

50 Pence



January 2016

# The Trident



The Parish Magazine of



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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

- 8.00 AM SAID EUCHARIST (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)  
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME & NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)  
10.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST  
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)  
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON  
WEDNESDAY 2PM

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		11.00AM - 12.30PM
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
	7.30PM	STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:

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## From our Vicar

Dear Friends

Advent probably seems like a very distant memory.

Christmas has been and gone, but I would like recall

something that passes by on the 21<sup>st</sup> December in the blink of an eye. The 21<sup>st</sup> is traditionally, for us in the Northern hemisphere, the shortest day of the year. So it seems rather odd that on this day the Church sings the antiphon *O Oriens*.

*O Oriens* is the celebration of the Messiah or Christ as the 'bright Morning Star'. On the shortest day we celebrate light.

At St Thomas' we have a continual reminder of this as the Lady Chapel has over the altar a small star-shaped window which led to its original dedication as the 'Morning Star Chapel'. Thus, in there is the hope that in the midst of darkness the light of Christ will break through. This theme is also developed in the major festival of January, The Epiphany.

The Epiphany celebrates the wise men following the star which led them to the Christ-child, Jesus. This journey of the magi acts as a constant symbol of the belief that Jesus Christ is the light for the whole world.

Over the Christmas period many communities and individuals found themselves in the grip of darkness desperately longing for light. The prayers of the Church surround those who long for light, because of the hope of the morning star scattering the darkness. So as the days lengthen it is hoped that the pain of darkness shortens.

The Epiphany points us to its universal nature, and the season of Lent and Easter shows us it in its fullness. We can then join our voices with that Advent hymn:

*O come, o come thou dayspring bright,  
pour on our souls thy healing light;  
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,  
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel*

My prayer, and hope, is that the bright morning star shines in your life this new year, and in the life of this community, so together we can rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel coming to us.

May God bless you and your loved ones this 2016.

Your friend and priest  
Fr. Robert



## Parish News

**Oh yes it is! It's Panto time at St Thomas' once again.**

**This year's production is Camelot, and as I write this the**

prospects of it being the best yet are looking highly realistic. Tickets are going like the proverbial hot-cakes, so please do book soon and enjoy.

The actors, directors, and production people have worked incredibly hard, and have produced something which will thrill the whole community, so thank you to all involved.

Christmas as ever is very busy but very joyous as well. To put together the sheer variety of services and devotions is a monumental task and only possible thanks to very dedicated people. I would particularly like to thank our choir and altar team for their amazing work, those responsible for flowers, cleaning etc and our young people who so fully enter into the spirit of it all. Thank you all!! In December we also had our 50+ Fellowship group Christmas Lunch which marked the end of a very full and varied year of activities and events. Do please come along if you can, it really is a great way to get to know other people whether at a Beetle Drive or painting in the National Gallery.

**Our organ is now coming to life and 'settling down' (apparently they do this!).** This has been one of the most wonderful aspects of the Christmas period, and thanks go to Michael Mappin for his work liaising with the builders and tuners. This meant that when Merton College Choir came on 13<sup>th</sup> December they could use it. This seemed barely plausible only a few months ago. We do still need to raise a little more to meet the shortfall, so do help if you can.

Finally, work continues on the church and its grounds with vital checks being done and exciting developments being made to the land, which should mean that come the spring and summer we will have a wonderful outdoor resource for us and our community.

Thank you to all for your work and efforts over the past few weeks, **and here's to an exciting 2016!**

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### Copy dates!

Copy date for the February Trident is Sunday January 10th

Copy date for the March Trident is Sunday February 14th



## From the Editors

The main event of January is, of course, the pantomime! We have already sold a lot of tickets, particularly for **Thursday and the Saturday matinee**. So if you haven't booked yours, please hurry!

We'd like to wish you all a very Happy 2016

*Jul + Sue*



St Thomas' Church Panto 2016

# Camelot

A Ben Crocker Pantomime

**7th, 8th, 9th January**

**7.30pm Thurs & Friday**

**1pm & 6pm Saturday**

at St Thomas' Church Hall

Camelot Box Office:

07850 889948 or [stickets@me.com](mailto:stickets@me.com)

Adults: £10 Children: £5 Thurs: All £5



## Prayer for the month of January

We have read, O Lord, about the Wise Men of the East who were guided to you by a star and who brought generous gifts of gold,

frankincense and myrrh; give us the wisdom to

seek you, light to guide us to you, courage to search until we find you, graciousness to worship you and generosity to lay great gifts before you, who are our King and our God, for ever and ever

Amen

# ST THOMAS' **G**UIDE UNIT (8<sup>TH</sup> HANWELL)

A group of Guides had a fun camp in the New Forest at the end of August. The first half of the Autumn Term saw us trying out some of the activities our mothers and grandmothers did when they were Guides. This involved semaphore, knotting, marching into horseshoe formation and following a trail. As a result all the girls achieved their Traditions of Guiding Badge. For the second half of the term we came more up-to-date with each patrol organising its own activities based on their chosen theme. We celebrated Bonfire Night with our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November when a group of our new members all made their promise with sparklers whirling around. Our 3 oldest girls – Lucie, Pearl and Emily all took part in a BP Adventure in November by going off for an activity weekend with other Guides and leaders they did not know – quite a daunting prospect ! There is always plenty going on and we are looking forward to a busy and fun 2016.

## Promise Poem

One day she sits at the window and stares  
At the boys playing catch on the old church stairs  
He throws and then catches, then throws again  
**She looks out and leans 'gainst the window pane.**  
Suddenly he stumbles, stumbles and falls  
Dropping, not catching that little ball.  
She did promise to love and to care  
To be nice and kind, to be gentle and fair.  
So out of the window she clammers and says,  
**“Oh poor little boy, aren't you in a mess!”**  
And so she remembers to serve her Queen,  
To serve her community, and not to be mean,  
And that little boy, as he sits and he sobs,  
With his nose running sticky and his head in a throb.  
The girl comes to mend, to help and to care,  
To plaster his cuts and mend any tears.  
So they walk down the road with each hand in hand,  
Past all the houses so big and so grand.  
**And I think you've guessed and think you'll find**  
That that little girl made the promise  
Of a GUIDE

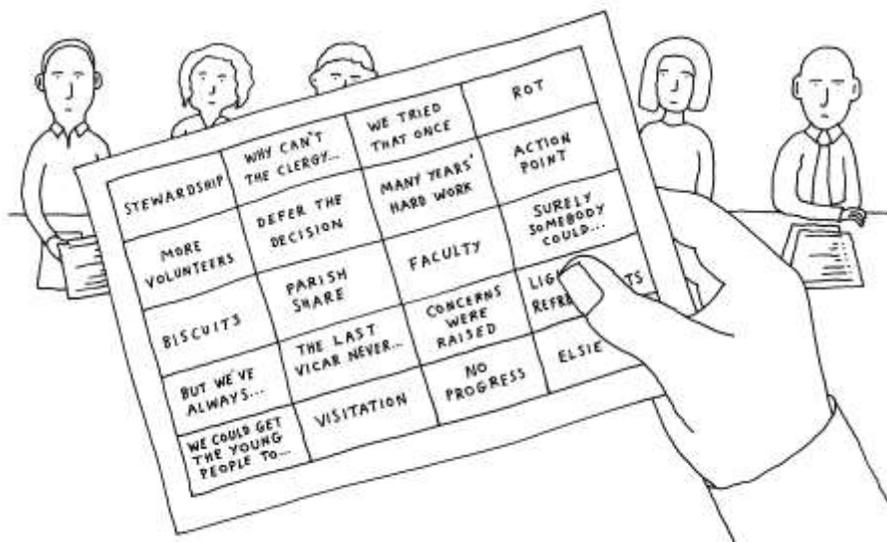
*by Pearl Baxendale*

# ST THOMAS' BROWNIES (10<sup>TH</sup> HANWELL)

Last term the Brownies took part in a challenge based on the out-of-doors. This involved lots of activities based on Autumn. We did bark rubbings, played conkers, learned to recognise trees and leaves and played games based on Autumn colours. We made lemonade and have planted the pips. I wonder how many will manage to grow a little lemon tree. In November we started working on two badges : Disability Awareness and Friend to Animals. One of the clauses that is in both badges involves finding out about how animals work for us. We are planning to have a visitor from Guide Dogs for the Blind and we hope to be able to raise some money for them in the months to come. With quite a lot of ideas and events planned for the future we know that 2016 will be another busy year for us.

## P.C.C. BINGO

WORDS AND PHRASES OFTEN USED DURING MEETINGS  
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL



CartoonChurch.com

# Merton College Oxford – Advent Concert

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December St Thomas' hosted a wonderful Advent Concert by the renowned Choir of Merton College, Oxford. The concert, in aid of **the St Thomas' Organ fund, was a captivating sequence of Advent choral music performed by one of the UK's leading mixed-voice choirs consisting of 30 undergraduates and post-graduates.**

The choir, which regularly broadcasts on BBC Radio 3, and performs around the UK as well Europe and the US, was conducted by Benjamin Nicholas and accompanied by organ scholars Peter Shepherd and Alexander Little.

Performing to a full church, the Merton Choir began their recital with an evocative plainchant rendition of the Advent Prose sung at the West End of the church.

This was followed by an organ solo by William Byrd during which the choir returned to the front of the church and then sang a set of four Motets by the renaissance composer. The beautiful tone and blend of the voices was so stunning that everyone listening sat enthralled.

**We were then treated to J.S.Bach's famous Wachet Auf played on the newly renovated three-manual Walker organ, one of two Bach organ solos to feature in the evening designed to display what our new organ is capable of!**

**After two beautiful choral pieces based on the text of the great 'O's of the advent liturgy by contemporary Latvian composers Rihards Dubra and Eriks Esenvalds we steered seamlessly into more traditional Christmas territory with works by Vaughan Williams and In Dulci Jubilo by Robert Pearsall.**

The final sequence included an exquisitely controlled and executed **performance of Adolphe Adams 'O Holy Night' followed by two pieces by contemporary composer and one-time King's Singer Bob Chilcott, the first of which, 'The Bird of Dawning', had been commissioned for Merton College's 750th anniversary songbook.**

After a rousing finale we were treated to a stunning encore – a mesmerizing performance of Silent Night which once again brought out the sheer beauty **of the choir's range and tone.**

It was a joy and privilege to welcome Merton college's talented young performers, who filled St Thomas' with such a glorious sound – an evening which perfectly reflected the wonder of the Advent season.

Roger Grange

When I went out shopping,  
I said a little prayer:  
'Jesus, help me park the car  
For you are everywhere.'

Jesus, in His goodness and grace,  
Jesus found me a parking space  
In a very convenient place.  
Sound the horn and praise Him!

His eternal car-park  
Is hidden from our eyes.  
Trust in Him and you will have  
A space beyond the skies.

Jesus, in His goodness and grace,  
Wants to find you a parking space.  
Ask Him now to reserve a place.

**A New Year's**  
resolution-prayer -  
following in his footsteps

Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God, grant us the desire to do only what pleases you, and the strength to do only what you command. Cleanse our souls, enlighten our minds, and inflame our hearts with your Holy Spirit, that we may follow in the footsteps of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

*St Francis of Assisi 1182 – 1226*

## Be smart – **don't keep up appearances**

If you are struggling with money as the New Year begins, you are not alone. It has been estimated that half the people in the UK are living beyond their means. Too many of us are using our credit cards as almost permanent extensions of our bank account, instead of as highly expensive loans.

So this year, think about how just small changes could help you. For example, simply deciding to take your own sandwiches, and skipping **lunch and coffee 'out' could save you £25 a week** – that is £100 a month, or £1200 a year – probably enough to pay your heating bills, and a great deal of your Council Tax.

# Wanted!

Stamps of all descriptions, GB and foreign (even the very common ones)  
Postcards (GB and foreign, posted or unused)  
Coins and bank notes  
Cigarette cards  
Old matchboxes  
Medals

It is hard to believe that a used stamp can help transform a life in one of the 12 African and Asian countries where The Leprosy Mission works. But the fact is that it does.

Over the past 30 years, TLM Stamps and Collectables has raised more than **£1m to benefit people affected by leprosy. These are some of the world's** most marginalised people who have suffered disease, disability and discrimination as a result of the stigma and ignorance which still surrounds leprosy.

The Leprosy Mission provides opportunities for early diagnosis and treatment to thousands each year. By offering healthcare, rehabilitation, education, vocational training, housing and a fresh water supply, we provide a springboard to restored health, self-sufficiency and renewed hope.

We would be most grateful if you could collect the above items on our behalf so that The Leprosy Mission can help change more lives for the better. It takes seconds to rescue a used stamp destined for the bin but, by doing so, real help can be provided to people in desperate need.

There is a box at the back of church that you can put your used stamps or other collectable items into.

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# St Mungo's Broadway

## A Big Thank you from St Mungo's Broadway

Dear St Thomas' Church,

**Thank you so much for choosing to donate £200.00 to St Mungo's Broadway.** We would like to thank you for your kind generosity towards helping our clients in their recovery and for your continued support.

We provided a bed and support to more than 2,500 people a night who are either homeless or at risk, and works to prevent homelessness, helping about 25,000 people a year.

Your continued support allows us to do so much more than just provide a roof. Our specialist healthcare, training and employment teams are dedicated to helping homeless people recover from their experiences and really turn their lives around for good. Last year our Skills and Employment team supported over 1,700 people to find work, training, further education or take part in a range of other activities. We also supported 1,500 people with their mental health and substance use problems.

**If you would like more information about our work, or how St Mungo's Broadway has helped our clients, please do get in contact with me to make arrangements.**

Thank you so much for helping us to bring hope to homeless men and women.

Best Wishes

Kirsty Hornal  
Community and Events  
0208 762 5586  
kirsty.hornal@mungosbroadway.org.uk



Since April, St. Thomas' Hanwell has contributed 257 kgs of food, and without your generosity, our important work would simply not be possible.

To give you an idea of the numbers behind our five cafes:

- So far in 2015, we have distributed over 36,000 kilogrammes of food
- Since January, we have fed over 3,400 people, of whom over 1,350 were children
- The number of people in food poverty we are feeding each month is about 15% up on the numbers in 2014
- Over 120 individuals and organisations have donated food to us in the last 6 months
- Almost 24% of all our donations for the year came from Harvest Festival donations this Autumn

As we currently distribute around 800 kilos of food per week, it is important that we keep our stocks up, so any future donations would be much appreciated.

You can keep up with our work at our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/EalingFoodbank>

Once again, many thanks for your continued support.

Sincerely

The team at Ealing Foodbank

Please continue to donate by using the green Foodbank bins situated inside the church porches and choosing any items from the following list:

Remember it is not a great quantity we ask you to bring each Sunday, we only need each of you to bring one item from the list on the church bulletin. But to bring one every week would be great!!

Dried milk

Dried potatoes

Rice/noodles (not pasta)

Cake/cereal bars (not biscuits)

**Men's shaving foam or cream**

NO mince pies

So when you come to church with your handbag, your house key, etc, remember to bring your Foodbank item.

Thank you.

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## ORGAN FUND COLLECTABLES DONATIONS

Wanted: Donations of good quality household and personal items that you no longer want.

Items needed include: Unwanted heirlooms, antiques, paintings. Ornaments including china, brass and glassware. Jewellery, watches and clocks. Coins, banknotes, stamps and medals. Old games and toys like cars, trains and dolls. Musical instruments, cameras and Sports Memorabilia. Curios etc. All proceeds from their sales will go straight to the Organ Fund!

We can only accept smaller items that can be collected in a car, not furniture. No jumble, clothing or broken items please. For local collection phone David Clarke on **07952 011543** to arrange a timed evening or weekend visit. E-mail David at [david-clarke28@sky.com](mailto:david-clarke28@sky.com). If bringing items to the church, please arrange with David Jewell or Michael Mappin to take them from you.



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## POP-IN

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\*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A CHAT

\*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!

\*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!



### January

1st - CLOSED

8th - CLOSED

15th - tea coffee and cakes

22nd - tea, coffee and cakes

29th - tea, coffee and cakes

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

### Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund

We can no longer collect yoghurt pots as these are collected by the council in your green boxes and we can no longer collect baby wipe packets

We are still collecting  
Coffee bean packaging  
Coffee jar lids  
Tassimo pods and foil bags

Biscuit wrappers

**Ella's kitchen baby**  
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[www.terracecycle.co.uk](http://www.terracecycle.co.uk)



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Group*

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10.30am until  
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Wednesday 13th Jan*

# Diary Dates



## DECEMBER

27th Sun 1st Sunday of Christmas

## JANUARY

3rd Sun Epiphany

9th Sat Churches Together in Hanwell meeting at  
South Hanwell Baptist Church

7th (Thurs) - **9th (Sat) ST THOMAS' PANTO!!!!**

10th Sun 1st Sunday of Epiphany

17th Sun 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

24th Sun 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

31st Sun Candlemas

## FEBRUARY

6th Sat Churches Together in Hanwell meeting at Our Lady and  
St Josephs (Uxbridge Road)

7th Sun Sunday before Lent

10th Wed Ash Wednesday

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