

# The Parish of St Michaels & All Angels Tenbury Wells

## LOCAL MINISTRY TEAM

Team Rector	Revd. Claire Lording	The Vicarage, Church Street, Tenbury, WR15 8BP	810811
Team Vicar	Revd Judith Dunkling	The Rectory, Burford, Tenbury Wells	819119
Asst Minister	Revd. Sue Foster	Little Oaks Cottage, Hope Bagot, SY8 3AE	891092
	Pat Deeley	1, Whitehouse, Clee Hill Road, Nash, SY8 3DE	811020
	Judith Smout	Hammer Mill, Worcester Road, WR15 8LL	810433
	Beth Knight		079059 830138
	Jane Britton	Harp Bank, Clee Hill Road, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8HJ	811649
	Kath Bills	31 Ronhill Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8AU	01299 270367
	Gordon Bailey	The Coop, Inkmoor Court, Tedstone Wafre, HR74PP	01885 483130
	Peter Mason	Freemans Place, Berrington, St. Michael's,	811769

**Tenbury Team Ministry Office** open Tues - Thurs 9am - 12noon Tel: 07804 928484

## THE PARISH

Churchwardens:	Mr.Ray Phillips	811117
	Mr.Arthur Gough	811957
PCC ViceChairman:	Mr.Tony Penn	810328
PCC Secretary/Asst Treasurer:	Miss Mary Thorpe	810463
PCC Treasurer:	Mrs.Jane Jenner	819653
Ass'tant Treasurer:	Mrs.Chris Fisher	810868
Gifts Recorder:	Mr & Mrs.J.Rickett	811649

## THE SWORD

Editors:	Mrs Julie Cook	810291
	email: anjuisal@tiscali.co.uk	
	Mrs Pam Owens	810978
Advertising:	Mrs Sue Grove	819662
Distribution:	Mrs Janet Penn	810328
Printing:	Speediprint	819703

Sec.Visiting Choirs & Musical Events: Mr.Michael Hart 01568 750544  
Organist: Mr.John Swindells 01905 426998

## PARISH WEB SITE

[www.st-michaels-village.co.uk](http://www.st-michaels-village.co.uk)

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Service/Officiant	Readings	Readers	Sidesmen
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am <i>Advent 2</i>	Family Service		Mrs C Lywood Harry Lywood	Mr & Mrs G Pitt
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30pm	Carol Service with Birmingham University Singers			Mr R Phillips
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am <i>3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent</i> 3.00pm	Sung Eucharist <i>Revd S Foster</i>  Choral Evensong	Isaiah 61.1-4,8-end 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 John 1.6-8,19-28	Mr I MacDonald Mrs P Winton Mrs J Cook	Mr I MacDonald Mr D Grosvenor  Mr R Phillips
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 10.00am <i>Advent 4</i>	Parish Communion: BCP <i>Revd J Dunkling</i>	Romans 16.25-end Luke 1.26-38	Mrs A Young Mrs C Fisher	Mr & Mrs A Gough
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30pm	Crib Service with Carols <i>Revd C Lording</i>			
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am <i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i>	Parish Communion: CW <i>Revd I Williams</i>	Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-4 John 1:1-14	Mr A Penn Isabel Cook Mrs G Arnold	
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am Team Eucharist at Little Hereford			
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10 am <i>Epiphany</i>	Family Service			
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10.00am <i>Baptism of Christ</i>	Parish Communion: CW	Genesis 1.1-5 Acts 19.1-7 Mark 1.4-11	Mrs A Fox Mrs S Summers Mrs H Mound	Mr R Phillips Mr J Edwards
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10 am <i>Epiphany 2</i>	Parish Communion: BCP	Romans 12.6-16 John 2.1-11	Mr B Fisher Revd	Mr & Mrs B Fisher
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10 am <i>Conv. of Paul</i>	Team Eucharist & Welcome at Clee Hill Village Hall			
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 10.00am	Family Service			

**Dear Friends,**

"Life is never going to be the same again." I am sure that there are many people in the United States of America who are saying that. With the historic and monumental election of Barack Obama as President there is an enthusiasm and energy in America that is infectious. People who have fought for civil rights for all find that they can now be really hopeful that their country is going to change for the better.

Sometimes a momentous event has to take place for there to be a change of direction and a re-evaluation of what is really important in our own lives and in the lives of our communities. As we continue our journey through Advent we remember that we have been given the most amazing and momentous event to reflect on. God with us in the baby in the manger is incredible. It is an event that challenges all certainties and assumptions about God and what it means to be human. The baby in the manger doesn't stay a baby forever and in adulthood Jesus spends much of his ministry challenging the status quo, asking difficult questions of those in authority and trying to live out a life that is full of the possibility of transforming change. And because God is always with us we know that all of these things are as relevant today as they were in Jesus' time. It is with this possibility of change that we can grow and develop and be transformed into hopeful people and hopeful communities.

If we are to be hopeful people we have to be willing to celebrate and rejoice when something new happens. For many months now the Ludlow Deanery has been anticipating change. Last year the Deanery Synod voted to reduce the number of stipendiary clergy from eight to seven when it was practical and pastoral to do so. The retirement of Alan Seabrook from the Bitterley group of parishes provided the right opportunity to make this reduction a reality. After much discussion and conversation the Deanery Pastoral Committee made the recommendation to the Deanery Synod that the parish of Clee Hill should join the Tenbury Team and that the remaining parishes of the Bitterley group should join the Ludlow Team. On October 23rd the Synod voted in favour of this plan, with only one member voting against.

So there will be a time of change as we welcome Clee Hill into the Tenbury Team Ministry. This is something that we should really celebrate because with it comes the possibility of all sorts of new opportunities. Clee Hill has much to share with us and I know that we will all look forward to getting to know a new community. This is a significant moment in the life of this Team and because we really do want to welcome Clee Hill properly there will be a Team Eucharist and Welcome at Clee Hill Village Hall on January 25th 2009 at 10am. Bishop Michael will be with us to license me as priest-in-charge at the service. I hope that we will fill the hall to bursting as a sign of our welcome to Clee Hill and as a sign of our eagerness to embrace change and the possibility of new opportunities.

*Claire*

**KEMP HOSPICE  
TREE OF LIGHTS SERVICE**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
3.30pm

St Mary's Church, Tenbury

*A very special service to dedicate the trees of lights at the church; help the work of Kemp by sponsoring a light in memory of someone special.*

**TEAM EUCHARIST &  
WELCOME**

as Clee Hill parish join  
the Tenbury Team Ministry

Sunday January 25<sup>th</sup> 2009  
10.00am  
with Bishop Michael

## Letter from the Bishop of Hereford

What shall I buy them for Christmas? That is the refrain in many households at this time of year - or maybe you have finished all your shopping already, in which case you are ahead of most of us. One of the groups that can be hardest to choose for are nephews, nieces and grandchildren, to say nothing of their parents!

Have you thought of one of the many very good children's and young people's Bibles, or a book to help all age groups to pray. These can not only provide an excellent idea for a present, but also do three other things. Above all, a beautifully illustrated, readable Bible, a book of Bible stories, or a well produced DVD will encourage whoever receives it to actually turn to the Bible and enjoy it. The Bible is still the best seller of all time, but also probably far less read than it used to be. For too many people, sadly, it remains a book unopened on the shelf, gathering dust. No good! It needs to be read. It needs to be known and loved. It needs to be learnt from and studied.

Giving an appropriate translation of the Bible can provide a treasured gift and one containing the words of eternal life.

Secondly, giving a Bible or book of prayers allows you to talk about it to your nephews, nieces and grandchildren, and maybe read it to them if they are very young. Also it encourages you to pray with your family, perhaps praying aloud giving thanks for something that has happened to you that day, and asking them what they wish to give thanks for. Similarly asking them whom they wish to pray for, or what they want to say sorry for.

Thirdly, what better way is there of celebrating Jesus' birth than to give a book or something else that points to him and helps people learn more about him?

If you have already bought all your presents for Christmas, then wait until the next birthdays arrive.

We need to encourage one another, family and friends, to read and know our Bibles better and pray more. Christmas is a marvellous time to do just that.

*+Anthony Hereford*

*[www.hereford.anglican.org](http://www.hereford.anglican.org)*

## Around the Tenbury Team ...

### **CAB EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF**

Tenbury's CAB are collecting items of non-perishable goods for emergency food relief to help locally, those in genuine need, in times of crisis.

PLEASE HELP by leaving contributions in box at St Mary's Church, Tenbury, or at the CAB office in Teme St.

### **www.VALLEY WORSHIP.co.uk**

Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm,  
at Burford Village Hall  
Speaker: Bernard Thompson

### **OPEN DOOR**

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Dec at 2.30pm  
Cornwall Gardens Centre,  
Christmas Party  
*ALLWELCOME*

### **LISTENING EAR**

In times of loneliness, bereavement, suffering and uncertainty, everyone benefits from someone to listen. There are caring individuals locally who can meet with you. Tel: 07804 928484 or contact one of clergy.

# Χηιλδρεν σ Παγε

**CALLING ALL YOUNGSTERS** - If you would like to be involved in the crib service please contact me on 810291 or mobile 07807 373132. I need lots of you to be all the characters and some of you to be readers. Please contact me before 10<sup>th</sup> December so I can allocate parts. You would need to be able to come to rehearsal on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec at 11am, after morning service.

**COMPETITION:** In the November Family Service we are talking about donkeys and journeys. Donkeys are mentioned several times in the Bible so here are some questions about donkeys and the corresponding Bible reference. Mark the answer you think is right or write out separately, then draw and colour a picture of a donkey. This month's competition entries need to be with Clair Wright at The Cote, Upper Berrington, tel. 811017, by 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

- Exodus 20.17. In one of the ten commandments, God says to do not do this to your neighbour's donkey.  
A. tease it                      B. covet it                      C. hide it                      D. feed it
- Exodus 23.4, Your enemy's donkey has wandered off, and you find it. The Bible says you should  
A. take it and hide it                      B. nudge it to go in the direction of your enemy  
C. take it back to your enemy                      D. do nothing
- Exodus 23.5. A person who hates you has put a heavy burden on his donkey, so much that the donkey cannot carry it. You see it, but do not want to help. God says  
A. help with the load                      B. laugh at them  
C. you do not have to help since the donkey's owner hates you.                      D. do nothing
- Exodus 23.12 & Deuteronomy 5.14. Six days shall you work and on the seventh you rest, but your donkey shall  
A. be used for children's rides                      B. be set free  
C. rest also                      D. have a big feast of fresh hay
- Numbers 22. Balaam went on his donkey to curse God's people. What did his donkey do to save his life?  
A. she stayed in the field and slept  
B. she refused to go forward when she saw the angel, and she spoke to Balaam when he struck her  
C. she wouldn't stop eating long enough to go anywhere  
D. she took Balaam in the opposite direction
- Matthew 21.1-9. What sort of donkey did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on what is now called "Palm Sunday"?  
A. gelding                      B. wild burro                      C. John                      D. colt with his mother
- Judges 15.15-17. This judge killed a thousand men with a jaw bone of a donkey.  
A. Gideon                      B. Ehud                      C. Jephthah                      D. Samson
- 1 Kings 13.21-32. When a lion killed a disobedient prophet, what did he do to his donkey?  
A. nothing, he just stood by it                      B. killed it  
C. chased it away                      D. ate it
- Deuteronomy 22.1-3. Your brother's donkey goes astray and you find it. However, your brother is too far away to take the donkey to him. What does God say to do?  
A. nothing, your brother is too far away                      B. give the donkey to someone who is in need  
C. keep it until your brother can get it, then give it to him  
D. keep it as your own, since it's your brother's, but you care for it
- Deuteronomy 22.10. You shall not \_\_\_\_\_ with an ox and a donkey together.  
A. eat                      B. dance                      C. work                      D. plough

*Answers in next month's Sword. Perhaps mum & dad or grandparents would like to try this as well?*

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following youngsters in the parish:**

Joseph Murray who will be 6 years old on 12<sup>th</sup> December;

Megan Hamer who will be 14 years old on 13<sup>th</sup> December;

Kathryn Fish who will be 5 years old on 15<sup>th</sup> December;

Darcy Caldicott who will be 12 years old 14<sup>th</sup> January;

Henry Griffiths who will be 3 years old on 18<sup>th</sup> January;

Harry Lywood who will be 11 years old on 25<sup>th</sup> January.

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH**

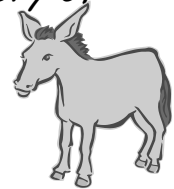
**ST MICHAELS CHURCH -**

**Family Service**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10am

Jenny & Ros will be talking about donkeys and journeys.

*The collection will go to the Donkey Sanctuary in memory of  
Jean Brigden who had a fondness for them  
Everyone welcome.*



**The January Family Service is on 4<sup>th</sup> January  
and we will be looking at the story of Babouska**

**CRIB SERVICE  
with CAROLS  
on Christmas Eve  
3.30pm**

...the youngsters of the parish tell the nativity story in word and mime, ending with the blessing of the crib. There will be plenty of carol singing in between accompanied by our small wind group. Everyone welcome to come and this service is definitely suitable for all the family!!

**\*\*CALLING ALL YOUNGSTERS\*\*** If you would like to be involved in the crib service please contact me on 810291 or mobile 07807 373132. I need lots of you to be all the characters and some of you to be readers. Please contact me before 10<sup>th</sup> December so I can allocate parts. You would need to be able to come to rehearsal on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11am, after morning service.

*Julie Cook*

**Bonus Ball Lottery**

Bonus Ball winners since from 2<sup>nd</sup> August to 23<sup>rd</sup> November are Angela Deakin, Kiki Flaxman, Steve Gough (x2), Diana Gough, Jean Sharp, Nick Weston, Pat Gough, Jane Newton, Jonathan Rickett, John Swindells, Geoff Mutton (x2), Peter Walker, Arthur Gough, Julie Cook, Anne Dicken.

Many thanks and good luck to all players.

**Music @ St Michaels**  
**CAROL SERVICE**  
**with The Birmingham University Singers**  
 director John Whenham, organist Henry Fairs  
**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30pm**  
  
**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 10am & 3pm**  
**Sung Eucharist & Choral Evensong**

**Harvest Gifts**

Goods donated at Harvest Festival were taken by Sally Mason to St Paul's Hostel for the Homeless in Worcester. They write -

"We would like to thank you on behalf of all of our residents and staff for your recent donation of harvest festival food items. All donations received are used within our hostel kitchen and we also distribute hampers to our resettlement clients living within the community. We are currently using some of the donated food items to help our residents learn basic cooking skills with our staff and this is proving to be a great success."

So thank you very much everyone who contributed.

**Operation Christmas Child**

Samaritan's Purse who run Operation Christmas Child send their thanks to St Michaels parishioners for the 20 shoe boxes filled with goodies which are now on their way to children suffering through war, poverty, natural disaster and disease in countries in Eastern Europe and beyond.

**Wheelchair Available**

A wheelchair has been made available for anyone to use for a day out, for holidays, etc. Please contact the churchwardens, Ray Phillips or Arthur Gough, if you would like to borrow it.

**TENBURY TEAM SERVICES THIS CHRISTMASTIDE**

Saturday 13th	6.30pm	Carol Service at St Michaels
Sunday 21st	3.00pm	Carol Service at Coreley
	4.30pm	Carol Service at Hope Bagot & Little Hereford
	6.30pm	Carol Service at Tenbury, Boraston, Burford, Greete (with Whitton) & Tenbury Methodist Church
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE	3.30pm	Carols & Crib Service at St. Michael's
	6.30pm	Christingle Service at Tenbury
	7.30pm	Carols for Christmas followed by First Mass of Christmas at Tenbury Roman Catholic Church
	9.00pm	Christmas Eve Eucharist at Whitton
	9.30pm	Christmas Eve Eucharist at Clee Hill Village Hall
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass at Tenbury, Burford & Coreley
Thursday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY	8.00am	Holy Communion at Tenbury
	8.30am	Holy Communion at Hope Bagot
	9.30am	Service at Tenbury Methodist Church
	10.00am	Holy Communion at Tenbury, Greete, Little Hereford & St. Michael's
	10.30am	Christmas Day Mass at Tenbury Roman Catholic Church
	11.30am	Holy Communion at Nash
Sunday 28th	8.00am	Holy Communion at Tenbury
	10.00am	Team Eucharist at Little Hereford

## ST MICHAEL'S VILLAGE HALL -

### ST MICHAEL'S VILLAGE HALL ENTERTAINMENTS

**Family Night - Friday 5th December 7.30pm.** Come and help us decorate the Village Hall for Christmas. Bar open (bring some nibbles) - it's more fun than it sounds!!!

**Village Christmas Dinner - Saturday 13th December 7.30 for 8pm** following the carol service. In the village Hall, catered by Phil Gibbs. Choice of two starters, choice of three meats in main course and two puddings. Adults £12.50, children under 10 years £6. Tickets available in advance from Ria Baxter 01584 811648 or Anne Fox 819845 Tickets are limited so don't delay.

**Children's Christmas Party** Sunday 21st December - for children of primary school age and under. Please ask Katie Powis for more details.

### Dates for your 2009 Calendar

**Straw Headed Peter** a children's play. **Tuesday 13th January 2009 at 6.30pm** (by the same company that brought us Firebird last year) A very funny new telling of a classic cautionary tale for naughty children which will delight all the family - hilarious stories for a dark time of year. Tickets £7 advance/£8 door/ £20 family. obtainable from Anne Fox 01584-819845 or Ria Baxter 811648

**Farce by Andy Cook** - January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>. See advert below.

**Pancake night Friday 6th February 7.30pm.** Bar. A family night with added calories!!! Entry £2

**Black Country Night with Tommy Munden Saturday 28th February 2009 at 7.30pm** Faggots and Peas supper by Phil Gibbs. Bar. Tickets £10. obtainable from Ria and Anne Great value. Great night !

**Quiz and Ploughman's** Family night 6th March details in February Sword.

### **Halloween Party.**

Trick or Treat was kept to a minimum in St. Michaels this year because all the local witches, little devils, skeletons and even Bart Simpson were far too busy partying in the Village Hall on the 31<sup>st</sup> October. We had apple bobbing, apples on string and a game where a pumpkin was dangled from the ceiling; this had to be belted as hard as possible with a broom until it finally burst showering the children with sweets.

Great fun for all the children that came and parents/grandparents were able to enjoy a bowl of delicious homemade soup and hotdogs.

Phil Baxter had the difficult task of judging the costumes and best pumpkin but finally awarded Kathryn Fish 1<sup>st</sup> prize for her witch outfit and Lucy Pitt 1<sup>st</sup> prize for the best pumpkin. Well done to all the children.

Thanks especially to the Pitt family who made such a good job of decorating the Hall and organising the games.

*Diana Gough*

# The Christmas Floor

St Michaels Village Hall

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December

8 pm

*We have obtained with much wheedling JOHN KIRKPATRICK with his Solo Christmas Show 'CAROLLING & CRUMPETS'. To quote his flyer in its entirety:*

John Kirkpatrick continues his quest into the bizarre traditional rituals found in the folklore and folk music of England at Midwinter. Building on his previous work with the 'Wassail' project of the 1990s, the ensuing radio series 'Deep and Crisp and Even', and last year's concert tour, 'From an English Midwinter', John presents a revised programme of songs and tunes that reflects his new CD release of seasonal material, *Carolling & Crumpets*.

Taking a profound look at the powerful pagan urges that race through us all at this time of year, John peels away the commercial gloss of modern Christmas to reveal the life and death struggle that is symbolised in so many traditional songs and customs. And if that sounds just a little too intense, then rest assured that the mysterious and murky goings-on in these magical songs of wassailing, wren-hunting, stirring the fire, and incessant feasting, all come dressed up in a glittering finery of toe-tapping tunes and cracking choruses. Add to the mixture a light-hearted smattering of hilarious original songs, a sprinkling of carols both familiar and unfamiliar, all stirred up with John's usual panache and energy, and supported by his scintillating skill on a variety of squeeze-boxes, and you have an unbeatable recipe for having a rattling good sing, guaranteed to keep the spirits cheery and the cold at bay.

Also performing are **The Golden Lion Light Orchestra** with their mummer's play and more  
& **Chris Chedghey** with comic songs

*If all this doesn't entice you to come, I don't what will!!! See you there*

Entry: £5 on the door (£1 child)

*Excellent bar & The Floor Broad thrown in.*

On January 9<sup>th</sup> we have the legendary Phil Bates, one of our most popular performers at The Floor & who has had an amazing career in music which was originally inspired by The Beatles - more details about him on [www.phil-bates.co.uk](http://www.phil-bates.co.uk) We also have Vital Spark, a West Gallery Quire from Malvern, and more.

**[www.thefloor.org.uk](http://www.thefloor.org.uk)**

Oh No It's Not Productions  
present

# The Art of the Matter

a farce by Andrew Cook

*5 years in the making and specially written for the cast*

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
& Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2009  
at 7.30pm  
in St Michaels Village Hall

*The Art of the Matter is that nothing is what it seems as painter Mike heads for the luxury penthouse suite of Gordon Mountfield .... surely nothing can stop the completion of his work but in the art world, where piles of bricks sell for millions and cows float in tanks, nothing is what it seems....*

Prepare to laugh your socks off as an ever more entangled web is woven. Roar with laughter at the antics of Mike Jenner as he manipulates the paint brush wielding Mike Jordan, diverts the attention of Godfrey and Karen Pitt, plays with Mary Jordan and Charlotte Pitt, and mocks the exacting Peter Crownshaw.

*This is a family show but there are some risqué moments - hopefully!  
Directed by Andrew Cook, produced by The Cast*

Tickets at £6 adults, £3 under 16s are available from members of the cast and at Books Books Books in Teme Street.

More details tel. 01584 810291

**ST MICHAELS SINGERS -**

## W. I. NEWS -

At the September meeting held in the Village Hall, members saw Alf Jenkins, reminiscing on his youth and local history of the Clee Hill Region. On the 8<sup>th</sup> September, 14 of us attended an evening visit to Frank P Matthews, at Berrington Court. Many thanks to Nick Dunn and his team for the visit, especially Stephen Grosvenor for the guided tour around the fields and greenhouses.

Over 75 tickets were sold at our fundraising event "Ideas for Christmas" with Jonathan Waters, a pre-Christmas demonstration by Whites at The Clockhouse. A wonderful evening and special thanks to Chris, Jane and Jonathan.

October was a busy month for us. Firstly, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> October meeting, we welcomed our member Bettyne. From extracts from her diary and photographs taken, with husband Andy, she guided us on their eight week back-packing adventure holiday to Chile, Argentina and Patagonia. Gill Portsmouth gave the vote of thanks.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> October, St Michael's were the hosts at Tenbury and Teme Group Meeting. Members from Menith Wood, Mamble, Bockleton and Tenbury WI's saw our member Maureen Allott demonstrate Autumn flower arrangements. Maureen is a very talented flower arranger. Her enthusiasm for flowers, colour and design was shown with the arrangements she created. Many members wondered why there was an empty bud vase on each table. This soon came to light, when the competition was announced, to create flowers for the vase from the craft materials supplied. After much fun, Tenbury were the winners and received the cup and scroll.

We were invited to serve teas at Tenbury's Apple Fest on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. After a few teething problems with the electric supply to the children's roundabout and ourselves, the day was successful.

Vicky attended the Autumn Council Meeting, at Stourport Civic Centre as our Delegate and gave a very interesting report, with guest speakers Chris Onions from The Worcestershire Association for the Blind and Jane Sullivan, Editor of the Worcestershire Life Magazine.

Finally, on the 26<sup>th</sup> October, 82 members and guests attended Sunday Lunch at the Village Hall. Phil Gibbs and team, were chefs once again, for this fundraising event.

Gill Portsmouth and myself have just attended a Garden Design Course at Denman College. It was most absorbing and an enjoyable weekend, with good food and great company. It was also good to see members from Tenbury WI, enjoying the Barbershop Course and singing to us all on the last night.

The 6<sup>th</sup> November meeting was the AGM. Anne welcomed all members and WI Adviser Pauline Briggs to the meeting. Secretary and treasurers report's were read and signed. In her President's address, Anne thanked everyone for their continued support, particularly mentioning Ruby who retired as secretary last December and from the committee this year. All members would like to thank Ruby for her warmth, dedication and hard work to St Michael's WI for many years. Anne was re-elected as President.

To finish the evening, Committee members showed members their new talent of napkin folding!, and teas were served by Eileen.

The Cowdell Cup for 2008 monthly competitions was won by Angela Keysell.

The January meeting will be our Christmas Dinner on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at Sapey Golf Club.

### Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

St Michaels, Oldwood Common, Berrington Green and Berrington once again did very well with Poppy Box house to house collections gathering in a grand total of £390.98.

Many thanks to everyone on behalf of The Royal British Legion.

*Roy, Chris & Muriel*

### Memory Lane

I'm sure many of you know that this has been my 60<sup>th</sup> year selling poppies in St Michaels and Berrington.

My round has certainly grown over the years, but from where we used to live at Kitts Castle up to the Raddle Bank along Ladywell Lane and back down the lane from Miles Hope the houses located along these roads I have visited every year. Only two of these houses are occupied by a younger generation of the same family that were there 60 years ago, and they are Miles Hope and Springfield. Glyn, Marie and Simon (Morgan) live at Miles Hope and Basil and Brian live at Springfield which was the home of Mr & Mrs D Brunt, their grandparents.

I collect quite a lot of money in my box because the round I do with Cecil's help is quite a large one, but 60 years ago I still managed a respectable total as Mr O. P. Morgan of Miles Hope owned quite a number of lorries used for collecting milk in churns from farms in the district and taken to dairies in Birmingham and of course to Cadburys at Marlbrook. He always bought poppies to go on these lorries, and the poppies for such vehicles in those days were beautiful sprays of waxed poppies which I think were made of silk and he always gave a very good donation for these.

I hope I shall be fit enough, and with Cecil's help, continue to sell poppies for a few more years.

*Muriel*

### Salvation Army Christmas Toy Collection

Last year St Michaels joined Rochford in a toy collection for the Salvation Army.

Rochford Church has done this for many years and after the Rochford Church carol service Dan and Trish gather all the toys, etc, that have been donated and placed under the Christmas tree in the church and take them to the Salvation Army branch at Worcester where they are sorted, parceled up and given to families who are struggling to make ends meet, and where children may not receive any presents on Christmas morning.

I went with Dan and Trish last year to take the toys and the staff at the Salvation Army depot were so grateful for the large trailer full of toys that we were able to take.

I wondered if we could do it again this year. Toys, etc, don't have to be new, just in reasonable condition, but puzzles and games really do need to be complete.

Mrs Gwen Arnold has given permission for donations to be taken to the Family Service on December 7<sup>th</sup> or if you find it easier you could bring things here to me at Green Cottage or I would willingly collect - my telephone no. is 01584 810921.

They also distribute food parcels so really anything you feel able to donate they will find a use for.

*Muriel*

### **FOR SALE**

A single Slumberland divan bed in excellent condition and spotlessly clean  
£25

Proceeds to be divided between Tenbury Hospital League of Friends and Acorns, the charity for sick children.

Telephone 01584 810921.

## A VISIT TO LAMBETH PALACE

On October 17<sup>th</sup> I was privileged to join a small party of former choristers from Southwell Minster who were accompanying Kenneth Beard on a visit to Lambeth Palace. He was Director of Music at St Michaels 1952 - 59 before going on to Southwell where he remained for 29 years and I was representing former St Michael's choristers. He, together with 11 others were due to be presented with the Cross of St Augustine by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Altogether Kenneth had given 42 years distinguished service to the Church of England and it had never been recognised. So a group of ex-choristers collaborated and wrote to the Archbishop which resulted in this award.

Archbishop Michael Ramsey instigated this award in 1965 to recognise outstanding service to the Church of England. Kenneth was the only musician recipient but the others had given remarkable service in different ways, both men and women.

October 17<sup>th</sup> turned out to be a warm and sunny day as we drove down to London. Driving through the city was made very much easier with a satnav. Lambeth Palace is on the south bank of the Thames opposite the Palace of Westminster and parts of it are 14<sup>th</sup> century including the private chapel.

Obviously the recipients were fairly elderly and some were infirm (Kenneth now uses a wheel chair) and the Archbishop's staff were incredibly kind and attentive to their needs. The proceedings were well organised and as soon as we drove to the main gates and attendant came out: we had previously submitted our names and car numbers and so the solid oak doors were opened and we drove into the inner courtyard. Kenneth went in early to be briefed about the details of the presentation and to have his photograph taken with the Archbishop. Meanwhile we were invited to wander around the garden which is an oasis in the middle of the city. From it you could clearly see St Stephen's Tower across the river and the London Eye.

At 2pm we entered the Palace to make our way to the chapel. We walked down long corridors where the walls were hung with portraits of former Archbishops going back centuries. The interior of the chapel was disappointing and dull: the plain white vaulted ceiling had been painted with hideous brightly coloured figures - the idea of the wife of the former Archbishop. The presentation occurred halfway through a sort of Evensong sung very well by a choir from London University. Those receiving the awards entered with the Archbishop and sat at the front. The Archbishop stood in the sanctuary.

The Archbishop's secretary read out each name in turn and then he spoke for about 5 minutes describing what each person had done to deserve the award using information we and others had sent in. At this point St Michael's, Tenbury was mentioned and I felt proud. The recipient would then approach the altar rail and kneel so the Archbishop could put the ribbon to which was attached the cross over their head. Kenneth's turn came halfway through the list. The present Director of Music at Southwell who was with us, had found a short anthem composed by Kenneth in the Minster music library still in manuscript. Unknown to Kenneth he had sent it to the Archbishop with a suggestion it might be performed and so the choir sang it after he had received his cross.



*The Cross of St Augustine*

This was a most moving service which lasted about an hour. At the end, the recipients and the Archbishop processed out and he was waiting to shake each of us by the hand as we left. We then made our way back to one of the large reception rooms in the palace which overlooked the garden where tea and a large spread of home-baked cakes and scones awaited us. During tea the Archbishop circulated and talked to virtually everyone there. He came over as a really kind, spiritual man who cared. We left at around 5pm to fight our way through the London rush hour traffic after a truly memorable day.

The actual cross of St Augustine is made of silver with blue enamel between each arm of the cross. On the reverse side is an engraving of the chair of St Augustine which is in Canterbury Cathedral.

*Michael Hart*

# WHAT'S ON IN ST MICHAELS

## DECEMBER

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	W.I.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Decorating the hall
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Family Service
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	The Floor
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Tree of Light Service at St Marys
	6.30pm	Carol Service
	7.30pm	Village Christmas Dinner
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
	3.00pm	Choral Evensong
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Olde Tyme Music Hall
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Olde Tyme Music Hall
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		Children's Christmas Party
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Crib Service
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Eucharist for Christmas Day
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Team Service at Little Hereford

## JANUARY

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Family Service
		W.I. Christmas Dinner
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	The Floor
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Straw Headed Peter
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	The Art of the Matter
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	The Art of the Matter
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	The Art of the Matter
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Team Service & Welcome at Clee Hill

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRESS DATE 14<sup>th</sup> January**  
**for the FEBRUARY edition of The Sword**

\*\*\*\*\*

Although efforts are made to verify information given, the editors cannot accept responsibility for details or views expressed in any of the articles contributed to the magazine.