

Diary dates for August and September, 2015

30 th August	11.00 Patronal Festival and the rededication of our organ
3 rd September	10.30 Council Meeting
27 th September	11.00 Harvest Festival



Prayer of the month

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God, now and forever.

Collect for the 8th Sunday after Trinity



Prayer focus

The Friends of St Bartholomew



Verse of the Month

Jesus said to him, 'Go; your son will live.' The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way.

John 4 v50



Services

Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion (with hymns)

Thursday 10.00 Holy Communion (said)

A warm welcome to all who worship with us.
During the service there is a Sunday School.
After the service coffee is served.

Priest-in-charge: The Revd Gareth Randall

For further information concerning baptisms,
marriages or funerals:

 02 99 46 77 00

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Website : www.stbarts-dinard.org.uk



Quotations of the month

One of the many things nobody ever tells you about middle age is that it's such a nice change from being young.

Author Dorothy Canfield Fisher, quoted on Forbes.com



Self-expression

By writing, I am affirming
that what I say is worth saying,
that what I see is worth sharing,
that what I think is worth expressing.



Billboards 2 - 1/6

The following is from our Church Warden, Bill:

Notice in an office

After your break, please empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.



One liners 3/4

courtesy of my sister-in-law, Lin

Can you believe that my neighbour actually knocked on my door at 2.30 this morning but fortunately I was still up playing my bagpipes !

Notes from the Council - July 12th

The meeting opened and closed in prayer. There was a nearly full attendance with Geoff Carter and John Marshall back from England but sadly Ann Payan, home from a recent stay in St Malo hospital, was unable to be with us.

The latest safeguarding policy has been received from the Bishop Robert. The return of our organ in early August was greeted with enthusiasm and John Davey was thanked for all his hard work on our behalf. Its rededication and later an inaugural concert were proposed.

David Morgan presented his usual finance update. Bill Hughes drew our attention to recent work in the transept. Eric Lambert alerted us to potential problems with the ivy which will be discussed in September. The current state of the garden was briefly considered and it was agreed that at our meeting next spring, we would evaluate the current situation where we ourselves are responsible for its upkeep.

David Norris reiterated the fact that the library cannot accept any more donations at present and the possibility of selling books in the church garden on the afternoon of the Braderie was mooted. Coffee on the lawn on the last Sunday of the month was suggested as a way to encourage more folk to enjoy fellowship after the service.

Carolyn Hewitt briefed us on forthcoming events: concerts in church in July and August; a Car Boot Sale at Diana's; and the silent movie to be shown here in September.

The Friends' AGM was touched on with the election of principal officers clarified and Pastor Gilbert Baume was congratulated on his appointment as President of The Groupement Oecuménique de la Rance.

**They Worked for St. Bart's (7)
Audrey Thompson**

Many people we know of the work Julian has done for the church over the years, but I think that not as many will be aware of the role played by Audrey.

Back in our early days the church was not just British, it was the British and American Church of St. Bartholomew and as such both the British and American bishops in Europe, were our bishops. There was no P.C.C., its equivalent being the managing committee, headed by a president, William Channing. We had not known the church very long before Bill died and Julian Thompson became President.

I was elected to the managing committee in those days, and some meetings were held at Elizabeth Hannay's home, but before long most and eventually all were in St. Briac, hosted by Julian and Audrey. Meetings finished around noon and our spouses/partners were invited to join us for aperitifs kindly prepared by Audrey. From time to time, they would also entertain a 'couple' to after-meeting lunch, not quite on a rota basis but eventually to include all.

Although Julian was the official member, it was Audrey who prepared minutes and agenda on his behalf and, I believe, helped with much of the correspondence and other aspects unseen by church members.

When the garden party was instituted, together they prepared and ran a stall, eventually they ran a raffle where each prize (of alcoholic nature), was related to a specific time of day, so the drink was the beverage appropriate to that time.

Not only in France but also back in England, Audrey worked to raise money. One of her fortes was to use her bridge club as a source of fund-raising events.

John Davey

Kitchens, bathrooms, bespoke joinery and now tree surgery !

In addition to being able to help you with your latest home improvement project, John now has a commercial relationship with a qualified, registered tree surgeon and is able to offer competitive rates on all aspects of tree and hedge work, from pruning to felling.

Don't hesitate to contact John, who will be able to provide you with references from members of the congregation from a wide range of projects.

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Know your Bible - 3/4

*The following little gems by Primary School pupils
are sent to us by our Church Warden, Bill:*

- 1 Solomon, one of David's sons had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
- 2 When Mary heard she was to be the mother of Jesus she sang the Magna Carta.
- 3 When the three wise men arrived from the east they found Jesus in the manger.
- 4 Jesus taught that 'Man shall not live by sweat alone !'



Odd Words Lovely

There are some words which lack force. Take 'nice' for example. It is a word I was discouraged from using in school as a boy by my English teachers because 'nice' was considered a sort of blanket term which could mean anything pleasant, positive or good and was, therefore, rather imprecise.

Another word I personally felt lacked force was 'lovely,' which again I thought just meant anything rather nice: a lovely day, lovely weather, a lovely idea.

Well, the other day, I came across the word when the author of the novel I was reading referred to one of his characters as really truly lovely and I was curious enough to go and check out what the word might mean in my Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. And here are some of the meanings I found:

- loving, kind, affectionate;
- lovable;
- exquisitely beautiful;
- moral or spiritual beauty;
- delightful.

I was surprised at the range and beauty of the possible meanings so I have now been converted to make 'lovely' a part of my active rather than passive vocabulary.

So may you, too, have a truly lovely day today and meet some really lovely folk.

Gareth Randall

Her skills in the kitchen were also used to good effect and she would bring cakes, especially Christmas cakes, to sell. For many years, she also had the catalogues for Webb Ivory Christmas supplies company and would take orders in the summer and bring the Christmas goods over to France in the autumn so that expats would have their crackers or English Christmas cards and the church the benefit of the commission! This only stopped when one year the company made a complete hash of the order, and it was also discovered that this had happened to many other people.

Audrey was one of those people who would see a need, or be told of such, and then buckle down to doing something about it. The white rose 'border' to the side of the path was one of her unsolicited projects, just funded and instigated. At one time, it became obvious that when the church path or drive had been gravelled, it made life very difficult for anyone using a wheelchair or even pushing a baby buggy. Audrey made it another of her projects, to raise the funds and arrange the laying of the paving stones to overcome this problem.

Those are just some of the aspects we actually know about, where Audrey has worked to enhance St. Bartholomew's, but I am sure that there are also many more aspects, unknown to us, as they were just needs seen and therefore attended to, with no fuss or ceremony.

John Marshall



Blond jokes 3/5

courtesy of my sister-in-law, Lin

A blond man sees a letter lying on the mat on which is written in capitals DO NOT BEND so he spends the next couple of hours figuring out how to pick it up

St Anthony versus the Brownies

Have you ever lost your keys ? I have on several occasions and it's always been traumatic. I do try to put my keys and other necessary items in safe places: but sometimes, as on this occasion, the places chosen have tended to be a little too safe.

About the middle of April, we needed to have several spare keys cut which proved expensive. I had obviously put a set down somewhere too safe ! They are still there – wherever (!) ?

I vowed, in future, I would be more careful but again, by the start of May, I couldn't find them. What was worse, this time the car key was with them.

Visiting Pete and Jo Glanville, I mentioned the keys. With a grin, Pete asked if I'd asked the Brownies (not little cakes nor little girls in brown uniforms but the little people) if they had them. Pete comes from Cornwall where tradition has it that if anyone loses anything, then you simply ask the Brownies for them back, remembering to say please !

Since Cornwall and Brittany are both Celtic lands, I thought I'd give it a go but should I ask in English or in French ?

Around the same time, Gareth told me that a prayer to St Anthony often helped to locate something lost. So I had a few words with him, in fact several words with St Anthony, but to no avail !

It was Wednesday 13th May. I'd just the one set of keys to hand. If I put these in a really safe place, I would be stuck. Then, I remembered the Brownies. I'd give them a try – I'd nothing to lose ! Feeling foolish, standing in the middle of the room, I asked the Brownies to

My visits to Guernsey 4/4

My friend, Pat, has three daughters, all of whom are married and still live on Guernsey. Pat has four grandchildren, three of whom still live on the island. And then there are two great-grandchildren.

So when I visit, life is understandably hectic: visiting the family; going out for meals; going shopping. I usually carry a case full of stuff for Guernsey (wine, cheese etc). Likewise, on my return I'm bringing back a case full of stuff for France (Waitrose sausages, baked beans etc). Sadly, I'm limited by how much I can actually carry, since I travel as a foot passenger.

Travelling in winter is not that easy, given the limited number of sailings and in most cases, it means I have to change boats in Jersey. That in turn entails time spent hanging around there, which can vary quite considerably. Summer is much easier, with more sailings, most of which are direct from St Malo to Guernsey.

You'll appreciate that Pat and I are no longer in the first flush of youth (we're both now in our eighties) so travelling is not as easy as it used to be (creaking joints, stiff limbs etc) but as long as we are fit enough to travel then I will continue to visit Guernsey and Pat France !

Bill Hughes



Did you know ?

The motto of the French Navy is:
à l'eau, c'est l'heure
(to the water, it is time!)

**The Revd Malcolm Cherry
RIP**

I'm sorry to say that the Revd Malcolm Cherry who over several years was a locum chaplain here with his wife, Peggy, has died in Suffolk on 21st July. We will remember him and his family in our prayers.



Personal Column

Congratulations to Bob White who has just successfully completed his first year as a Reader-in-training under the auspices of the Diocese of Canterbury.



Restoration of Organ

The estimated total cost of the work is	€79,000
Money raised so far	€56,313
Money to be raised	€22,687



Cushions

Pew cushions have begun to appear in the church with covers sewn by Victor. The donations received for the work to date amount to €1, 700 but This is probably sufficient to pay for all material for the cushions.

There is still a lot of work required, particularly to finish of the ends of the cushions

Would you be kind enough to contribute to softer seating by some hand sewing to assist Victor, but please be careful with the needle



please return the keys. Then I went to bed worrying about them all night !

Next day, I was defrosting the freezer (something I don't like doing) ready to receive the latest Asda shop. The freezer door was open to speed up the process and there was water on the floor which I needed to mop up. As I did so, under the freezer, I caught a glimpse of something silvery winking up at me – my keys ! And I thought that Tony and I had looked everywhere !

So once again, feeling foolish, standing in the middle of the room, I said, "Thank you Brownies for returning the keys". And I also said thanks to St Anthony too.

Now I've lost my manicure set. So should I ask St Anthony or the Brownies ? And remember to say thank you !

Ailsa Albino

PS Gareth says we should say thank you. I do – every night - for the day and for my comfy bed then I talk to my best friend and I say thank you yet again.

Organ – St Méloir des Bois

If you're free around 20.30 on Friday 14th August, our organist, John Davey, will be giving an inaugural organ recital and demonstration of the organ he's renovated at his local parish church.

Contact sought

Jeanne is 2½, the daughter of Olga Liguët, an English-speaking mum married to a Frenchman. Any help re improving the child's English would be much appreciated. Contact Olga on ☎ 07 87 33 27 23 or kaege@mail.ru

Film Review of the month
'Hide your smiling faces' – Daniel Patrice Carbone 2013

An independent film. Odd in that it's not really a story – more a moody film about growing up, hence the title. The present: more or less. It could be anywhere – small town America on the edge of the countryside, a redundant railway viaduct over a valley. It's boy-centred, there's a dog, a bear, a lake, swimming, wrestling. It's summer and they are free from school, free from adult constraint.

The principal focus is on two brothers, Eric, 14, (Nathan Varnson) and Tommy, 9, (Ryan Jones). Essentially, there is the unexplained death of Tommy's friend, Ian (Clark Middleton).

There's no graphic violence, though the threat is there. There is no in-your-face horror though there is the supine body of Ian viewed sprawled out from a distance. There is a sense that the boyhood idyll has been touched by death: the contemplation of suicide.

Twice Eric says: 'You're my friend' – once to his mate, Tristan (Thomas Cruz), whose own unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide breaks their friendship; and once to Tommy – their relationship is positive fraternal.

Their rural American accent is understandable. The shots are well framed. What upset me was the trite, clichéd comfort from a well-meaning believer who asserts that God has a plan for Ian despite the fact that, for whatever reason, the boy's life has been tragically cut short. What upset me was Eric's apparent indifference to what his mum actually thought or felt.

If you want a slow, well observed film, then this might fit the bill.

Gareth Randall

A demon–possessed slave, with a knack for fortune-telling, identifies Paul as a servant of God Most High. Day-in, day-out, the girl shouts after Paul till, wearying of her unwanted attention, he exorcises her demon and with it her clairvoyance. Angry at this unwelcome loss of income, her owners drag Paul off to the magistrates where they, together with an anti-Semitic crowd, bang on about the pernicious influence of foreigners in their city on their good Greek values. The magistrates have Paul and Silas stripped and birched in public then thrown in jail and shackled overnight.

That night around midnight, an earthquake breaks open the doors of their prison and loosens the prisoners' chains. In despair at the imagined loss of his prisoners, ashamed, the jailer is about to commit suicide when Paul shouts out to him that no one has escaped. Grateful, the jailer takes Paul and Silas into his home, tends to their wounds and is converted to Christianity. In the morning, the magistrates order their release but Paul stands on his dignity as a Roman citizen who has been punished without due trial. The magistrates, to save further potential embarrassment, come to the prison in person to ask Paul to leave the city. He does so taking the gospel on to Thessalonica.

Paul will ultimately die a martyr's death in Rome but before he does, by fulfilling his vocation, he will have met persecution in many places in many forms.



In this way, our folk were scattered abroad and by so doing, the faith was spread. If oil in a pan is on fire, it's not a bright idea to try to extinguish the flames with water.



Frustrated, they haul Stephen up before of the Sanhedrin where they accuse him of blasphemy. Radiant, 'his face like the face of an angel', Stephen presents a faith history of Judaism from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, through slavery in Egypt, to Moses and the Exodus. It is Moses the people reject by asking Aaron to make them a golden calf. It is Moses who predicted that "God will raise up a prophet like me from among your brothers." Then Stephen traces the centre of worship from the tent of meeting in the wilderness to the Temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem. Not, of course, that God dwells in any man-made construction. Coming to the point, Stephen accuses the members of the Sanhedrin of being 'stiff-necked' with 'hearts and ears uncircumcised', guilty of persecuting and killing the prophets, guilty of receiving the Law but failing to observe the Law.

Unsurprisingly, what Stephen said enrages his hearers, not least when he claims to see 'heaven opened and the son of man standing at God's right hand.' Unsurprisingly, they have him seized, dragged out of the city and stoned to death.

Two more things. One, in dying, Stephen says, 'Lord don't let this sin stand against them' which mirrors Christ's concern for wrong-doers when he prayed for the Roman soldiers at his crucifixion. The other, that those who did the stoning 'laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man called Saul.'



The third is of that same young man, Saul, now Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles. As Saul, he had persecuted the followers of the Way. As Paul, he pointed people to that Way, having met Christ himself on his way to Damascus. But on his Second Missionary Journey, in Philippi, Paul, with his companion Silas, is publically beaten and imprisoned.

Extra Film Review of the month 'The King of Masks' – Wu Tianming, 1996

The great thing about Christmas presents is that they are a chance to share something you have enjoyed with someone else. My friend, Phil Elgie, went to no little trouble to secure an American copy of the DVD of 'The King of Masks' for me last Christmas and it is now my pleasure to share it with you.

Well it's not an easy film – Chinese, set in the China of the 1930s, in Chinese with English subtitles. 'The King of Masks' centres on an ageing street performer, whose name gives the film its title. Tradition has it that the mystery of which he is a master should only be passed on to a son, and 'Grandfather' (Zhu Zu) is childless. He buys an eight-year-old boy, Doggie (Zhou Renying), in a market and the story is essentially the vicissitudes in their relationship until the inevitable happy ending means Doggie inherits the secret artistry to be a 'King of Masks'.

Set against a river, on a boat, and in towns reflecting the architecture of the period in which it is set, the film is a window on to China pre-Second World War. The colour, the crowds, the noise, the music, and perhaps even the smells (?) are all there to be experienced.

One major character, Master Liang (Zhao Zhigang), known as the Living Bodhisattva, in fact a handsome, young man in the vein of a youthful Leonardo DiCaprio, plays female leads in the Shaoxing Opera.

Okay, so it may have a happy ending, but there is enough pain in the laughter to make it a balanced film and like all good art it embodies what makes life worth living: friendship, family, retelling a story that can touch us.

The Bartholomew Gospel

27 Persecution

'They seized them and put them under guard.' Acts 4 v3

Persecution, when it came, was no surprise.

Jesus had predicted what they would do to him. We witnessed the growing opposition to him and the ultimate consequence of that hostility to what he said and what he did.

Jesus had predicted what they would do to us: 'If they persecuted me, they will persecute you too.' 'They will lay hands on you . . . They will hand you over to the synagogues and prisons. They will drag you before kings and governors because of my name.' We experienced their hatred of the gospel we proclaimed through what they did to us.

There are too many examples of our ill-treatment to retell here. Let me share just three.



The first is the first time Peter and John were arrested for spreading the good news.

It starts well. One afternoon, Peter and John are going into the Temple to pray when a lame beggar asks for money. Peter tells him he has neither silver nor gold but what he has, he will give him - and he promptly heals him in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah.

The man is overjoyed, for the first time in his life, skipping and dancing. In fact, his reaction is so over-the-top that a crowd gathers, wanting to know what's up.

Cue for a sermon which Peter promptly gives them off the cuff. Rooted in our shared Jewish beliefs, he tells them about Jesus' trial, crucifixion and resurrection. He identifies Jesus as the Messiah through whom God will restore all things. Then, Peter calls them to repent of their past wrong-doing and to believe in Jesus the Christ, the Son of God.

Cue for the arrival of some priests and Temple guards who, annoyed at what they're up to, promptly arrest Peter and John and throw them into prison overnight.

Next day, in front of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish Council, Peter with unexpected confidence tells them that the miracle occurred in 'the name of the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. He is the stone which you builders rejected but which has become the head cornerstone.'

Surprised at the eloquence of untutored men, at a loss to know what to do with them, given what they are and what they've done, the Sanhedrin resolve to try to silence Peter and John with threats. So they do, then let them go.

But, of course, things didn't stop there. They were only just beginning.



The second is Stephen, protomartyr, the first person to be put to death for his faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the Christ.

Stephen has been appointed a deacon, with special responsibilities to make sure the poor are properly cared for. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he speaks eloquently about his faith in Jesus Christ. This is not well received by some foreign Jews, members of the 'Freemen's Synagogue', who argue with Stephen without success.