (Oak Room)
27th Thursday	3.15pm	The BASH (Church)
	8.00pm	Alpha Course (Oak Room)
29th Saturday	5.30pm	Evening Eucharist Service
30th Sunday		Epiphany 4
	3.30pm	Holy Baptism



From the pen of Ben in Penn



Dear Friends,

We are, as you know, in the middle of the Christmas season now. It is always a special time. But, what is it really all about? If you take away all the froth, what is the core meaning?

As you know, it is about God sending his son Jesus who was born in a manger in Bethlehem just over 2000 years ago. That is what God did. What I find interesting is what God could have done – but didn't. I appreciate this is speculation but I do believe it is helpful.

Given that the world, which should have been a wonderful place, is so full of selfishness, war, etc. what could God have done?

He could have blown us all away like some divine version of Arnold Schwarzenegger. He could have got rid of the problem that way....

He could also have disowned us like some parents disown wayward children. He could have left us to our fate.....

He could have sent a superhero to come in and 'sort things out' by using force and power. He could have forced us to clean up our acts....

Instead, He did what (I expect) none of us would have thought of doing. He did none of the above because He loves us too much. Instead He sent His son Jesus. Jesus was born, grew up, lived and died as one of us. Instead of using power, might and alike, He came in great vulnerability - utterly dependent on those around Him. He went on to simply say 'Come, follow me...'

That invitation still holds today, to you and me. I invite you to think this over and consider your response to His call in your life.

God bless you all.

Your friend and Vicar,

Ben

Disclaimer

The views, facts and opinions which appear in the magazine from time to time are the views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Clergy, the Editor or the PCC, its committee and groups etc. E&OE: Errors and Omissions Excepted.

However, your feedback is welcome which we may publish in future editions of St. Bartholomew's Church Magazine.



what's on!

January 2011

Penn Ladies Group will not be meeting in January. Our first meeting of 2011 will be on Tuesday 1st February when Ann Paterson will be talking about Modern Embroidery.

Penn Flower Club Penn Flower Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Victory Hall, Lower Penn at 7.30 p.m. The next meeting is on 11th January 2011 when Isobel Liston from Oswestry will give a demonstration entitled "Art Attack". New members and visitors are welcome. Further information is available from 338351.

PEC Meetings 2010

The Covenant Renewal Service Sunday 23rd January 2011
Penn United Reformed Church 3.00pm

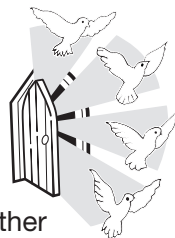
G-Factor Youth Club

G-Factor is a youth club for 11 - 14 year olds. We meet every other Thursday evening at 7.30pm until 9pm. At present we meet in the Church Hall lounge and our leaders are Mick and Val. Activities include games, quizzes learning about God and making friends. The next dates are:

6th Jan, 20th Jan, 3rd Feb, 17th Feb, 10th Mar, 24th Mar, 7th April.

The Bash

A monthly worship event for parents and children together. It takes place in church after school until 4.30pm. We are on the lookout for people who can make refreshments, man a craft table, help with music or the computer equipment. If you would like to be part of the team contact Val (Youth and Children's Worker) 07792658752



St Bart's Office Opening Times

Monday	9am	-	12pm
Tuesday	9am	-	12pm & 6pm - 7pm
Wednesday	1:15pm	-	3:15pm
Thursday	1:15pm	-	3:15pm
Friday	Closed		

St Bart's Magazine Advertising Rates

Quarter Page	6 months	£80
Quarter Page	12 Months	£120
Half Page	6 months	£110
Half Page	12 months	£255
Whole Page	6 months	£250
Whole Page	12 months	£420

Contact Eunice Craig on 01902 330625



January 2011



The Penn Townswomen's Guild meet in the URC Hall, Penn Road at 7.15pm on Wednesdays, there's only one Guild activity for January which is:

Wed 12th January - Look at the World Around Us - Mr. and Mrs. Harper

Wed 26th January - Alms Houses - Mr. Ned Williams

Any further information can be obtained from Mrs. Ursula McInnes telephone number 339057.

Penn Friendship Group meet on Thursdays in the URC Hall, Penn Road between 2.30pm and 4pm, our activities for 2011 are:

Our speakers for January 2011 are as follows;

January 6th David Berry - Humorous Look at Retirement

January 13th Mr A. Shrimpton - The Bournville Trust

January 20th Smestow Valley Nature Reserve

January 27th Graham Fisher - "Jewels on the Cut"

For the Diary

New Girl Guide Unit

St. Bart's Girl Guide Unit opened in September. We are now up to full capacity and have a waiting list. If you would like to join the waiting list please phone Catherine Pollard on: 01902 652 536 **OR** Louise Selman on: 07779 115 678 or email fifthpennguides@yahoo.co.uk We are also looking for additional Adult helpers so that we can increase numbers in our Unit.

Craft Group

January – Knitting January 22nd 2011

For more information, or to book, please contact Jess Hird on 01902 341238 or email: tiggycraft@hotmail.co.uk so that she has an idea of numbers.

The time will be 7:30pm in the oak room and is for everyone from the absolute beginner to the experienced knitter. There will be people to help teach as well as an opportunity for experienced knitters to sit, chat, share patterns and of course knit.

Mothers' Union See Page 15 for details



The Building of the Oak Room Part 5

From the middle of July 2000 preparations to break through into the Church involved constructing a wooden enclosure to minimise the dust, and removal of the rear pews. When the pew platform was removed, two old gravestones were discovered, loosely laid on the soil below. Since they did not appear to be associated with any adjacent burials and had faulty and unfinished letter carving, it was surmised that they may have been 'stonemasons' rejects'. They were left in place under the floor.

Unfortunately, Mary and I went on holiday just at the stage of the break-through, so I missed it. However, there were good second hand accounts and photographs from Lloyd. The original wall, over 30 inches thick, consisted of two outer walls and one inner one, with stone rubble in-between. Some dust did escape into the Church, and an emergency Working Party had to make the North Aisle



*Breakthrough - end July 2000...
...finished doorway*

habitable for the Sunday. Temporary timber supported the window until the new brick and stone pillars could be inserted to carry the new doorway lintel – now a shelf for beautiful flower arrangements.

The date booked with the Bishop for the Dedication Service – 22nd October – suddenly seemed to be approaching all too rapidly. With lots of fitting out and finishing to be done, the place swarmed with main and sub-contractors' men. At the same time there were many things to get done by the parish ourselves. Tables were ordered; and, after a 'comfort trial' between two types of chairs, 80 were bought. Eunice Craig and Mary went in search of curtain



Carving St. Bart's Badge

material, and they and Jill Biggs sewed furiously. Mary and I scoured local stores for suitable curtain rods, and after being assured that the sample type she liked were no longer made, we found a few of them in a discontinued items box. The fact that some were black and others white and would have to be painted enabled us to buy just enough at a handsome discount. Blinds for the Office windows and the 'upside down' one for the east window (Mary's idea) were ordered. Our own time was further complicated by trying to fit in re-decorating our bathroom after having a new suite fitted, before the imminent arrival of visitors.

Replacement of the Church boiler had been postponed from the

previous spring but could not be delayed any longer. Removal of the old one restricted work in the entrance area for a couple of days for fear of asbestos contamination; in the event there was none. Completion of heating pipework was followed by laying the hall

floor. Stonemasons laid the lobby floor and external pathway. The glass for the lobby window was fitted, the panes etched with the Lichfield and St. Bart's badges were a gift from Grosvenor Park residents. The internal screen was removed and the memorial stones restored to their places on the North Aisle wall, with the adjacent woodwork finished off. Hanging of the lovely oak doors settled the name 'The Oak Room' for the hall.

Members of Wolverhampton Planning Department had visited the building and pronounced their approval, and a joint meeting with Arroll & Snell and A.M. Griffiths agreed on a provisional acceptance date of 15th September for internal use of the building. From 21st



the area was awash with flower ladies and their arrangements. The following weekend they had a highly successful Flower and Music Festival. The Oak Room was used for coffee after Sunday morning service for the first time. The following Saturday it was filled with nearly eighty 'passengers' for the Oberammergau Experience, organised by Revd Beryl Morgan and friends. Church Hall chairs had to be carried over and back for that as the new ones only arrived the next day!

During the last two weeks internal and external tidying up continued between heavy rain showers. A.M.G's. Gordon, John Mills, Frazer and I laboured to erect the displaced gravestones in the grass area beyond the 'curved path'. With the Church boiler still out of action due to electrical problems, the Mothers' Union were glad to use the Oak Room for their monthly service and meeting. It was also used for the 8.00am and 6.30pm services on Sunday 15th October, I think we shivered in Church at 10.00am!



Bishop Keith thanking A.M.G. 22nd October 2000

Last things were almost literally that – fixing the handrail up the stone wall, surfacing the Churchyard path, touching up the paintwork, putting up the Office blinds and final sweeping and dusting. Keys were formally handed over on Saturday 21st, and preparations made for refreshments in the Church Hall.

And so, on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd October 2000, we gathered in a packed congregation for the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt. Revd Keith Sutton, in the words of the service:-

'to dedicate and bless this new wing for the purpose of 'Growing the Kingdom here in Penn'

- to which all responded (with joyful shout) – 'Amen and Amen'

The Mayor and Mayoress, members and officials of the Borough Council,



local present and former Clergy came together with some of the men and women who had worked on the project. At the end of the day I recorded in my diary a deep thankfulness that all our endeavours had come together so well.

Within two more weeks the compound had gone and the field seemed strangely empty. We did see a few of the men over the following months, and Andy Eccles and his family came the following spring for Frazer to Christen their new baby. Andrew Arrol was our new Quinquennial Architect , so we still see him or James from time to time.

When I began writing this story in March 2010, I had no idea that it would take so long, but re-reading my diaries and all the correspondence has been a happy and revealing occupation. I have not mentioned many of the folk who were involved, but I must record just a few more.

Lloyd Simmonds contributed tremendously, both in practical effort and advice on site and doing much of the correspondence with the Borough authorities and other bodies. He also checked all their financial figures. The Vicar, the Revd Preb. Frazer Williams, the Churchwardens and members of the P.C.C. gave great encouragement. The endeavours of the P.C.C. financial team led by Ken Biggs, and many others, to realise the funding were invaluable. Mary, my wife, helped in so many ways, including allowing me to ‘let off steam’ at home when things seemed to have stalled, and by keeping absolutely confident that all would be well in the end.

And finally, my grateful thanks are due to James Wade and Andy Eccles, who turned our original ideas into:

**- The Oak Room -
Thanks be to God.**

Dorien Russell
Oak Room Project Co-ordinator.



Thought for the Day, 29 November 2010

Clifford Longley

Christianity doesn't exist to make the world a better place.
It exists to make men and women righteous in the sight of God...

There they go again! - one New Atheist and one Defender of the Faith, slogging it out over whether religion is a good thing or bad. These public debates on the utility or futility of religion are becoming all the rage. The latest pair at it are Tony Blair and Christopher Hitchens, who've just had a debate in Toronto over the proposition "religion is a force for good in the world". Or not, as the majority decided at the end.

For me, both sides are missing the point. Christianity doesn't exist to make the world a better place. It exists to make men and women righteous in the sight of God, in other words to get souls into heaven. And success at that cannot be measured. God is not a heavenly social worker, putting things right in this world. As the poet William Cowper expressed it, God moves in far more mysterious ways than that.

His fellow poet John Milton was entirely wrong to suppose that he could "justify the ways of God to man," as he set out to do in his poem *Paradise Lost*. So Alexander Pope was right to rebuke him in his own poem, an *Essay on Man*, a generation or so later. He declared "Know then thyself, presume not God to scan, The proper study of Mankind is Man."

from the following century, John Henry Newman, would have voted with Mr Hitchens in Toronto. He held that it would be better, and I quote, "for the earth to fail, and for all the many millions who are upon it to die of starvation in extreme agony, than that one soul should tell one wilful untruth, or steal one poor farthing without excuse."



The point Cardinal Newman was making with maximum poetic overkill was that the mere possibility that one person might be damned to hell for all eternity is worse than the worst thing we can possibly imagine here on earth. If you take hell and damnation out of the equation, as New Atheists would of course, then what Newman is saying is utter insanity.

Yet the Abrahamic religions all tell us that we must take care of the widows and orphans, and work for justice and peace and the common good. But the state of a person's soul is still the acid test. Compare the Pharisee with the tax collector, in *St Luke's Gospel*. The Pharisee thanked God he was not like other men - not like that tax collector at the back for instance. "I



fast twice a week, and I give tithes for all I possess," he said smugly. The tax collector on the other hand had nothing to say except "Have mercy on me a sinner." Which of them made the world a better place? The upright

tithe-paying Pharisee, obviously. But which of them was more justified in the sight of God? That old rogue the tax-collector...

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Editor's Response (to Thought for the Day)

I rarely disagree with the BBC's 'Thought for the Day' but this one hit a nerve. I yearned to respond but wondered what would be the best answer. And then, by mere coincidence (ah ah, well I never!!) For a completely different reason I stumbled across Rob Bell's Nooma DVD called 'Sunday', which goes like this (*please excuse Rob Bell's American vocal style*):

For years I went to church because you are supposed to. But there were things about it that just didn't seem right. Do you know what I am talking about? It's like a lot of times I found myself looking around, thinking: "Is this what God had in mind?"

And then I came across this passage (**Matthew 23 1:39**) in the Bible that helped me start to see things in a new way. It tells a story of Jesus having a meal with some of the religious leaders of His day and they have all these complicated hand-washing rituals that they go through before they eat. And Jesus ignores their rules. One of them notices this and points this out. And Jesus says, "You, religious leaders! It's like you clean the outside of the cup, but the inside is filled with greed and evil." You give away 10% of your income, but you don't really care about **'making the world a better place'**. Then Jesus says to them: "Everything



for you is about being seen in public as important people. You love to be looked up to. You love to be respected. You love the best seats where everyone can see you." Then Jesus says, "Everything for you is about appearance. How things look to other people." And then he says to them, "You're like unmarked graves which people walk over without knowing it." I mean, Jesus essentially tells the religious leaders of His day: "You're spiritually dead, and you don't even realize it."

Now, one of them who's sitting there—he be like what we call a pastor and he realises what is going on here, I mean, Jesus is like slamming them. He says, "You know, Jesus when you say stuff like this, you insult us." And Jesus says, "You, teachers like you! You tell people to do all this stuff but you don't help them do any of it. All you end up doing is just heaping on the guilt. People end up feeling terrible



about themselves.” And then later He says to the same leaders: “You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when they become one, you make them twice the sons of Hell that you are.” Jesus calls the leading religious authorities of His day “Sons of Hell”. And what disturbs Him the most is that they go around making converts whom they pressure to become just like them. He goes on to tell them: “You’ve abused your positions of religious authority, and you’re actually getting in the way of people who are honestly searching for God.” You Sons of Hell!

There are many moments like these in the teaching of Jesus. To people who are wrestling with the deepest questions of life, Jesus has infinite patience and understanding. But to people who claim to know and speak for God but have hard, cold hearts he is relentless. Jesus gets angry.

Rob Bell goes on to use the purchase of a bunch of flowers for his wife as an example - Rob says if the flowers are not purchased and given to his wife from the heart, then there was no purpose in buying the flowers in the first place. He then says maybe this is how God feels? ...And why Jesus criticises the Pharisees so much in Matthew 23.

Rob continues...

One of the central prayers of Jesus’ life was called the ‘shma’. Part of it goes like this: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your might.”

We can go to mass or services or prayers every day. We can sing all the right songs, and we can recite all

the right prayers, but if it’s just going through the motions, I mean, what’s the point? God says in the book of Isaiah: “These people, they honour me with their lips but their hearts are far from me.” Sometimes we have to stop and ask, “Why do we do what we do?” To keep the family happy? So that you don’t feel guilty? Making an appearance at the right place at the right time wearing the right clothes, so that I can be seen by the right people?

The scriptures remind us that God doesn’t want the empty ritual. God wants our hearts.

Matthew 23 tells us that the Pharisees who seem to do right on the surface, underneath, they have no heart - whereas the so called ‘evil’ Tax Collector, was more sincere and honest in his beliefs and faith.

The whole point of Matthew 23 is to provide us with an illustration of how Jesus was endeavouring to make the world a better place. Jesus wants to have the entire earth full of people who have sincere hearts and faith in Him and God, by doing so, this is how They are creating a force for good in the world.

So, Mr Longley, Christianity and the other Abrahamic religions DO exist to make the world a better place, although I agree with you, they also exist to make men and women righteous in the sight of God...

Mr Longley, if you want more evidence of this, quite simply read and digest the Lord’s Prayer.



Your Kingdom Come, Your Will be Done

Let us pray for the breaking in of God's Kingdom in our world today.

Lord God,

because Jesus has taught us to trust you in all things, we hold to his word and share his plea:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where nations budget for war,
while Christ says, 'Put up your sword':

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where countries waste food and covet fashion,
while Christ says, 'I was hungry...I was thirsty...'

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where powerful governments
claim their policies are heaven blessed,
while scripture states
that God helps the powerless:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where Christians seek the kingdom
in the shape of their own church,
as if Christ had come to build
and not to break barriers:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where women who speak up for their dignity
are treated with scorn or contempt:
Your kingdom come, your will be done.

Where men try hard to be tough,
because they are afraid to be tender:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where we, obsessed with being adult,
forget to become like children:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where our prayers falter, our faith weakens, our light grows dim:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Where Jesus Christ calls us:

YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Lord God, you have declared that Your Kingdom is among us. Open our ears to hear it, our hands to serve it, our hearts to hold it. This we pray
in Jesus' name

Amen



Penn Almshouses

Once again we have an Almshouse available at an economical rent, which might be ideal for you. If you meet the criteria and are looking for a centrally heated one bedroom cottage, with a cosy lounge with inglenook fireplace and old timber beams, a shower and separate toilet, together with a modern, well equipped compact kitchen, then telephone Brian Williams (Chairman) on 01746 761969 or Jean Wellsbury (Clerk) on 01902 332294 and we will discuss it with you.

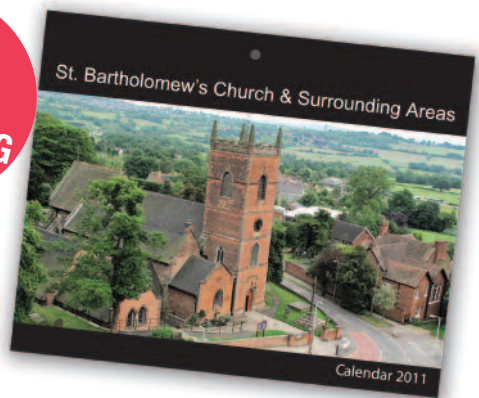
Penn Support Group for Compton Hospice

Our first event for 2011 will be a concert given by the 'Gentlemen Songsters' in St. Bart's on Saturday 26th February 2011. More details will be found in the February magazine – but keep the date in your diary!

St. Bartholomew's 2011 Church Calendar and surrounding area in colour!

These are now available to purchase at £4.00 each. The beautiful pictures for the calendar have been supplied by members of the church congregation. A sample calendar can be viewed at the back of church along with order forms if you wish to make a purchase. Money raised from the sale of the calendars will go towards the refurbishment of the Church Hall.

LAST FEW REMAINING



If you would like further information then please contact:

Margaret Mottram 343528.



THE MOTHER'S UNION at St. Bart's is expanding

The new Mother's Union group meets for the first time this month at The Victory Hall, Lower Penn on Tuesday 25th January at 7.30pm, and



membership is open to anyone who is over 18, has been baptised, and has a keen interest in improving the quality of Christianity in family life, both personally and internationally. Run by a team of women in their 20's and 30's, we are hoping to attract mainly (although not exclusively) people with young families. The meetings will address matters relevant to today's families, such as bringing God into our domestic lives and encouraging our children's faith. We will also have a pro-active approach to Mother's Union mission work and campaigns. Please come along to the meeting, or speak to Ben, Matt or Mel Flavell for further details.

Victorian Christmas Fayre

The Victorian Christmas Fayre in November was very successful, we have raised around £3,500! Many thanks to all who attended and supported this years event. A HUGE thank you to all the stallholders and everyone who helped out on the day, without you all none of it would have been possible, we can't thank you enough!

In particular we want to thank the local businesses in the area who kindly donated gifts and prizes:-

Local Businesses who have Made donations towards our Fayre.

Abiss Schoolwear
Baileys Hairdressing
Black Country Museum
Co-op
Dudley Zoo
Grand Theatre
Hollybush Shoe Repairs
Irene's Dress Agency

Let's Go Round Again
Marks & Spencer
Maypole Toys
Penn Golf Club
Pet Grooming Studio &
Pet Boutique
The Roebuck
Severn Valley Railway

The Springhill
Springhill Models
Strictly Liquor
Taylors Grocers
Tesco
Wombourne Hardware
Wombourne TV & Lighting
Wood 'N' Things



PCC NEWS – NOVEMBER 2010

Vicar's Report

- Helen Morey and Olivia Birch will be running the Fair Trade stall after the Sunday 10.00 am service.
- The Choir Visit to St Davids cathedral was a great success and it is anticipated that next year's visit will be to Bristol and Art in Penn weekend was another great success.
- The work due to be carried out by Severn Trent Water in Vicarage Road during the Christmas period should not affect any services.
- The new Saturday evening service commenced on 9 October and will run until Easter 2011 and then be reviewed. The event was featured in 'Spotlight' and the 'Express and Star'.
- Sets of new service cards, to assist worshippers, are being prepared for use at the 8 am service and Evensong.'
- The Chairmanship of the PEC falls to St Bart's next year. Revd. Ben will not undertake this role but will invite a St Bart's representative to fulfil the role on his behalf.

Treasurer's Report

- Total regular income was £7128 (13%) up on the same period last year and August income was in line with 2010.
- The photocopier has been replaced with a machine that would be 50% faster than the outgoing machine, have a recommended life of 6 years and be cheaper to run/service.
- A donation of £1000 was donated to the Pakistan Flood Appeal through 'Tearfund'.

Church Hall Project

- The open meeting held on Sunday 12 September was very positive and everyone appeared to like the plans for the refurbishment of the Church Hall. Wolverhampton City Council Conservation Officer has expressed his approval and stated that the design is an enhancement to the area.
- It is possible more parking spaces (possibly 2) may be required.
- Funding packs to be sent to various funding agencies will be prepared. However if only part of the necessary funding is forthcoming it would be



necessary to lower our aspirations for the refurbishment.

PCC Awayday

- This took place on Saturday 18 September at St Jude's.

Book of Remembrance

- Eunice Craig reported that a 376 page book would cost £130 and Ced Lewis has agreed to make a suitable stand for the book.
- Criteria for entry would be that the funeral arrangements had been handled through the Parish Office , although Revd. Ben would have discretionary rights on other entries.
- Records would start from 1 January 2011 and a donation required for each entry.
- Siting of the Book of Remembrance within the church has yet to be decided.

Committee Reports

Outreach and Education:

- The goals of the working plan of five years ago have been met and a new action plan is being prepared.
- A Bridal Fayre will take place on Saturday 24 September 2011 in the Oak Room. Church

and key people have agreed to take part.

- On Saturday 23 September 2010 a concert of Wedding Music and Readings was held. Invitations were sent to all couples booked to get married in St Bart's. The 'Express and Star' was informed.

Fabric:

- Work on the boundary wall parallel to Church Hill is now complete.
- Planned improvements at St Anne's, including a ramp for disabled access to the left of the building, were in the pipeline. However there is a need to determine the ownership of that piece of land.

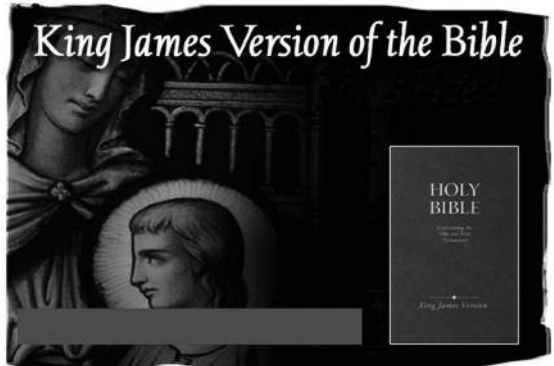
Worship:

- The remit of the Worship Committee will be revised and there are now several new worship opportunities such as the Alternative Service, Saturday Evening Service and the 24/7 Prayer Room.
- Training sessions for leaders of Intercessions etc. could be helpful and the possibility of offering prayer ministry to people for specific requirements.



400 years old, and still going strong KJV in all its glory

It is with great personal pleasure that I wish “Happy Birthday” to one of the greatest publications that has graced our lives, libraries, church lecterns, homes, hospitals, hotels etc – the King James Version of the Bible which was first published in 1611.



In the years prior to 1611, other versions of the Bible existed – for instance, the Great Bible (Henry VIII reign) and the Bishop’s Bible 1568. Earlier translations were perceived to have had translation errors, so in 1604, King James authorised a committee of 47 eminent scholars to create a more accurate version suited to the newly formed Church of England.

Greek, Hebrew, and a lesser extent Latin texts were the subject of close examination, and a new translation, ready for the creation of the KJV was created. This version eventually supplanted all previous translations following its widespread availability in 1611.

My older readers will probably remember reading or listening to the cadence and majesty of the KJV, and perhaps regret its passing from everyday use – I do.

However – please join me in Birthday greetings, and remember with gratitude, the work of the 47.

Graham Stone



The Bible - King James Version -

For those who want to know more - a brief history

The Authorized King James Version is an English translation of the Christian Holy Bible begun in 1604 and completed in 1611 by the Church of England. Printed by the King's Printer, Robert Barker, the first edition included schedules unique to the Church of England; for example, a lectionary for morning and evening prayer. This was the third such official translation into English; the first having been the Great Bible commissioned by the Church of England in the reign of King Henry VIII, and the second having been the Bishop's Bible of 1568. In January 1604, King James I of England convened the Hampton Court Conference where a new English version was conceived in response to the perceived problems of the earlier translations as detected by the Puritans, a faction within the Church of England.

James gave the translators instructions intended to guarantee that the new version would conform to the ecclesiology and reflect the episcopal structure of the Church of England and its beliefs about an ordained clergy. The translation was by 47 scholars, all of whom were members of the Church of England. In common with most other translations of the period, the New Testament was translated from the Textus Receptus (Received Text) series of the Greek texts. The Old

Testament was translated from the Masoretic Hebrew text, while the deuterocanonical books were translated from the Greek Septuagint (LXX), except for 2 Esdras, which was translated from the Latin Vulgate.

While the Authorized Version was meant to replace the Bishops' Bible as the official version for readings in the Church of England, it was apparently (unlike the Great Bible) never specifically "authorized", although it is commonly known as the Authorized Version in the United Kingdom. However, the King's Printer issued no further editions of the Bishops' Bible; so necessarily the Authorized Version supplanted it as the standard lectern Bible in parish church use in England. In the Book of Common Prayer (1662), the text of the Authorized Version replaced the text of the Great Bible — for Epistle and Gospel readings— and as such was "authorized" by Act of Parliament.

By the first half of the 18th century, the Authorized Version was effectively unchallenged as the English translation used in Anglican and Protestant churches. Over the course of the 18th century, the Authorized Version supplanted the Latin Vulgate as the standard version of scripture for English speaking scholars.

Source: Wikipedia online encyclopedia.



From the Registers

THE FOLLOWING WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY

Ellie Louise Joyce Taylor	Links Road
Olivia Alexandra Nettleford	Pennhouse Avenue
Thomas Beau Johnson	Cotsdale Road
Beaux Rachel Jones	Westbourne Road
Elizabeth Tina Williams	Pennhouse Avenue
Edward John Williams	Pennhouse Avenue
Lois Ross-Plummer	Waverley Crescent
Nathaniel Ross-Plummer	Waverley Crescent
Genevieve Ross-Plummer	Waverley Crescent
Lydia Ross-Plummer	Waverley Crescent

THE FOLLOWING HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Kenneth Wilmot	aged 71 years	Dewsbury Drive
Beatrice Green	aged 94 years	Wellesley House NH
Ella Ward	aged 95 years	Brenton Road
Kate Barratt	aged 94 years	Staffordshire
Mary Bagley	aged 79 years	Camberley Drive
Susan White	aged 65 years	Rutland Avenue
Ivy Marson	aged 87 years	Penn Road

We shall remember all these people in our prayers

COLLECTIONS AND COMMUNICANTS – November 2010

Date	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	Total	Cash	Envelopes	Total
7th	35	26	128	189	106.33	794.83	901.16
14th	29	38	-	67	301.05	970.18	1271.23
21st	40	35	180	255	237.02	1064.77	1301.79
28th	22	27	138	187	69.25	778.93	848.18

Excludes Standing Orders and other sources

CHURCH BRASSES:

Please refer to Leah Bevan

MAGAZINE DATES:

February copy by 6th January 2011, distribution by Sunday 30th January.

Regular Activities at St Bart's

Mondays	7:00pm	Slimming World Oak Room	Wednesdays	11:00am	Gentle Exercise Oak Room
Tuesdays	9:30am	Painting in Penn Church Hall		6:30pm	Painting in Penn Oak Room
	1:00pm	Painting in Penn Church Hall	Thursdays	2:00pm	Bart's Butterflies Lady Chapel
	6:00pm	General enquiries Parish Office		7:45pm	All Age Ladies Keep Fit Church Hall
	8:00pm	Bellringing Practice Bell Tower			



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Dean Plowman
PCC Treasurer

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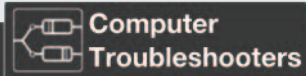
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Parish Office Mrs Cathy Elwell, 57 Church Hill, WV4 5JB

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