

Roath News



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*

Remembrance / Advent 2018

Free but donations always welcome

THE PARISH OF ROATH, CARDIFF

The Vicar:	Rev. Stewart Lisk Tel: 20487854; 07794157604 email: stewartlisk@live.co.uk
Curate:	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
Parish Treasurer:	Mr Jim Bendon Tel: 20482082
PCC Minutes Secretary:	Mrs Anita White Tel 02920 491340
Roath Church House bookings	RCH Booking Secretary Mrs Anna Mason Tel: 07720641653
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. 20487854).*

Confessions and the Sacrament of Healing by arrangement.

**Copy date for the next magazine (Christmas) is 3rd
December**

From the Vicar of Roath, the Reverend Canon Stewart Lisk

My dear Friends,

By the time you read this we will have reached the 11th November 2018, the exact centenary of the end of the First World War. This year our Remembrance events, ceremonies and services have inevitably had a higher profile than recent years.

I have been privileged again to conduct several services both locally in the parish and for the City of Cardiff and the Principality of Wales. They began with a service in the grounds of Cardiff Castle to launch the Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion on 27th of October. This year a full size facsimile of a war cemetery has been erected there. Serving military personnel, cadets and school children were involved in laying poppy crosses to recall the millions who gave their lives in War.

It was good to see youngsters involved in such a high profile event as they also were there on the 7th November this year at Cardiff Castle again at the Dedication of the Field of Remembrance where thousands of poppy crosses have been placed with names of those who died given by their families and loved ones. All the students at our own High School of St Teilo were involved in services in school on the Friday before Remembrance Sunday. They have for several years made special displays and written passages of prose to recall the sacrifice of those who died.

All of these events involved prayers and had a religious character. In recent years, over the last decade, I have invited friends from the other main Faith Groups to be involved with our National Service at the Cenotaph at Cathays Park. Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus join with several Christian denominations in our Act of Remembrance and the Act of Commitment to work for peace. It is particularly poignant at this anniversary as so many soldiers involved in the First World War were from all parts of the British Empire. Thousands of

them were Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims as well as many other Faiths, and some of no religious belief. Some have questioned whether prayer is appropriate at such a time as this.

Prayer was and is still very important to many people in this country, throughout Europe and all over the Commonwealth. It should be seen as a tool for uniting the different groups represented at the Services and in our wider society. Addressing our concerns to God, expressing our desire for peace and harmony are surely essential parts of these events.

Many of us have deeply personal prayers for individual family members and friends who have died. Praying for the repose of their souls is something that many Christians want to do. We should not forget however, when we pray at this time, to remember the men and women who are serving in the Armed Services now. They continue to follow the example of those who have gone before in putting their own lives in potential danger in order that the rest of us can live in peace and concord.

With every good wish and blessing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart', is centered on the page. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

We will never forget

My mother used to bake bread. She was an OK cook – not brilliant – but OK. Sunday roasts were really good.

But bread was her forte. In a world of mass produced tasteless soggy sliced white bread of the 1970s, mum's bread tasted of yeast and was delicious.

I can smell it now. When you smell the smells of ages past you are transported back like Captain Kirk from Star Trek. You live it again. It is real. I can still taste that bread – and she hasn't baked it for thirty years.

That's what memory is. Not just some looking back and saying 'oh how nice.' It is bringing the past back to life in the now. It is rekindling a flame that was never extinguished. It is making the dead live.

Peter Jackson has just released old First World War footage but made it in colour. I've seen clips and it is amazing how you look at the people differently. No longer are they anonymous in black and white. They don't walk too quickly. Those gaiters that were wound round their lower legs don't look silly any more – they look as though they were a good idea in the muddy soup they were living in the trenches. It's very real – perhaps in a way that it wasn't before.

This year we remember 100 years after the First World War ended. The war to end all wars was brutal, horrible, smelly, painful, tragic.

It didn't end all wars – far from it. But those men who went to war to defeat aggression did it because they felt obliged to fight for their country and for future generations. For freedom and for what they thought would be peace.

We celebrate their memory because they, in a very real sense, gave their lives for us – for something other than themselves – for a greater purpose. One hundred years later we remember them – their sacrifice – their courage – their lives.

And in doing so they are not dead. In doing so they are alive. Their memory becomes real and now – and in colour. And we say 'thank you.' 'Thank you' to people who we don't know but were real and through our memory are real again.

In Westminster Abbey there is the tomb of the unknown warrior. A soldier who died fighting for us. A lad who died. He represents all of them – all of those lads – all of those real people – all of us.

And as Christians we know all about the current reality of things past. Every Sunday we celebrate Christ's birth, death and resurrection. We partake of his body as he lives even now. We accept his love as his body, which we eat, becomes us and we become him.

It's not a memory of things past. It is a living reality. A current presence. And we say 'thank you'.

Every time I go to St Edward's Church, a war memorial church, I see the names of those people who died in two world wars. As I read the names I am aware of their presence as they live in the resurrected Christ.

Thank you to all of them. We will never forget.

Fr Rhys

Dulce Et Decorum Est

This poem, by Wilfred Owen (1893-1918) exposes the full horrors of war

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of tired, outstripped Five-Nines that dropped behind.

Gas! Gas! Quick boys! – An ecstasy of fumbling,
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues, -
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori.

Point to Ponder

Whether immortality is true, or is a theory invented by man as a sop to his natural fear, none of us will ever know; but it is consoling and rather tender to imagine that when we die we leave something of ourselves, like the wake of a vessel, as a reminder that once we passed this way.

Daphne du Maurier

Welcome Plaque

At the entrance to St Lleurwg's Church, Hirwaun is the following:

**O God, make the door of this house wide enough
To receive all who need human love and fellowship;
Narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife.
Make its threshold smooth enough to be
No stumbling block to children nor to straying feet,
But rugged and strong to turn back the tempter's power.
God, make the doorway of this house
The entrance to your eternal kingdom.**

The Devil's Beatitudes

Blessed are those who are too tired, busy or disorganised to meet with their fellow Christians on Sunday each week – they are my best workers.

Blessed are they who enjoy noticing the mannerisms of clergy, choir and stewards – I can see their heart is not in it.

Blessed are the Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them.

Blessed are the touchy – with a bit of luck they can even stop going to church.

Blessed are they who keep themselves and their time and money to themselves – they are my missionaries.

Blessed are they who claim to love their God at the same time as hating other people – they are mine forever.

Blessed are they who have no time to pray – they are easy prey to me.

Blessed are you when you read this and think it's about other people and not about yourself – I've got you.

Anon

ST EDWARD'S NOTES REMEMBRANCE AND ADVENT 2018

THE FESTIVAL

This year's exhibition, featuring works by Lacrimosa Lacrimosa, the many musical and artistic events and the inclusion of a Made in Roath event (celebrating its tenth year) were visited and appreciated by many people from Roath and further afield.

Our annual music and arts festival, at the time of our Patronal Festival is a wonderful celebration of talent and creative imagination. Huge thanks to everyone involved who contributed, supported and did all the background duties which made it all possible.

WELCOME

To a number of families who have started to join us at our Sunday morning service, we hope you'll stick around.

Bishop June, who celebrated the Eucharist on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the dedication of the Nave. A lovely way to mark our presence in the local community as a place of worship and community activity. A large congregation enjoyed the wonderful service and the excellent lunch which followed. Thanks to Hannah for organising the provision of food from many volunteers, and all involved in making the day such a success.

WELL DONE and THANK YOU

HANNAH & CALLIE would like to thank everyone who sponsored them and came to cheer them on along the way! They've raised a total of £825 for the Milton Keynes Bereaved Parent Group which is incredible - thank you

CHARLES MURRAY R.I.P

On Friday 9th November we said our final goodbyes to Charles, who is much missed.

ARMISTICE CENTENARY

MOZART'S REQUIEM will be performed by St Edward's Orchestra & Choir (and friends) on Saturday at 7pm. Entrance free; retiring collection for Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2018.

EUCHARIST. The "11am" Service will start at 10.50am to allow for an Act of Remembrance and Silence at 11am. The Government and the Archbishop of Wales have requested that Church bells throughout the country should ring for peace at 12.30pm, and you are invited to stay after the Service to witness that.

PARISH SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE this year will start at 6.30pm as part of the national "Battle's O'er Tribute". In the Act of Remembrance members of the congregation will read out individual names of those commemorated on the memorial, and there will be the Last Post and Reveille. For the Red Cross Memorial, Emma Stublely of the Red Cross Refugee Service will attend.

THERE BUT NOT THERE is the 2018 Armistice project for the charity Remembered. Silhouettes of the Fallen are appearing in churches and public spaces. They have been in St Edward's for the last month.

POPPY ROCKS produced by the Forget Me Not Café can be seen in the "Bell Garden".

THE SINGLE POPPY beneath the church noticeboard is a form of witness that has been noted as evocative by several people on Social Media.

REMEMBRANCE DISPLAY at the front of the nave, which includes information about the people commemorated on the memorials, has been visited by hundreds of people in the past few weeks. Much of the information is also on the church website. <http://www.roath.org.uk/StEdward/index.html>



NEWS FROM THE LYCHGATE




One April I went to visit my Australian cousin who lives on the east coast, just south of Brisbane. With a hazy recollection of geography I realised that Australia would be going into Autumn, so I asked her on the way from the airport “When do the leaves start to fall?” She answered, “They don’t”. I was amazed. So much for geography! Each time that I remember this I am reminded of how much the change of the seasons means to most of us and also how the seasonal change is reflected in the Church’s year. Now, at the end of the Sundays after Trinity the leaves are falling gently in the churchyard and Christmas is on the horizon. For us, in this corner of Wales that is how it is, and the pattern is in our souls.

Which brings us to the fact that we have celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving for another year on 7th October, in St Margaret’s (some of us miss this every year because of the Half Marathon). But we were able to appreciate the lovely decoration of reds and oranges in the church. Thankyou to everyone who made the church so beautiful.

Thinking of those whose lives were thrown into confusion by the earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia, there was a retiring collection on Sunday which raised £152, and this has been sent to Christian Aid.

We were sad to hear of the passing of Idris Harries earlier in October. He was known to many of our congregation as a highly regarded and energetic Scoutmaster. He had also served on the Parish Council and Roath Church House Committee for many years. With the nickname of “Chippy” he

was active in the upkeep and preservation of the fabric of the church. I asked an old scout of his, who became a Queen's Scout, to recall something of Idris. He remembers Idris and his wife June, taking two of them up to the Brecon Canal for a canoe race, and feeding them corned beef hash. Another memory is of Idris seeing the boys off on a charity bike ride. The boys were Tudor Griffiths, Malcolm Hodgson, Glyn Hyett and Lewis Owen. RIP Scout master Idris 

The Heritage Weekend in September was, as usual, a great success. Thanks are due to the many who took part, and especially to Jean Rose for her knowledgeable guided tours. It makes us realize how much the church is valued in the local community. Although not its primary aim, it is pleasing to note that £367 was raised in the two days.

Our Christmas Fayre will be held in November 17th, at the time of writing. But as you read this it may already have occurred! We note that it will be Sheila Rowe's 86th birthday on that day. We wish her Many Happy Returns.

We welcome back into the 9:30 Service, Howard Gough who has been ill. We have missed his presence in church. Greetings to those of you who are too ill or infirm to come to church. Please let Julia or Sally know if you would like to receive a newsletter in the post. It would be a pleasure to send one to you.

Mary Sullivan, who has organised the coffee rota for Sunday Mornings, is retiring after 12 years. We all thank her for that service. (Some of us remember when we all trooped over to Roath Church House on a Sunday Morning). Now we are actively seeking someone else to take on the preparation of the rota and attention to the necessary supplies.

We are always interested in the things that the Sunday School bring in to show us at the end of the 9:30 service. It is amazing to see what is achieved in so short a time. This autumn they have been looking at Meals and Food in the Bible. This has included, feeding the Five Thousand, The Last Supper, a Messy Harvest session, Jesus eats with Zacchaeus and the Meals in the Prodigal Son. Looking forward they will cover Remembrance Sunday and Prayer, before embarking on their Christmas Presentation which will be shown in church on 15th December. We do thank Karen Lisk and her dedicated team. All children are welcome in Sunday School which operates during term time.

Many members of St Margaret's Congregation were happy to join with St Edward's to celebrate their Patronal Festival, under the auspices of Bishop June. It was a lovely service. We see how busy our Vicar is, in this and in other ways, and in his duties as Area Dean. We would like him to know of our appreciation. You will be pleased to know that he and his family have now returned home to the Vicarage after its reroofing. The Vicar is back in his Vicarage and all is well with the world.

Sally reports that on 14th October she and Stephen Bailey attended the Discussion Group which was led by Father Rhys Jenkins with his topic on The Jesus Prayer, which was very interesting and informative. Also a lot of questions were asked. The Discussion Group is held **once a month on Sunday Evenings at 7:45 to 9pm in Roath Church House Room 2, where we can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits.** The next Discussion Group will be held on **November 18th** and is led by **Barbara Brett and her topic is Henry VIII and Dissolution.** Here are the dates of forthcoming discussions groups:

Date	Topic	Leader
December 9 th	Angels	Chris Webb
January 13 th	St Augustine of Hippo (28/8/18)	Mal
February 10 th	Peter and Judas	Marian
March 10 th	Lent Course 1	tba
March 17 th	Lent Course 2	tba
March 24 th	Lent Course 3	tba
March 31 st	Lent Course 4	tba
April 7 th	Lent Course 5	tba
May 12 th	A Significant Figure. tbc	Marian
June 9 th	On Retreat	Canon Stewart Lisk
July 14 th	Planning for 2019 - 2020	

If you have any interesting topics that you would like to share then please either let me know or contact Mal Rowson on 02920 633184, or for more information go to discussiongroup@roath.org.uk.

God Bless you all
Julia & Sally



Hearsay

My religious beliefs, and the religious beliefs of all others too, will be partly mistaken, always revisable, never complete and always simply ‘a view of how things seem from where I am’ . . . it is merely **my** claim that God has revealed something infallibly . . . others will clearly disagree.

The quest for an honest religious faith will not always find a safe home among the devout. The truth-seekers may for a good while yet be the dispossessed. Yet they may inherit the earth.

Keith Ward – ‘A Vision to Pursue’

Giving

Envelopes for the new year 2019 will be available in December, so now may be a good time for us to review how, and how much we give to our church. You may wish to join the envelope scheme or even give directly via your bank. If you want to give via your bank St Margaret's bank details are;

Sort code 20-18-15

Account number 70766968

Bank Barclays

To join the envelope scheme ask Gill Day or Chris Webb and you can be added to the list receiving a box of envelopes. Of course, if we are UK tax payers, we can maximise our giving by gift aiding our donations, a simple consent form is available from Gill or Chris to do this.

Our contributions are used to pay lots and lots of bills to keep our church going, these include each month a Quota of £4000, heating and lighting which ranges from £150 — £1000, Insurance £120, not to mention building repairs, organ repairs and miscellaneous costs, and although we try very hard to keep these expenses down we are not immune to inflation year on year.

Finally, a big thank you, for your giving, which helps to maintain the fabric and develop the work of St Margaret's Church, from which we all benefit.

Chris Webb, Church Treasurer.

Notes from the North number 34

We shall not be spending Christmas at Preston this year, because we are going on a cruise from December 17th. to 29th. It is a delayed honeymoon!!

We sail from Southampton, across the Bay of Biscay, past Portugal, past the Straits of Gibraltar, stopping at Madeira, then Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura, Lisbon and then back to Southampton. It will seem strange to be on the water again. I left the sea in December 1961. I wonder if it is still as wet!! I shall have my discharge book and my First Mate Certificate with me. I might try to get a look in the wheel house, if they still have such a thing.

Kath has been on 2 cruises before, one large ship and one small. The second one (the small one) was with a friend. On their return trip, they encountered a force 12 gale in the Bay of Biscay, and unfortunately Kath was knocked over and sustained a dislocated shoulder and a fractured spine. They made them tough!!!!

It has not deterred her however, and when a friend called our attention to this cruise, she was very enthusiastic. My fingers and toes are attempting to create all sorts of good luck exercises.

Getting to Southampton will be our first exercise though. We are going by coach and that will be a bit of a challenge. However as the weather can be rather dodgy, and Holiday traffic heavy, it seems to be the best option.

Luggage might be a bit of a challenge too. I think Kath might take umbrage if I suggest loading it on the wheel chair!! The solution appears to be to engage the services of a 'baggage' transfer company. Our only fear, (we must have faith) is the possibility that the cases will disappear down a black hole. Faith may be stretched!!!!!!!!,

At the moment the dramatic society are giving performance of a play titled THE HOUSE ON THE CLIFF. I have the position of 'FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER'. Sounds posh, but is my first experience of being more visible than usual!!!.

There is a requirement to tell the audience how to escape in safety should there be a 'case of emergency'!!

I announce this as the written instructions are a bit of a complication. The necessity has never arisen before, and may seem a little surplus. "The audiences have been a little puzzled'!! When I try to explain this requirement'.

Heigh ho.

Kath has been approached by a reporter on the local paper. The reporter rang Kath, having picked up a Townswomen's Guild monthly report (July), which had an accompanying photo of a group of ladies(plus Kath and I) at - (a wedding of 2 80 year olds)!!!!

The idea of 2 octogenarians marrying had set off a thought-

How do 2 Octogenarians find love??

Kath and I have histories of meeting our first partners in church and have repeated the actions again.

Kath has the answer to the above question

- Go to church!!!

We shall send any reply to Bob he will be able to let you know and/or see any reply!!!

We shall be sending Christmas cards rather early this year.

THAT IS NOT A CALL FOR US TO RECEIVE ANY.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE.

From David and Kath.

ECCLESIASTICAL CLANGERS

(Extracted from Church bulletins around the country)

-) Don't let worry kill you - let the church help.
-) Thursday night - potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow!
-) Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
-) For those of you who have children and didn't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

-) The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev and Mrs Julius Belzer.
-) This afternoon there will be a meeting in the South and North ends of the church. Children will be baptised at both ends.
-) On Tuesday at 4.00 pm there will be an icecream social. Ladies giving milk please come early!
-) On Wednesday the ladies' liturgy will meet. Mrs Johnson will sing "Put me in my little bed" accompanied by the Pastor.
-) On Thursday at 5.00 pm there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All ladies wishing to be "Little Mothers" will meet with the Pastor in his study.
-) This being Easter Sunday we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
-) The service will close with "Little Drops of Water". One of the ladies will start quietly and the rest of the congregation will join in!
-) Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.
-) The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They can be seen in the church basement on Saturday.
-) A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening. Music will follow.
-) At the evening service tonight the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?". Come early and listen to our choir practice!

From the 'archives' of Jean Gough

Laughlines SHORTS

ETCETERA...

The curate hadn't been in the parish long when he needed his car servicing. He said to the garage owner 'Keep the cost down as I am only a poor preacher.' 'I know that', replied the garage man, 'I heard you last week.'

● *The first and worst of all frauds is to cheat one's self - all sin is easy after that.*



A young curate, many years ago was preaching on Mary Magdalene and at the end he said that as he was new to the parish he had tried to visit as many people as possible. He had also introduced himself to people he had met in the street.

He had been very surprised at the answers he received when he asked if they ever came to church. So many gave the same answer: 'The church is not for the likes of us, it is for the mill owners and the shop-keepers'.

This had been a shock to him, so he said to the congregation: 'I am asking each one of you here to kneel down right now, and ask yourself this question: "Is there anyone outside this church because I am inside.''



SCAFFOLDING

*Liturgy - a cage around our lives
As they are swung or hammered
Fearsomely in place.*

*Strong tried and trusted prayers
Lock into their familiar shapes
Around us, hold us safe.
Although we might yet find ourselves
Transported to a lofty pinnacle,
Safe within the word of God,
We shall not fall.*

ANN PARKER

**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 during school terms)
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 (Christmas) is Monday 3rd
December**

Please send hard-copy (typed, hand-written or cut-out) to the Parish Office; email contributions to:
Sue Mansell, smmansell@icloud.com
or Gwynn Ellis, rgellis@ntlworld.com, (preferably using Arial font 12)



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