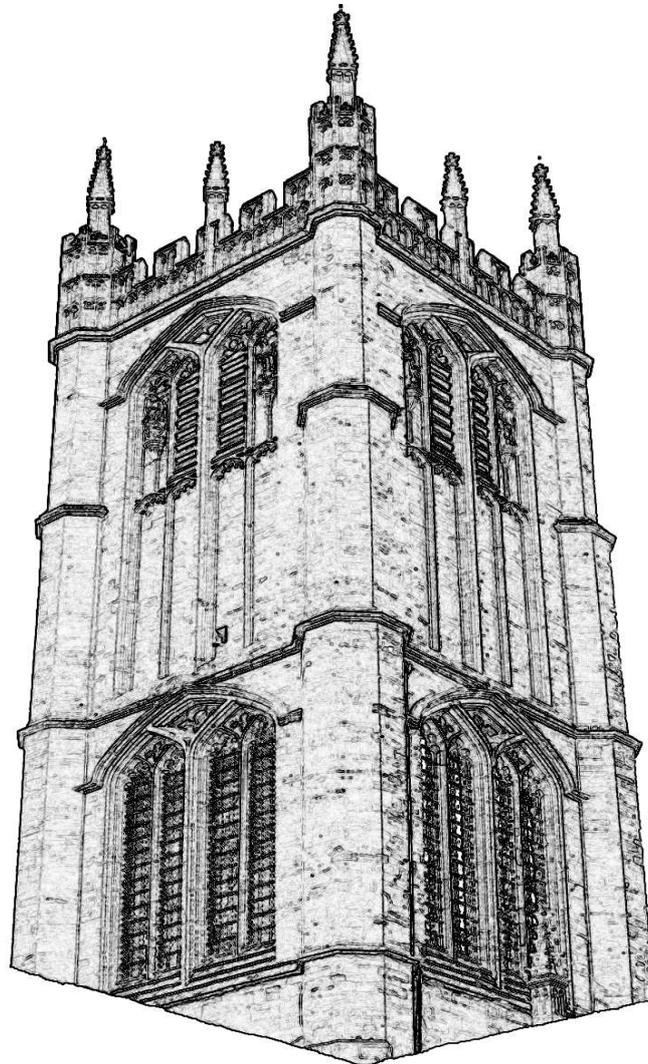


THE PARISHES OF LUDLOW & LUDFORD

LUDLOW TOWER

Parish Magazine

APRIL 2010



Bringing you the latest news.....

(Contributions to offset the cost of printing this magazine are gratefully received)

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CLERGY (Days off are shown in brackets)

Team Rector	<i>Currently Vacant</i>		
Acting Team Rector	Revd Richard Green	(Friday)	831113
Acting Team Rector	Revd James Stewart	(Friday)	856625
Assistant Minister	Revd Prebendary Ann Barge	(Tuesday)	877307
Minister in Secular Employment	Revd Steve Jarvis	(Saturday)	07879 442751
Curate	Revd. John Beesley	(Tuesday)	874383

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

St Laurence	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30 am	Parish Communion 2nd Sunday Choral Communion
	11.30 am	2nd Sunday Plainchant Matins 4th Sunday Choral Matins
	3.30 pm	1st and 3rd Sundays Choral Evensong (No 3rd service on the 5th Sunday of the month)
	St John	9.30 am
St Giles	11.15 am	Holy Communion 1st Sunday Family Service Last Sunday Godly Play

Thank you to all our contributors.

**COPY FOR THE MAY TOWER TO THE OFFICE PLEASE BY
Friday 16 April 2010**

Please send articles by email to office@stlaurences.org.uk

**Please send information about events and subjects
which you would like to appear.**

What we do not know, we cannot pass on!

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CLERGY LETTER

If any be lovers of Christ, let them rejoice in this beautiful and radiant feast

Christians have always used images of Christ on the cross as a focus for devotion and meditation – a crucifix, a painting, a stained glass window, a statue. But such images can only be an aid to thought and prayer – the living Christ cannot be trapped in paint or glass or stone. Our calling as Christians is to know and experience the living Christ in our lives, rooted in the assurance of his real presence with us and in us through his most precious gift to us, his body and his blood in the bread and the wine of the Eucharist.

So we must see Christ in one another, and we must not be frightened to see him also in ourselves, Christ with his cross of pain and healing. At our baptism we are signed with his cross to mark us as pilgrims who confess the faith of Christ crucified. On Ash Wednesday his cross is traced again on our foreheads in the ash of penitence to recall us to the path of pilgrimage: *turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ*. Christ's cross must be in each of us so that his cross and passion work in and through our lives each day to bring understanding, resolution and healing. And Christ's cross must also be in each of us because, although he can and does take our sins away, he invites us to carry with him the burden of the world which each day crucifies him anew.

Amid the suffering and cruelty which darkens God's world we approach again with Christ the glorious celebration of his resurrection on Easter Day. How in our hearts will we respond to St John Chrysostom's great exhortation: *if any be lovers of Christ, let them rejoice in this beautiful and radiant feast. If any be faithful servants, let them gladly enter into the joy of their Lord ?* With rejoicing! Rejoice we will and rejoice we must! The victory of the cross is hard-won and cannot be denied by the sins of selfishness and greed, intolerance and violence. The light of Easter, the light of the risen Christ cannot be dimmed by the deepest darkness of man-made suffering. Christ cries out to us through the words of the gospel – about injustice: *but this man has done nothing wrong*; about forgiveness: *today you will be with me in paradise*; about compassion: *Mother, there is your son*; about healing love: *tend my sheep*.

We may hide behind locked doors in fear and shame like the disciples on the first Easter day, but Christ will come to us as he came to them. *Jesus came and stood among them. 'Peace be with you!' he said; then he showed them his hands and his side. On seeing the Lord the disciples were overjoyed.* We are children of the resurrection, children of the hope born upon the cross or our faith is nothing, and as St Paul says *we of all people are most to be pitied*. So let *Alleluia* be our Easter song now and always.

James Stewart

FROM THE BISHOP

In the summer of 1863 over three days in early July the small town of Gettysburg in southern Pennsylvania changed forever. History simply overtook it. What took place was the decisive battle of the American Civil War between the Confederate forces of the South and the Union army of the North. Around 50,000 men suffered as casualties. On the 19th November that year Abraham Lincoln visited the battle field. The purpose of his visit was to honour the dead and to dedicate the newly laid out Soldiers National Cemetery. In the midst of that event and surrounded by a melee of people the president of what had become the now extended United States of America gave a speech from a soap box. Few took note of that speech on the day. The crowds were moving around and there were many distractions. However what was delivered became a landmark address in our understanding of democracy and freedom. On that day Lincoln predicted mistakenly, "the world will little note, nor long remember what we say here," yet was perfectly accurate when he continued, "but it can never forget what they did here." His speech, considered of little significance that day, has with a broader perspective become a landmark address in history.

As we come to the great events of Holy Week and Easter I suggest that something like this but far greater occurred in relation to Jesus Christ. If present at the time we might simply have seen another criminal suffer an excruciating death. Many in the crowd might well have thought that few will note or remember what was done. Easter day changes that as the tomb is empty and eyewitness after eyewitness testify to the otherwise impossible: God raised Jesus from the dead. This most decisive event in all history has consequences for our lives, values opens up the possibility of a relationship to God: It is for us to find it out.

+Alastair

CONCERT by HEREFORD CHURCH SINGERS
at ST. ANDREW'S, ASHFORD BOWDLER
FRIDAY 7th MAY 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

followed by wine and canapés at
CHURCH HOUSE

Tickets £12.50 from Tom Froggatt 01584 831650
and
Ann Lansdell 01584 831268

RETIREMENT OF REVD JAMES STEWART

With the agreement of Bishop Anthony I will retire in October. By then I will be 66 years old and I will have been a member of the clergy team here for 7 1/2 years and Rural Dean for 3 years. Planning for this has had to take account of Preb Brian Curnew's departure last November to take charge of a group of Kentish parishes. The appointment process for his replacement as Team Rector is now well under way, and a retirement date of October will allow for a period of handing-over responsibilities and the proper continuity so important for a team ministry.

In the meantime there is still much to do and to look forward to in the coming months, and I am very grateful for all your support, encouragement, and friendship to both myself and Richard Green as we carry together the responsibilities of Acting Team Rector.

James Stewart

CHURCHWARDENS' CORNER

David Lloyd Memorial

As previously reported, as part of the memorial to David Lloyd, it is planned to carry out repairs, urgently needed, to the three medieval roundels on the north wall of St Laurence's. This is the earliest glass in the church and the stained glass of St Laurence's was one of David's passions. It is now proposed that members of our congregations in St Laurence's and supporters of the Conservation Trust should have an opportunity of contributing to this project. Donations can be sent to the Parishes' Office or given to one of the Churchwardens. Cheques should be made payable to the Ludlow PCC and marked "David Lloyd memorial".

Snowdrops

Many thanks to all of you who have kindly helped to ensure that next spring we shall have a carpet of snowdrops around St Laurence's. All your gifts, either financial or of snowdrops, are greatly appreciated.

All Change

As many of you know, during April Matthew Lenthall and Peter Turner will be giving up their respective roles as Verger in St Laurence's and as Ludlow Team Administrator. We shall be having more to say about them next month. In the meantime, if you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for either or both of

them, please give your contribution to Leslie in the Parishes Office (or to either of us).

Over these past days we have appointed three new people who will be joining our team after Easter. Joe Brennan has been appointed as Head Verger in St Laurence's. Joe is currently a verger at the cathedral in Birmingham where he is also a Lay Clerk. As Assistant Verger we have appointed Katherine Bromley, already well known to us as a member of the St Laurence's Choir and organiser of our Tuesday morning Toddlers' Group. The last few years has seen a dramatic increase in visitor and user numbers, reflecting this growth we will now have 7 day cover from our verging team.

We have also appointed Susan Goble as Administrator for the Ludlow Parish. A Canadian by birth, Susan's administrative experience includes important positions both at Duke University in the USA and at the University of Oxford. Susan will continue the work that Peter Turner has completed as Team Administrator, as well as a developing a new role in the administration and management of St Laurence's.

We are sure that all three will be made warmly welcome in their new roles here.

Opportunities to Volunteer

For those of you thinking about offering your services to help in running the affairs of the Parish, there are still plenty of opportunities. In particular we are still looking for an **Honorary Treasurer** and a **Team** to lead the organisation of this year's **Summer Fête** (17 July is now only three months away!). If you would like to help, please do contact one of us.

Annual Parochial meetings

The Annual Meetings of the Parish took place in St Laurence's on Sunday 21 April. From the reports presented it is clear that a great deal has been achieved over the past year and that there are exciting things set to happen in 2010. It is also clear just how much activity there is going on in the Parish. If you have not already done so, please do pick up a copy of the Annual Reports from the Church, or read it on the website www.stlaurences.org.uk.

Anna Branston and Ewart Carson

STEWARDS' NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2010

A Thank You

First a huge thank you to all of you who have stewarded either over the Christmas period or during the Winter Watch. Your contributions to St Laurence's in this way are greatly appreciated.

Stewarding – At the Desk

School Parties: In order to develop relationships with visiting school parties, it is important that we have their full contact details. Some parties will be pre-booked, but others may turn up unannounced. In such cases would you please ensure that you record all the necessary contact details.

Guidebook: It is important that we promote the new Guidebook. So please, when welcoming visitors, could you point out that we do have a guidebook (showing them a copy) and encouraging them to purchase one from the shop if they seem interested.

Stewarding – In the Shop

Stock: Lots of new stock has recently been purchased for the shop and more exciting new lines will be available soon. Please do acquaint yourself with the stock and its location.

Till and Credit Card Machine: It is vital that all stewards in the shop should be able to use the till and credit card machine with confidence. If you would like further training in this regard, Di Corston will be more than happy to provide this for you on a one-to-one basis.

Helen Forrester: Di Corston is now being assisted by Helen Forrester who has recently come to live in Ludlow. Helen has had many years of experience in running the shop at St Alban's Abbey.

Tower Passport: Can you please ask all visitors who request to go up the Tower and who are potentially UK tax payers whether they would be prepared to Gift Aid their contribution, in return for which they receive their passport offering them free entry for a period of 12 months. The form is simple to complete.

Failing to do this will deprive St Laurence's of many hundreds of pounds of much needed income each year.

Further Developments

The Shop: For the future we should like to establish a cohort of “shop” stewards who would receive more extensive training regarding their role in the shop. Also we should like to explore the possibility of these stewards operating a longer shift, more in line with standard practice in the charity shops in Ludlow. Quarterly meetings of these “shop” stewards would take place, so as to keep them regularly updated.

Information: We are planning to update the yellow visitor leaflet, making it more attractive and including suggestions of “must see” items in the church for those with only limited time available. We would propose that this be available from a new stand that we would place in the porch. (as well, of course, as being available from the steward on the desk).

We are also developing worksheets and other materials to be used by children who visit either as part of a group or as individuals. The themes of these will include: the misericords; the Jesse Window; other major historic teaching windows (including St John’s Chapel and East Window); and the use of the church over the centuries. These would be readily accessible from a new stand that we would plan to position near to the South door.

Tower Magazine: In the future, the Stewards’ Newsletters will be available via the on-line version of the Tower magazine, as well as in paper form. We encourage those of you who are able to do so to sign up now for the on-line version of the Tower. Just go to the home page of the St Laurence’s website (www.stlaurences.org.uk) and “subscribe”.

If you have any comments or queries regarding items in this newsletter, please do contact us.

*Pam Latchford - Chief Steward
Ewart Carson - Churchwarden*

FABRIC & CONSERVATION

Monuments – Over the past few weeks you may have met Kieran Ryder – Conservator, who has been working in St Laurence’s. The PCC has commissioned a survey of the 100 + funeral monuments within the building, funded by grants from Church Buildings Council, The Conservation Trust and a private donation. With so many monuments, many of which have important heritage value it is vital that we plan their conservation and maintenance. The initial findings of the report reveal that there are many minor jobs which need to be done urgently to slow down any further damage. These include, consolidating

and repairing the floor slabs in the St John Chapel as well as checking and improving the fixings on many of the wall memorials. Many of the fine alabaster and marble monuments are covered in a thick layer of grime and dirt and there will eventually be a second phase of works to clean these architectural important tombs. One of the discoveries of this report is the importance of the mosaic pavement around the high altar. Previously thought to have been made of ceramic tesserae, the pavement is in fact completely constructed with fine marbles. Over the years the pavement has suffered badly from the ingress of water and there are large areas which have lifted and are in danger of being damaged by footfall. This important piece of heritage will need some careful repair and cleaning. Until such time the pavement must not be walked on in case irreparable damage is caused. This will clearly have a knock on effect to the use of the space for worship; the 8 am Sunday Holy Communion will need to be celebrated in one of the chapels and flower arrangements will no longer be able to be housed there.

Heating – We have suffered a severe cold winter and the congregations and other users of St Laurence have certainly felt the cold weather. Many of you have asked what is happening with the heating, I hope to enlighten you with the following lines.

The heating in St Laurence's was installed in the late 19th century at the forefront of the new technology of heating public buildings. Prior to this churches had not been heated, with the exception of the occasional stove in the box pews of the gentry. Many churches on the continent still have no heating during the winter months. The system was designed to be fired by a coal boiler and run constantly throughout the winter months. A large cast iron boiler, transmitted heat in to large quantities of water which were distributed into the building through floor grates, there were no radiators as such and the system worked solely by gravity.

In the early 20th century the system gained a new boiler, of the same design as the older one, radiators were added in the church and a pump to help the circulation. This was in time converted to oil and eventually Gas. The system we use today is the same of that in the 1920's. The system had inherent design problems, but it was the best technology of the time.

Starting from the boiler:

- The fuel source is gas and the cost of this has quadrupled over the last 5 years, more than a 400% rise in costs. In 2006 we spent £3000 a year and this year we have spent £13000, even though it feels cold in the building.

- The boiler is between 50%-60% efficient, which means that for every £2000 of gas used (roughly one months of our current budget) around £1000 of heat is generated, the rest simply goes up the chimney. This is because the current boiler cannot exchange the heat generated from the gas quickly and efficiently.
- The system has simply enormous quantities of water, an estimated 3000 gallons, heating this much water costs a great deal of energy.
- Once the heat is in the system the radiators cannot shed heat quickly enough because they radiate rather than convect heat. In a modern household you in fact have convectors; the fins on the back of the radiator hugely improve the ability to shed heat into the building.

In summary a modern system has a boiler that can transmit the energy efficiently into the water, the smallest amount of water possible and the most efficient convectors to deliver the heat. If gas was cheap we could run the system 24/7 and the church might be warmer, but could we morally justify as a Christian community the waste of all this energy and the pollution we generate? There have been many times in the last 12 months when I have thought we should simply go without heating to be able to increase our outreach giving.

There really is only one solution to the problem and that is to replace the system. I heard many people both church and our wider community say ‘when are **you** going to fix the heating’. The simple answer is there is nothing to fix; it needs to be replaced. More importantly it is **all of our problem**, not simply those who control its maintenance and the on/off switch!

Ewart, Jeffrey and I recently visited Leeds Cathedral where they have an underfloor, gas-fired, water based system; the building is extremely comfortable, because your feet feel the warmth. With prayer, hard work and commitment over the next few years we could deliver this much needed resource to our own community and the wider community that we serve. If you have any questions or want to know more please don't be afraid to ask.

Shaun Ward

ST LAURENCE'S SHOP

As you will have seen the shop grows from strength to strength. This month brings many more new stock lines in the shop. The shop management committee has been joined by Helen Forrester, who managed the shop at St Albans for many years. We can be very proud as the St Laurence shop is managed and staffed solely by volunteers; all profits from the sale of goods go towards the work of the church in our community.

New stock lines include: pencils, rubbers, sharpeners, notepads, bouncy balls and wind up torches all branded with St Laurence's name and logo; perfect for children. We also have an extensive range of aromatic incense sticks and a new product which is a natural alternative to moth balls. For those who have everything we have an increasing range of small gifts and stocking fillers: silver plated book marks, beautiful Mackintosh-inspired laminated book marks, a large range of silk scarves and ties. For the musically minded we have everything from pens, rubbers, tea towels, aprons, place mats, mugs, 'Chopin' boards, as well as beautiful new musical instrument fridge magnets. We are also having a 'fire sale' of St Laurence branded teaspoons, as well as end-of-line cards and gifts; see the special sale table. Our most popular new line are the exquisitely produced cards from 'Colcards', with designs incorporating church architecture, Rennie Mackintosh as well as beautiful examples of church embroidery; many of these designs are available as small and large paper weights. Eye catching new items include laser engraved 3D key rings available with pictures of an angel, Celtic cross, fish symbol as well as with faith, hope and love.

Keep an eye out over the next few weeks for reproductions of our own famous misericords! Oh and I nearly forgot if you spend over £20 in the shop you get a free calico bag which matches the designs of our new tea towels. These bags are also available at £1.99 each. So many gifts and presents for all ages.

MUSICAL NOTES

Have you ever wondered what we do in choir practices? What does the choir do with all this rehearsal time? Well I hope I can give you a little insight into the busy practices on Monday, Thursdays and before services.

One of the most important disciplines in music is to come in on time! With this in mind, punctuality is key to a successful choir. Choristers always arrive 5-10 mins before the start of rehearsals to make sure they have all the music they need and are then ready to start the rehearsal on time.

On Monday evenings the junior choristers rehearse between 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm. After the obligatory toilet call and a quick drink, the choristers head for the vestry to collect all their music and theory books. The beginning of this rehearsal always starts with some theory. Sometimes we follow the Voices for Life scheme of the Royal School of Music, sometimes we complete 'a scheme' – the choristers write all the names of the notes on a copy of one of the Sunday hymns, also noting the key signature, any accidentals, as well as the name of the tune, the metre, who wrote the music and words, and last but not least how old they were when they died. We then add numbers of the scales to each note, and clap the phrases through, sometimes together, sometimes as a solo, and whoever gets the

age of the composer right has to explain the arithmetic they used to calculate the answer. Sounds hard work, well they do all of that as quickly as possible, usually in 10-15 mins. The children love being challenged, they love competing with each other, and they love the sense of achievement. Katherine Bromley and Sally Newman Kidd also join the rehearsal to help with the theory on a one-to-one basis, as well as helping to encourage a good sound when we sing.

Well that's just the tip of the iceberg! We then move quickly into singing the hymn they have worked on, unaccompanied if possible, good ear training. We use the hymn as a warm up, using buzzing sounds, and vowels sounds to encourage good voice production. Before you know it we've moved onto the psalm. Again, the choristers work out the key signature, composer of the chant, and read some of the verses, they are even asked to paraphrase some phrases. It's amazing to see them enjoying the beautiful richness of the Psalter. Running through the chant, again vowels sounds and then running through the psalm. The questions come thick and fast, where is the longest reciting note, which is the shortest, which verse uses the second part, where is the metre 2 plus 1 syllables and where 3 plus 1.

Now the minds and voices are running smoothly we move onto repertoire, this is usually the anthem for Sunday, and usually the anthem for the following week, as well as singing through any mass setting that is approaching. First we look at the copy, key, time, Italian terms, repeating the Latin out loud, it's simply incredible how quickly they absorb all of this. We then look at the difficult sections, working from the last section, progressively to the beginning of the piece, perhaps singing the piece through to a single vowel sound, sometimes clapping the rhythm, sometimes clapping out loudly when we need to take a breath, everything reinforces learning and knowledge. Finally we perform the piece, making sure there is silence before and, most importantly, after.

It's fast and furious, *allegro ma non troppo al fine*, but they thrive on the sense of challenge and achievement. You'd think they would be tired, but after they tidy their music away and the head and deputy head choristers are happy to dismiss them, they can be heard playing rounders or tag with great enthusiasm in the churchyard. What must our neighbours think?

Shaun Ward

VOCATIONS INITIATIVE

This exciting initiative will be taking place towards the end of April. The Diocese of Hereford, in its strategy for ministry entitled *2015 Onward** is placing ever greater emphasis on lay participation in the Church's ministry. To help people understand what this might mean for them, we will be holding a series of meetings, to be launched with a joint service for all our parishes in St Laurence's on Sunday 25 April at 9.30am. There will be no morning service in the other churches of our Team that day. The meetings will be as follows:

Monday 26 April, Ashford Carbonell Village Hall

Wednesday 28 April, Onibury Village Hall

Friday 30 April, Ludlow Conference Centre

All meetings will start at 7pm and will be over by 9pm. Please do come along to the most convenient meeting for you, even if you don't think all of this applies to you – you may be surprised!

* The document can be viewed at

http://www.hereford.anglican.org/churchwork/2015_consultation/2015_report.aspx

Fr Richard

LUDLOW TOWER – UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Last month I wrote an article about how the parish magazine is compiled and published and made a request for help, the good news is that help has been forthcoming. I took publishing the magazine from the Team Rector in the middle of 2009. I realised the importance of the magazine as a mean of communication and was keen to help develop it further and improve the formatting. It was always my intention to do this as a stop gap until we could find a sustainable way of producing the magazine. I'm very pleased to tell you that following an approach Dr Jane Robinson, who moved to Ludlow 18 months ago, offered her services in helping with the production of the magazine. Jane edits an international journal on nursing and comes with a great deal of experience and insight.

Over the past few weeks we have developed a new system for the publication of the magazine. Lesley Draper will still be receiving information and printing the magazine, Jane will be acting as a critical editor – commissioning articles and proofing copy and the whole process will be overseen by our new administrator Susan Goble. Plans for expansion are afoot, new ideas include advertising – which will help offset printing costs and new regular columns and occasional articles. If you are a group or committee within our community don't forget to send us your news so that everyone can hear about your work.

I've enjoyed developing the magazine and look forward to watching it grow in its new capable hands.

Shaun Ward

PRAYER INTENTIONS

These intentions are used at public worship in the Ludlow Team Ministry during the week and you are invited to use them as subjects for your own prayers on the appointed days.

APRIL 2010

- 1 That we may truly follow Christ's command to love
- 2 Thanksgiving for Christ's sacrifice on the Cross
- 3 The recently bereaved and all who mourn
- 4 Thanksgiving for the Resurrection
- 5 All involved in the hop growing industry
- 6 The work of animal welfare charities
- 7 The work of the World Health Organisation
- 8 All who work on low wages
- 9 Modern-day martyrs
- 10 All who suffer from Parkinson's disease
- 11 Our Team and its parishes
- 12 All who feel alone or abandoned
- 13 All victims of miscarriages of justice
- 14 Scientists and their work
- 15 The Trustees and staff of the Ludlow Conference Centre
- 16 All who welcome people to worship in our churches
- 17 Places of retreat
- 18 Our Team and its parishes
- 19 All who are suffering in Zimbabwe
- 20 All who work in the entertainment industry
- 21 The Benedictine community at Le Bec, France
- 22 Queen Elizabeth II
- 23 The English nation
- 24 Pope Benedict XVI
- 25 Our Team and its parishes
- 26 The Vocations Initiative taking place this week
- 27 The spreading of the Gospel
- 28 The government and people of South Africa
- 29 Deaf and hearing-impaired people
- 30 The government and people of The Netherlands

CHRISTIAN AID REQUEST

Can you spare a couple of hours for a very worthwhile cause? This is how long it might take to deliver and then collect some envelopes along all, or part, of a street near you. This would be during CHRISTIAN AID WEEK which is from May 9th-15th. Volunteers from all the churches try to cover every house in and around the town so everyone has a chance to contribute to this charity which does so much to help the world's poorest people in emergencies and in long term development. The few pounds you will raise will help to transform situations in the long term. For example people may have a decent food or clean water supply for the first time in their lives.

Our town is growing and so is our need for new collectors. You can find out more at an open meeting in church on April 21st 6 to 8pm or speak to Claire Wilcox (tel 877199). Please prayerfully consider how you could help this year.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 10TH-MAY 16TH

All offers to undertake house to house collecting will be gratefully received. The more doors we knock, the greater the potential for increasing the size of Ludlow's collection, helping those who so desperately need our help. Please let me know if you can help.

We hope old and new volunteer collectors will be able to attend the preparation meeting for collectors for Christian Aid week (May 10th - 16th) will be on Wednesday April 21st in Wesley's Cafe from 6pm to 8pm.

The format of the evening will be something like this:

Light supper (eg.french bread, cheese and chutneys) with a Christian Aid Week themed Icebreaker

Introductions (5 mins)

Kenya presentation and video (25 mins)

Workshops: (30 mins total) where we can discuss

Fundraising and events (covering Christian Aid initiatives and local ideas)

Hijack your house group (and other new innovative ideas!) - looking at how to increase the influence of Christian Aid in this area

House to House tips - and how to recruit new volunteers etc.

Resources: (10 mins) Looking at prayer stations and Christian Aid Week resources

Q+A and closing prayer (5 mins)

During 2009 many members of the congregation have contributed to raising the following amounts for Christian Aid.

Lent Lunches £889

C A Week £8861

Feather's coffee morning £468

Christmas carols & collection £751

Quiz Night £420

A remarkable total of £11389 plus the Gift-aid, and monthly donations at the CTAL Friday lunches, let's hope we can maintain this momentum during 2010.

A big thank you to all those who have contributed in any way.

Claire Wilcox



FAIRTRADE



During Fairtrade Fortnight 22 February – 7th March, Ludlow launched a new Fairtrade Town Guide and St Laurence proudly displayed its new Fairtrade Church certificate. Along with more than 5,300 churches, mosques and synagogues from all over the UK, we have committed to:

- Use Fairtrade tea and coffee for all meetings for which we have responsibility
- Move forward on using other Fairtrade products (such as sugar, chocolate and fruit)
- Promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight – and through other activities where possible

Thank you to all who supported the Traidcraft Stall during the two weeks. Sales from stall and St Laurence shop amounted to £230.80. The display focused on Tea producers and I hope you managed to join the thousands who have already written to the tea companies asking them to Make It Fair. You've been creating quite a stir!

The Big swap campaign has achieved its target of a million swaps. The Fairtrade Foundation says people in the UK and Ireland can have a dramatic impact if they swap just one thing that they buy regularly to a Fairtrade brand. Fairtrade is already helping 750,000 farmers, workers and their families in the tea industry. But a seismic shift is needed to help some of the most vulnerable people in the world.

A magnificent Big Brew Parish Breakfast was held in St Laurence after the 09.30 Parish Communion on Sunday 7th March. About 45 people attended a

breakfast of freshly cooked, locally sourced bacon in rolls, preceded by grapefruit and fruit juice. There was toast and butter with a choice of Fairtrade marmalade, jam, honey or peanut butter. The smell of cooking bacon wafted through the Church most enticingly! Fairtrade pots of tea at all the tables were much appreciated and the Tea Quiz challenged our knowledge.

A small percentage of the £100.00 profit along with some donations amounting to about £35.00 will go to Traidcraft Exchange. This is Traidcraft's charity, and is the UK's only development charity specialising in making trade work for the poor. Established in 1986, Traidcraft Exchange works to enable poor producers in Africa and Asia to grow their businesses, find markets, and engage effectively in trade. 'We passionately believe that trade can provide opportunities for people to work their way out of poverty. Our development programmes are directly benefiting over two million people, and touching the lives of a further 24 million. Countless more benefit from our policy and advocacy work.' Their work with Tea producers is one of the six key focus areas. Key issues in the tea industry include exploitation of workers, use of pesticides that are harmful to health, closure of tea plantations, and fluctuating prices over which producers have little or no control.

Paul Chandler, The Chief Executive of Traidcraft said in an address to General Synod: 'Our work has been to help the Christian community respond to Jesus' command to meet the needs of the hungry, the naked and the imprisoned, recognising that many of the world's poor are trapped in an unjust economic system, but also to reaching out beyond the Church to harness the creative potential of trade and business to provide sustainable livelihoods.'

TRAIDCRAFT FAIR TRADE SPRING FAIR

Saturday 17th April

10 am – 4 pm

LUDLOW CONFERENCE CENTRE

Refreshments will be available

Free Entry

Please come and view Traidcraft's spring and summer products

EVENTS IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

Shropshire Gardens and Churches – April 2010

(In aid of Shropshire Historic Churches Trust)

Sunday 11 April 2pm-5pm

Field House, Clee St Margaret, Nr Ludlow SY7 9DT

Dr & Mrs J Bell, 1.5 acres set amongst beautiful scenery. Mainly daffodils, Hellebores and spring flowering shrubs. Pond, donkeys & sheep. 4 miles. Off Bridgnorth-Ludlow Rd or 6 miles off Craven Arms-Morville Rd. T P W N/D The Old Post Office, Clee St Margaret, Craven Arms, SY7 9DT Mr & Mrs Palmer half an acre, including stream, waterfall, boardwalk, woodland area hens and vegetables. Follow signs from Bridgnorth Rd B4364 4miles follow signs from Diddlebury B4368 6 miles PWT. £4 joint entry Church St Margarets

KEY:

T=TEAS P=PLANT STALL W=PARTS SUITABLE FOR WHEELCHAIRS N/D =No Dogs (except Guide Dogs) If not stated, Dogs allowed on lead. * NEW GARDENS TO LIST

LIFE & LEARNING @ HEREFORD CATHEDRAL PROGRAMME: APRIL 2010

Sunday 18 April **Keeping the old grey matter ticking over ...**

The Dean reflects on his studies in the past few years and on recent study leave

4.30pm to 5.30pm, to begin with tea at 4pm

Venue: College Hall. Fee: £5 (staff & volunteers free)

Sunday 25 April **The Holy Blissful Martyr for to seek ...**

The Dean reflects on his recent walk from Winchester to Canterbury on the 'Pilgrim's Way' 4.30pm to 5.30pm, to begin with tea at 4pm

Venue: College Hall. Fee: £5 (free to staff & volunteers)

Monday 26 April – Tuesday 27 April

Reading Party at Llangasty Retreat House

A residential reading party based on Karen Armstrong's

The Case for God: What Religion Really Means (2009)

Led by Canon Chris Pullen, Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral

Discussion topic: Karen Armstrong's recent book:

'The Case for God: What Religion Really Means'

Places can be booked 01874 658250 or email enquiries@llangasty.com

Noon on Monday 26 April to 4.30pm on Tuesday 27 April

Venue: Llangasty Retreat House, Brecon (details from www.llangasty.com). Fee: £67

Contact: Kirsty Clark 01432 374226 library@herefordcathedral.org

GILBERT WAS WRONG!

This is the theme of a talk about a policeman's lot (in the G & S sense and from a Christian perspective) to be given by Robin Oake at the next **CTAL Outreach** event. Robin Oake was formerly Chief Constable of the Isle of Man. The Supper and Talk take place at the Ludlow Conference Centre (formerly BMC) on **Monday 26 April at 6.30pm**. Tickets, £5, are available from Fay Carson, Wesley's Café or any Outreach committee member.

A-Z of Churchyard Conservation

P is for Primrose

The primrose is the prima rosa, first flower of the year. They are abundant in many churchyards – partly due to the Victorian custom of planting primroses on the graves of small children. Years ago bunches were picked to decorate churches and as presents for parents. Children would pick primroses, bunch them up with wool and attach them to a twig, which they carried horizontally, so the flowers were not damaged. Cottage industries thrived during spring, packaging primroses in boxes and sending them by steam train to London and Birmingham markets – a piece of the countryside for city dwellers.

Caring for God's Acre, the conservation charity for churchyards and burial grounds, 01568 611154, www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

21.3.10	Connor William Perks	St Giles
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WEDDINGS

13.3.10	Nicola Adams & Andrew Stewardson	St John
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FUNERALS

1.3.10	Hilda Wilding	St John
3.3.10	Jane Chetten	St Giles
4.3.10	Harold Edwards	St John
5.3.10	Arthur Jones	H/Crem
10.3.10	Ian Cox	St Giles
12.3.10	Albert Rees	H/Crem
16.3.10	Leonard Toop	St John

SUNDAY READINGS FROM THE BIBLE

<p>4 April Easter Day Gold or White</p>	<p>Acts 10.34-43 * <i>or Isaiah 65.17 –end</i> Psalm 118. {1-2} 14-24 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 <i>or</i> Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18 <i>or</i> Luke 24.1-12 <i>*The reading from Acts must be used as either the 1st or 2nd reading</i></p>
<p>11 April The Second Sunday of Easter White</p>	<p>Acts 5: 27-32* Psalm 150 Revelation 1: 4-8 John 20: 19-31 <i>*The reading from Acts must be used as either the 1st or 2nd reading</i></p>
<p>18 April The Third Sunday of Easter White</p>	<p>Acts 9: 1-6 [7-20]* Psalm 30 Revelation 5: 11-14 John 21: 1-19 <i>*The reading from Acts must be used as either the 1st or 2nd reading</i></p>
<p>25 April The Fourth Sunday of Easter White</p>	<p>Acts 9: 36-43* Psalm 23 Revelation 7: 9-17 John 10: 22-30 <i>*The reading from Acts must be used as either the 1st or 2nd reading</i></p>

SHAKESPEARE HALF MARATHON

On Sunday 25 April I shall be running the Shakespeare Half Marathon in Stratford upon Avon (knees, ankles etc. willing!). This has become an annual fixture for the Carson household as a means of raising money for a medical charity (this year

Laura and Hugh, our daughter and son are also planning to run). Given that Fay and a number of other members of St Laurence's have experienced cancer over these past months, this year's charity will be Cancer Research UK. If you would like to sponsor me (Gift Aided where possible), the quickest means of ensuring that the charity receives your donation is to go online to my webpage at <http://www.runningsponsorme.org/ewartcarson>. Alternatively I should be happy to receive your donation. Thank you.

Ewart Carson

APRIL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
1	Thurs	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service – <i>St Laurence</i>
2	Fri	2 pm	Good Friday Service – <i>St Laurence</i>
3	Sat	1pm 8 pm	Wedding Nicholas & Morris-Jones – <i>St Laurence</i> Service – <i>St Laurence</i>
4	Sun		Easter Sunday
5	Mon		Bank Holiday Monday
6	Tues	2pm	CTAL Service Four Rivers
8	Thurs	10.30am	Prayer Group Meeting St Catherine's Chapel – <i>St Laurence</i>
10	Sat	2.15pm	The Hereford Ringing Course – <i>St Laurence</i>
11	Sun	(am) service 3pm	2nd Sunday of Easter Baptism Marley Martin – <i>Knowbury</i> AGM – <i>St Giles</i> Baptism – Cody Stewart - <i>Knowbury</i>
12	Mon	10.30am	Prayer Fellowship Group – 3, Greenacres, Ludlow
13	Tues	2.30pm 7.15pm	Mother Union Meeting Tradicraft & Fair Trade Talk by Liz Taylor – <i>Ludlow Conference Centre</i> Bromfield PCC – venue to be confirmed
16	Fri		Deadline for May Magazines
17	Sat	11.30am	Mark Pugh Bell Ringers Guild – <i>St Laurence</i>
18	Sun	3pm	3rd Sunday of Easter Baptism Callum Davies – <i>St Giles</i>
20	Tues	2pm	Holy Communion – <i>Four Rivers</i>
21	Wed	7pm 7pm	Culmington Annual PCC – <i>All Saints Church</i> Annual Team Meeting for Ashford Bowdler - <i>Church House</i>
24	Sat	10 am	Choral Workshop RSCM Hereford & Shropshire area – <i>St Laurence</i>
25	Sun	9.30am 3pm	4th Sunday of Easter (Vocations Sunday) Joint Service for Vocation Sunday – <i>St Laurence</i> (no morning service in the other churches) Baptism Emily Norton - <i>Culmington</i>
26	Mon	10.30am 7.30pm	Prayer Fellowship Group – 3 Greenacres, Ludlow Vocations Initiative Meeting - <i>Ashford Carbonel</i>

			<i>Village Hall</i>
28	Wed	7.30pm	Vocations Initiative Meeting – Culmington Village Hall
29	Thurs	7pm	Ludlow Deanery Standing Committee – <i>2 College Street</i>
30	Fri	7.30pm 7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Evening (<i>venue to be confirmed</i>) Vocations Initiative Meeting – <i>Ludlow Conference Centre</i>

LOUDLOW TOWER – UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Last month I wrote an article about how the parish magazine is compiled and published and made a request for help, the good news is that help has been forthcoming. I took publishing the magazine from the Team Rector in the middle of 2009. I realised the importance of the magazine as a mean of communication and was keen to help develop it further and improve the formatting. It was always my intention to do this as a stop gap until we could find a sustainable way of producing the magazine. I'm very pleased to tell you that following an approach Dr Jane Robinson, who moved to Ludlow 18 months ago, offered her services in helping with the production of the magazine. Jane edits an international journal on nursing and comes with a great deal of experience and insight.

Over the past few weeks we have developed a new system for the publication of the magazine. Lesley Draper will still be receiving information and printing the magazine, Jane will be acting as a critical editor – commissioning articles and proofing copy and the whole process will be overseen by our new administrator Susan Goble. Plans for expansion are afoot, new ideas include advertising – which will help offset printing costs and new regular columns and occasional articles. If you are a group or committee within our community don't forget to send us your news so that everyone can hear about your work.

I've enjoyed developing the magazine and look forward to watching it grow in its new capable hands.

Shaun Ward

CONTACT US.....

THE PARISH OF ST LAURENCE, WITH ST JOHN

Churchwardens	Dr Ewart Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
	Ms Anna Branston, Wootton House, Livesey Road	876958
PCC Secretary	Mrs Maureen Stinton, 28 Friars Garden	873445
Electoral Roll	Mrs Claire Wilcox, 4 Lower Broad Street	877199

ST LAURENCE'S, LUDLOW

8am Sidesmen's Rota	Mr & Mrs R. Burns, 8 Poyner Road	872419
Children's Church	Mrs Katherine Bromley	874259
Communion Rota	Mrs Fay Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
Conservation Trust	Mrs Helen Coleman	875113
Director of Music	Mr Shaun Ward, Parishes' Office	872073
Flowers - church	Mrs Antonia O'Kennedy, 17 Friars Garden	877309
Flowers - wedding	Mrs Doreen Watkins, 1 Linney Fields, Linney	875909
Gift Aid Secretary	c/o Parishes' Office	872073
Sacristan	Mrs Antonia O'Kennedy, 17 Friars Garden	877309
Servers Secretary	Mr. Paul Suthern	711491
Stewarding	Mrs Pam Latchford, 3 Poyner Road	874990
St Laurence Shop	Mrs Di Corston, 13 Whitbatch Close	873778
Tower Captain	Mr Tony Greatrex	01568 780764
Tower Floodlighting	Forms at St Laurence Shop	
Treasurer	Mr Don Beattie, Parishes' Office	872073
Verger	Mr Matthew Lenthall, Parishes Office	872073

ST JOHN'S, LUDLOW

Deputy Wardens	Mr Bill Eastwell, Briar Cottage, 5 Julian Road	874044
	Mr Don Craft, White Gates, St Julians Ave.	874323
Treasurer	Mr Peter Phelps, Hill Crest, Gravel Hill	873179
Secretary	Mr John French, 4 Coach House Fields, Livesey Road	876142
Organist (also St Giles')	Mr Edmund Rowsell, Braeside, Overton Road	873537

ST GILES', LUDFORD

Churchwardens	Mrs Daphne Jepps, 2 Eagle Cottages, Orleton	01568 780517
	Mrs L. White, Blackpole Cottage, Luston	01568 620632
Treasurer	Mr John Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Secretary	Vacant	
Minutes secretary	Mrs Karen Unwin, 8 Corver Street, Ludlow	872987
Electoral Roll	Mr B. Heatley, St Julians, Park Road, Ludford	877424
Flowers	Mrs G. Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Wedding Flowers	Mrs H. Meyrick, 24 Mary Elizabeth Road, Ludlow	873813

LUDLOW TEAM MINISTRY

Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs. Joan Bowker, 3 Clayton Close, Knowbury	891549
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Mrs Shelagh Jenkyns, Sarum House 9 Bromley Road	874105