

Roath News



LENT 2016

Free but donations always welcome

THE PARISH OF ROATH, CARDIFF

The Vicar: Curate:	Rev. Stewart Lisk Tel: 20484808 Rev. Dr Rhys Jenkins
Reader:	Mr Geoff Smith Tel: 20499498.
Parish Wardens:	Parish Vicar's Warden Mr Robert Hyett Tel: 20471247 Parish People's Warden Mrs Gill Day Tel: 20495496
Parish Treasurer:	Mr Geoff Moore Tel: 20493095
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Tricia Osman (Burfoot) Tel: 20488796
Parish Office: (RCH bookings)	Roath Church House Tel: 20484808 email:office@roath.org.uk 9.30 am - 12.30 Monday - Friday
Parish Website:	www.roath.org.uk

The Clergy are always available to minister to the sick and dying. ***Please inform the clergy of sickness. Holy Communion may be received at home by those who are unable to come to church.***

The Parish Surgery is open on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) between 6.00.p.m. and 7.00.p.m. in Roath Church House to arrange ***Baptisms and Weddings.*** (Contact no. 20484808).

Confessions and the Sacrament of Healing by arrangement.

Copy date for the next magazine is March 14th

FROM THE REVEREND CANON STEWART LISK, VICAR OF ROATH

My dear Friends

Since I last wrote to you in these pages a good deal has happened in our Parish life. The closure of St Anne's was indeed a sad moment in Roath. However, the final service on Christmas Eve was a deeply moving and inspiring occasion with around 150 parishioners and friends attending. There were also eight priests present representing the scores who have ministered there. The next issue of the *Roath News* will have special articles devoted to the life and work of St Anne's. Please feel free to contribute your own memories or articles.

However the worship of Almighty God goes on in the Parish. It has been very pleasing to see members of St Anne's congregation attending one or other of the five regular Sunday services we have in St Margaret's and St Edward's. Not only just content with being there, St Anne's people are taking on and sharing roles in the other churches. The existing worshippers are doing their best too to make them feel welcome and part of the community. There are I know longstanding friendships across the parish and I do hope that these recent changes will help them flourish.

Coming together has often been something that happened in Roath particularly for special services and at important

times in the Church Year. Lent, Holy Week and Easter is, of course, the most notable period in the Calendar. I do hope that we can all use this time as our opportunity to share in the services, discussions and Lent lunches to help us prepare for Holy Week and Easter. You will see more of the events in coming newsletters and magazines. I do want to give special notice for Good Friday this year as the Three Hours devotion will be lead by the Reverend John Webber. Farther John has served a long and distinguished ministry, much of it in Bangladesh yet culminating as Rector of Llantwit Major. He is an exceptional preacher and we are very grateful to him for offering to preach for us this year.

As we pray, walk and talk together through Lent, may God bless us all as we seek to be His people in Roath and wherever we find ourselves in His Service.

With best wishes, yours ever

Stewart



St Anne's News

Thank you to all who attended the last service in St Anne's. It was an emotional time for all present.

However

They say "As one door closes another opens" and we say a very big thank you to all our friends at St Edward's for opening their doors and welcoming us with open arms. We are already feeling "at home" and part of the family. Thank you for your Christian love which is very much appreciated

Jean (Gough)



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NEWS FROM THE LYCHGATE

Greetings from Sally Atzei and Julia Griffiths who have taken over writing the news from St. Margaret's. As we write the shoots of daffodils and ransoms (by the South gate) are appearing in the churchyard. The squirrel has also been seen in the yew tree. Our mild wet winter is turning into early spring. We rejoice to see the year turn.

Firstly it is our pleasure to thank Geraldine Shapcott who has undertaken the writing of the News from the Lychgate for many years. We take it for granted that "somebody" will do it and for the past twenty years that somebody has been Geraldine. So we do thank her very much for her faithful fulfilling of this service. We also hope to see her back in her place in the choir sometime soon.

We were sad to hear of the passing of Malcolm Walker who was organist and choirmaster here for several years. He had been suffering from cancer. His wife, Diane, is an authority in the history of St Margaret's and we welcome her every Heritage Weekend. We extend to her and her family our deepest sympathy.

St Margaret's sends our good wishes to all of those of our congregations who are ill, in hospital or unable to leave the house, of those we think of Father Harold Clarke, late vicar of St Martin's Roath, who has been worshipping with us for a while now. He is still in hospital after having a fall before Christmas, but is now much better. We hope to see him among us again very soon.

Pat Hyett writes "Our very grateful thanks go to Mr Brian Hughes, our dedicated verger, for the eleven new pew cushions which he recently donated to the nave pews in the

church. They are very comfortable and a great improvement (it is hoped that further cushions may soon be purchased either by fund raising or possibly by further donations)."

Two recent special birthdays known to us are Fenella Clapham's and Bob Hyett's. Fenella has achieved eighty years and Bob, our esteemed Choirmaster, seventy years. Many Happy Returns to the both of them.

Sunday 31st January was a happy morning in St Margaret's, apart from it being Candlemas. A little girl called Hannah Grace was baptised. She was extremely good and took an interest in the proceedings. Her parents Sarah and Eric Maylia are both involved in the Scout Movement. Sarah is also a Sunday School Teacher, here in St Margaret's. Their older daughter Charlotte comes to Sunday School, so as it was a special occasion for the family the rest of Sunday School came into church early to see the Baptism.

Then during coffee time we had a very special visit. Elspeth and Wilfred Bevan came from Caerleon to celebrate their seventy years of marriage. They were married in St Margaret's on the 2nd of February 1946 when Elspeth was 22 and Wilfred 27. Father Rhys gave thanks for their long and happy marriage, and indeed for all marriages. He then said a prayer of blessing. We were all awed by so momentous an occasion.

Are you thinking that there is other news that should have been included? We are sure that there must be. So please if you have a contribution to make then please call Sally on 029 20 236468 or Julia on 029 20 491488 or come and speak to us in church.

Happy New Year to everyone
Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Marriage Bliss

Last week I had a new experience. I've had a few new experiences in this parish; I've blessed a website (choralevensong.org showing you where you can attend (three guesses) choral evensong - St Edwards in case you are wondering), I've been compared to John Travolta in a dog-collar (boogying in Roath Church House), and even (heaven forbid) been accused of being more concerned with Welsh rugby than theology in my sermons (I wish this feeling of guilt would go away). But at the end of the morning Eucharist in St Margaret's we had the great pleasure of welcoming Mr and Mrs Bevan who attended church on the 70th wedding anniversary. Yes! Seventieth. We saw the wedding archive which they both signed and, after the much needed coffee and Jaffa cake, I had the honour of blessing their marriage again. Mr Bevan gave us some sound advice. I asked him what the secret of being married for so long was. I confess I felt like Pike in Dad's Army when Captain Mainwaring calls him a 'stupid boy' when Mr Bevan replied, 'marrying the right woman.' We all enjoyed congratulating them and were able to wish them another happy 70 years together in future!

Our relationship with God is often described in scripture as a marriage. Our soul's union with God, perfected in Christ, is a blissful marriage in which we are enraptured with God's love. Read the Song of Solomon to realise how this relationship can be felt so immanently. It has been said by many theologians how Christian thought can be accused of forgetting this aspect of love. God became human and lived

our life. This means that God is real and we must avoid thinking of God as being purely in a spiritual realm whereas the earth, our bodies, our love belongs to an inferior physical realm – or even worse, that we should be ashamed of it. God’s incarnation in Jesus means that we must recognise God’s presence as love between us. Indeed, the ancient heresy of Gnosticism tried to do exactly that, drive a wedge between the spiritual and the earthly world, thinking that our goal in life was merely to attain perfection in a spiritual sense. Fortunately, this heresy was successfully rebutted and we can see and feel God in our real lives.

As we journey through lent this year, consider how you love and are loved; within marriage, within friendships, between colleagues, even between strangers. Jesus died for us out of love, almost as though we are all married to him. He died for each and every one of us as an everlasting commitment of love. As one theologian reflected, ‘love is not getting but giving’. Jesus gives us his love even to the point of his passion. During lent, we think of how we can love God more by loving others.

Had I talked to Mr and Mrs Bevan more I rather suspect that they will have told me all sorts of arguments they may have had over the last 70 years! But you don’t stay married for that long without giving to each other in love. During Lent we reflect on that eternal love God has for us. And on Easter day we rejoice in the triumph of love over everything.

Fr Rhys

Malcolm Walker

The world of church music is much the poorer for the sad loss of Malcolm Walker who passed away on December 21st after a very brave battle with cancer. We hold Diane in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

Malcolm was organist at St. Margaret's Church for many years and is remembered for his enthusiasm, dedication and very high standard of organ playing. He was a great asset to St. Margaret's, especially with the young trebles to whom he not only taught music, but guided them through the Royal School of Church Music Syllabus on the Christian faith.

When Malcolm retired to Devon a few years back, it was clear from his energy and enthusiasm that he would make an impact. He became organist of St Andrew's Tiverton and before long took on the position of Secretary of Devon RSCM. Whereas most of us find musical administration a chore, Malcolm seemed to love it, producing meticulous and thorough minutes, arranging events and really leading from the front in terms of commitment and encouragement to all around him.

Malcolm also served as Secretary and President of the Exeter and District Organists' Association which he carried out with a similar level of skill and devotion.

Both Malcolm and Diane became valued members of the team of Guides at the Cathedral, and their combined knowledge of historical detail about the building became renowned.

One of Malcolm's great achievements at the cathedral was his excellent book about the history and development of the Cathedral Organ, entitled 'Heavenly Harmony' written in conjunction with David Davies. This was a real labour of love for Malcolm, and the meticulous research involved is a testimony to his distinguished background as an academic. The book has received excellent reviews in national journals, and quite rightly so.

Most importantly, Malcolm was a great friend to us all, and a real inspiration as a man of faith and joy. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

*With acknowledgement to Andrew Millington
Recently retired Director of Music at Exeter Cathedral*

ST EDWARD'S NOTES - LENT 2016

WELCOME to members of St Anne's congregation joining us at services. It's a joy to have you with us. The Sunday School is inviting everyone to share their memories of St Anne's, to be displayed as 'bunting' at the back of the church.

Also **welcome** to Lucy Andy and Rex, new members of the congregation, we hope you'll stay around.

Welcome back, to Sean, who is once again singing with the choir on Sunday evenings.

HOUSEKEEPING lots of work has been carried out recently; thanks to the committee members who meet regularly and discuss and agree on work to be done. The tree work has been completed and logs are still available in return for a donation. Much of this work is arranged by Kathie Mayer, who opens the church, arranges keys, and even makes the workers cups of tea! Thanks Kathie, for your time.

MRS MEGAN MARTIN will be 100 years young early in March of this year. Birthday messages will be sent from the Parish. If you would like to send a special message to Megan, please write it and hand it in at the Parish Office, or email it, to st.edward@roath.org.uk. The final date for messages is 29th February.

THANK YOU

To Mary Traynor for her beautiful and atmospheric painting of Roath Church House, given in honour of the Centenary of the building.

SADLY we offer our condolences to the family of Howard Petty, who died recently. Howard was a dedicated Sunday School teacher in the 1960's/70's, and an enthusiastic server and supporter of our Sunday morning Eucharist at St Teilo's school. He has been a steadfast and dedicated member of the Parish of Roath for many years.

ST EDWARD'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZE LIST 2015

1. Holiday in Pembrokeshire – Geoff & Jane Smith
2. Christmas Hamper – Gwynn Ellis
3. Apple Hamper – Simon Payne
4. Christmas Crackers – Jenny Garraway
5. Christmas wrapping paper – Mary Traynor
6. Simple Set – Gilly Hicks
7. Bath Set – Pam Muir
8. Giant pack of Jaffa Cakes – Julie Lewis
9. Chocolate Santa's – Cathy Moran
10. Chocolate Christmas Pudding – Pam & John Harries
11. Box of Chocolates – Margaret Connor
12. Box of Chocolate Biscuits – Owen Phillips
13. Christmas Candle – Iolo Jones
14. Mulled Wine – Ron Harry
15. Bayliss & Harding Set – Mrs Lisk
16. Red Wine – Iolo Jones
17. Tin of Shortbread – Lorna Maggs

£275 was raised for Church Funds
Thank you to Janice for providing the prizes and to
everyone who bought tickets.

NOTES FROM THE NORTH NUMBER 18

Is it too late to wish you all a Happy New Year. I thought so. And Kath sends hers too.

So what has been happening up here? I have reached a birthday with a nought on the end. I have been very fortunate to get to this mile stone. And Kath very kindly took me out to lunch on my birthday. We went to a local eating place, and as we went in Kath spoke to the waitress. I assumed it was to confirm the booking. We had our meal and as the sweet course was ending, I heard someone singing happy birthday. My reaction was “ahah, some one else has a birthday too”. As the singing got closer, I could see three members of the staff carrying a slice of cake with a candle on it, **HEADING towards us. Kath said afterwards that my face had started to take on a pink hue, which deepened as they got nearer. At this point, most of the customers were joining in too!! Kath and I are still good friends and I have forgiven her too!!**

The continuous rain seems to have eased off now, but there are still signs of where the heaviest rainfall occurred. Not nice, and the flowers have been fooled too. Some bedraggled snowdrops have emerged.

Bell ringing practice continues, and I feel a bit more confident. Adrian comes to practices, so I guess he still thinks I make a fist of it. The next hurdle is 'changes', that is dodging from place to place in the sequences. Joanne says it may take a little time, and I do have the time to try – probably her patience!!

The next play is ready!!_ for performance on Thursday for 3 nights. The 2 props providers are still not sure how we were given the task. There are a variety of objects required. How do you produce a realistic set of 1959's cheques!!!! or a collection of 'valuable' antique pieces of furniture? It may take too long for you to offer suggestions, but I would urge you to think long and hard before you really set up a drama club in Roath. Kath would say I am too much of a pessimist.

Do you remember an incident at Cuverhouse Cross? Kath and I went to an Italian restaurant for an evening meal. We ordered (so we thought) some Ravioli, with a side salad and a Pizza. When the order arrived it consisted of a Pizza and a large bowl of salad, made up of some very large lettuce leaves and under ripe tomatoes plus small bits of other lettuce. We queried the absence of the Ravioli, and the waitress said we had ordered what she had delivered. There was only one

waitress and a chef. It was clear that her knowledge of English was rather basic, so we re-ordered the Ravioli, and guess what?? There was none left!!!! Kath ordered from the lunch time menu, and the waitress had no option but accept the request!! That arrived and we ate our first course. The sweet course was then considered but as we were a little apprehensive of what the stock situation might be, hesitated before placing a tentative order. The choice of tiramisu and amorette was accepted. However, the waitress returned to announce tiramisu was not available!!! There had only been 2 people when we had arrived, so we could only assume they had ordered a vehicle sized quantity of food to take home!! We again waited with trepidation for its arrival. The meal was then completed without further incident. There was no charge for the entertainment.!!! Kath is not sure which of us is responsible for these regular occurrences which make our joint life so 'interesting'.

She is still not sure whether Cardiff does actually exist. I have promised a view from the Llwyn-y-grant area. That should put the matter to rest, but do not hold your breaths.

I shall advise in due course!

Love from David and Kath.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK 9TH – 15TH FEBRUARY 2016 ¹

Random Acts of Kindness can be described as things we do for others or that are done to us, which make us feel better. The clever thing is that whether we are the recipient or the do-er, there is a benefit to how we feel.

Anne Herbert, a writer, in a 1995 article suggested “*Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty*”² in order to make the world a better place and the idea has been adopted by the Positive Psychology movement. ³

Jesus encourages us to be kind to everyone, not just those whom we know and love, “*if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?*” ⁴

A website that may inspire you:

- 40 Acts for Lent <http://.40acts.org.uk>

Also, search on youtube for random acts, there are lots of short films to watch.

So, in time for Lent maybe, or as a way of life known as CAKE ⁵ (a consistent approach to displaying acts of kindness) start today, and feel the benefits!

¹ <http://rakweek.randomactsofkindness.org/Home>

² [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Herbert_\(writer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Herbert_(writer))

³ <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-good-life/200805/what-is-positive-psychology-and-what-is-it-not>

⁴ St Luke's Gospel Chapter 6:32

⁵ Passmore J & Oades L.G. *R.A.K. and C.A.K.E.* The Coaching Psychologist ISSN 1748-1104

PARISH DIARY – CHRISTMAS 2015

DECEMBER

19th

10./10.50 am CYTUN Carol Singing, Albany Road

**11 am COFFEE CONCERT, St. Edward's
 St. Donat's Atlantic Chorale.**

20th

**3.30 pm St. Edward's Choir & Orchestra –
 Nine Lessons & Carols.**

6 pm St. Margaret's Nine Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE

24th

4 pm St. Edward's Carols round the Tree.

5 pm Crib Service, St. Margaret's.

**10pm St. Anne's First Eucharist at
 Christmas & Blessing of the Crib.**

11.30 pm St. Margaret' Midnight Mass.

11.45 pm St. Edward's Midnight Mass.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8 am Holy Eucharist, St. Margaret's

9.30 am Sung Eucharist, St. Margaret's

**11 am St. Edward's Sung Eucharist and
 Sunday School Presentation.**

**SUNDAY AND WEEK-DAY WORSHIP
IN THE PARISH OF ROATH**

(For Holy Day Celebrations see Weekly Newsletter)

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH WATERLOO ROAD

Sun: 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist
9.30 am Sunday School R.C. House
(each Sunday except 1st)
6.00 pm Sung Evensong
1st Sunday in month – Evensong/Holy Eucharist

Wed: 9.30 am Holy Eucharist

ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH BLENHEIM ROAD

Sun: 11.00 am Sung Eucharist & Sunday School
7.00 pm Choral Evensong
Wed: 10.15 am Holy Eucharist

Conventional District of Tremorfa
ST PHILIP'S COMMUNITY CHURCH
TWEEDSMUIR ROAD

Sun: 9.30 am Family Communion
Tues: 3.15 pm 'Messy Church' (in term-time)

Copy date for the next magazine is Monday March 14th

Please send hard-copy (typed, hand-written or cut-out) to the Parish Office; email contributions to:

Jean Rose – jeanmargaretrose@yahoo.com or

Sue Mansell – morgan.cardiff@ukgateway.net / smmansell@icloud.com or

Gwynn Ellis – rgellis@ntlworld.com



Articles in this magazine reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the editors, or the official teachings of the Church