

PURLEY PARISH NEWS

JANUARY 2003



35p

For the Church & Community of
PURLEY ON THAMES

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

PURLEY ON THAMES

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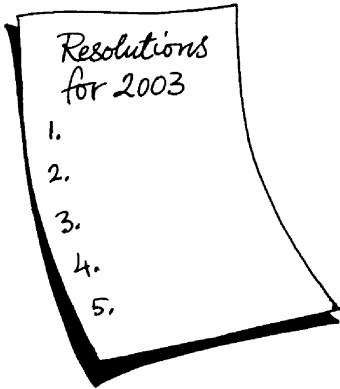
Sally Robertson
Tel: 0118 962 5978

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

All enquiries should be made to the Rector.

www.stmarythevirgin.fsnet.co.uk

LETTER FROM THE CURATE



In all the rush, did you miss it? Christmas that is.

Well you have probably just been through some of the most hectic few days of the year, what with buying and wrapping presents, sending cards, preparing food, plus the organising of visits to and from family and friends.

Before Christmas I saw these words written on the window of a coffee bar in Reading.

'3 Wise Words - Eat, Drink & Frolic' I wonder if they feel so wise in retrospect.

Would we change it? Well, maybe yes and a new year is certainly a good time to take stock of our lives.

'This year is going to be different. I'm going to make a few changes' we say, so we make some New Year resolutions. Sounds so fierce, doesn't it? 'I resolve' more like a declaration of war than a fanfare for a brand New Year. Yet nine times out of ten, that's precisely what our annual list of resolutions turns out to be, a war on existing habits and expenditure. Why do we do this? Probably because we have a vision of how we want our lives to be and think that we will be happy if we achieve it. We are on a journey through life, seeking, limping, maybe feeling quite lost at times.

A new year offers the possibility of a fresh start, much like a newborn baby does, or a newly decorated room, starting a new book, or the discovery of the first new shoots poking their heads through the earth in the spring. Each of these events, provide us with the opportunity to begin again and we set off with renewed enthusiasm.

I don't think those three 'wise words' help us much along life's journey, but I know of three wise men who do! The story of the three wise men, the festival of 'Epiphany' that the church celebrates on the 6th January, echoes our own journey through life. Their journey was one of searching and questioning, of pain and joy, of fear and hope. There must have been moments when they asked themselves if they were wasting their time, or wondered if they appeared foolish and what people thought of them. Yet, in spite of doubts and difficulties they persevered on their journey and were rewarded when they finally found the baby Jesus.

No doubt they were rather surprised to find a baby at the end of their search, but we are told that having worshipped Jesus, the wise men returned to their homes by a different route. Having encountered Jesus, Christians also continue their journey through life by a different route, because they very often find that they have different attitudes, different values and different goals to those of other people.

All babies bring changes for the family into which they are born, but only Jesus brought change for the whole world. It is impossible to encounter Jesus without being changed by him in the process and with that encounter comes the ability to start afresh.

Why not make your New Year resolution to journey towards discovering or rediscovering Jesus? The Wise men did not travel as individuals they had each other. We too have a community at St. Mary's to support one another on our faith journey. We welcome you to come and journey with us in 2003.

I wish you a Blessed New Year

Jean

REDISCOVER JESUS!

Rejesus.co.uk is a new website designed to be a place where people can explore Jesus and Christian faith.



It aims to provide high quality, reliable and entertaining content, using the best standards in web design, writing and presentation.

PARISH REGISTERS

WEDDINGS

7 December 2002 Simon Whitehouse and Rachel Manley
Michael Cunningham and Natasha Rosser

BAPTISMS

22 September 2002 Lewis Victor Blake

HILDA AND FRANCIS KINGHAM

The Kingham family would like to thank everyone who prayed for them in December. It was a great shock to lose both Hilda and her son Francis within a few days. It was exhausting visiting them both in hospitals in Reading and Hull and Betty in Manchester the week before they died. We thank you all for prayers which helped to sustain us.

Thankyou, Janet Kingham

SUNDAY SERVICES

5 Jan	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Family Worship Holy Communion Holy Communion
12 Jan	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Family Worship with Sunday School Holy Communion
19 Jan	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Family Communion with combined Sunday School Morning Worship Christian Unity @ St Mary's, Whitchurch Evening Worship
26 Jan	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Family Worship with Sunday School Holy Communion
2 Feb	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	All Age Worship Holy Communion Holy Communion
9 Feb	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Family Worship with Sunday School Holy Communion
16 Feb	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Family Communion with combined Sunday School Morning Worship Evening Worship

**Christian
Unity**



Annual service of Christian Unity

Sunday 19 January
3-00pm

St. Mary's Church, Whitchurch
All are welcome!

ST. MARY'S FAMILY PARTY

The church family party for the New Year will be held on Saturday 25 January at 4-00pm in the church hall.

ERRATUM

In the December 2002 edition, the new editor's address was incorrectly given in the article "MAGAZINE EDITOR". The editor's correct address should read **24** Skerritt Way, Purley on Thames, RG8 8DD.

DEANERY NEWS

NEW CLERGY FOR THE DEANERY

We welcome two new clergy into the Bradfield Deanery in the next few weeks:

Sulhamstead with Ufton Nervet

Revd. Peter Dewey from the Ramsgate area on 30 January

Burghfield

Revd. Jo Loveridge from Earley on 5 February

BISHOP OF READING

The electoral college of the Church in Wales convened at St Woolos Cathedral in Newport on Tuesday 10th December 2002 in order to elect a new Bishop for Monmouth Diocese. The college has elected the Rt Rev Dominic Walker, currently the Area Bishop of Reading, as the 9th Bishop of Monmouth. The electoral college was convened following the resignation, earlier this month, of the most Rev Dr Rowan Williams on his election to the See of Canterbury.

Bishop Dominic's Enthronement is planned for 29th March 2003, which is the feast of St. Woolos, in St. Woolos Cathedral, Newport.

NEW YEAR, NEW EDITOR

It is with some apprehension that I send my first edition of Purley Parish News off to the printers. Although I don't think I've made a huge number of changes to the way that Pauline Manning has so skilfully been producing it for many years, my "day job" in the I.T. industry makes me more than aware that problems may creep into the process for which I hope you will bear with me. The most obvious adjustment is the typeface (font). I personally dislike the Microsoft™ default of Times New Roman so felt compelled to change it! I would welcome feedback on whether you find this font easier or harder to read.

I hope to put out a small reader survey in the spring to find out what you (would) like in the magazine so that I can encourage more contributors and allocate space accordingly. The current contributors may also like to find out how much their articles are appreciated! The plan is that you can hand in the survey to your magazine deliverer when they come for next year's subscription.

Anyway, you're five pages in and didn't buy this magazine just to read my ramblings so I'll hand you back to the regular programming...

Matthew Slingsby

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA...?

Have you any idea what is happening to Christians in many parts of the world today?

Look at these figures -

Between 2500 and 7500 each year

Between 208 and 625 each month

Between 52 and 156 each week

Between 7 and 22 each day

These are the numbers of Christians murdered by Islamic extremists in Indonesia in the last 4 years - that is between 10,000 and 30,000 people. In many other parts of the world too Christians are being persecuted and killed. You can get an up to date picture from **www.barnabasfund.org**.

Roger Howell

"**Barnabas Fund** serves the suffering Church and makes their needs known to Christians around the world, encouraging them to pray. It provides practical help to strengthen and encourage the Church in many different ways. **Barnabas Fund** was established in 1993 and channels aid to projects run by national Christians in more than 40 countries."

CHRISTIAN PAGES

This is the title of a publication, which lists Christians who run a business. It is circulated to churches and advertises a range of services available for use.

If you are a Christian with your own business and would like to be included in the booklet, this year's deadline has officially past but you may still be able to get listed if you can submit your details by the end of January. For information contact:

Christian Pages
PO Box 266
Staines
Middlesex
TW18 4GP
Tel: 01784 460080
<http://www.cponline.co.uk>

The Church Shop

Christian Books



Traidcraft

Fair Trade Products

St Mary's Church
1st & 3rd Sunday
After all services

ROAD SAFETY PACK

If you have concerns about drivers speeding through your community, have any road safety questions or want to set up your own local road safety campaign, call BRAKE – the road safety organisation on 01484 559909. The guide contains a free road safety guide which contains tips and ideas on how to make your community a safer place to drive, cycle and walk around.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT FAIR

On Saturday 25 January between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Newbury College over 35 organisations will be at a recruitment fair to explain what it is they do, why they do it and how new people could be involved in achieving their aims. There are facilities for coffee and snacks, free transport from the town centre and there's free parking at the college. Call the Newbury Volunteer Bureau on 01635 49004 and ask for Karen Povey or Garry Poulson for more information.

*Sarah Ward
Rural Networks Project Worker*

PART TIME PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT REQUIRED

DISABLED MAN, WHEELCHAIR USER, LIVING ON THE PURLEY/TILEHURST BORDER REQUIRES HELP WITH PERSONAL CARE AND OTHER TASKS.
HELPER WILL BE PART OF A TEAM OF THREE PERSONS.

Hours available:

MONDAY and THURSDAY 11:30am-2pm and 6pm-10pm (6.5hrs. each day)
and FRIDAY 6pm-10pm (4hrs) making a total of 17hrs each week.

RATES OF PAY:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY £8.84/hr. MONDAY TO FRIDAY £7.80/hr.
FOUR WEEKS (PRO-RATA) PAID LEAVE EACH YEAR.

VALID DRIVING LICENCE IS ESSENTIAL, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE
PHONE DEREK LAMBLEY ON 0118 943 2003 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

PURLEY ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Following the recent publicity if anyone is interested in standing as a Parish Councillor at the May elections please contact me at the office for further information (984 4507). The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 23rd January and members of the public are invited to attend. The annual budget meeting is likely to be held a week later.

The Council have received amended plans regarding the planning application at 80 Long Lane. These show a complete change of site layout and the number of houses has increased from 9 to 10 plus the addition of 4 flats/apartments. In the view of the Council West Berkshire should have treated this as a fresh application.

West Berkshire Council has advised us of two training programmes funded by the European Social Fund. These are the *Business Opportunity Programme* for people starting a new business or becoming self-employed and *Release Business & Employment Opportunities* for people at a disadvantage in the workplace.

Further information is available from:

Support Shop Ltd.
Neighbourhood Work Centre
55 Broadway
Bracknell
RG12 1BB
01344 485111 (phone)
01344 484830 (fax)
supportshop@workcentres.com
www.workcentres.com

MOBILE LIBRARY

During early 2003 the Mobile Library will visit on 9 & 30 January, 20 February & 13 March. Local times are:

Orchard Close (2.15 - 2.30)

Memorial Hall (2.35 - 2.50)

Hazel Road (2.55 - 3.15)

Farm Close (3.20 - 3.35)

Purley Church (3.40 - 4.05)

Brian J. Smith
Clerk to Purley on Thames Parish Council

DO YOU HAVE ANY...

pillows, double bedding, sheets, duvet covers (single and double)

cot sheets, saucepans, towels (bath), good quality clothing,

good quality shoes, records and non-fiction books

pictures or mirrors and

good quality hard toys

which you would not mind donating to a local charity helping local people?

Please do seriously consider giving them to Christian Community Action (CCA). This is a charity based in Reading, which was started in 1992 to provide practical help to those in need in the town and up to a seven-mile radius outside of Reading.

There are two local charity shops:

371 Oxford Road
Reading
RG30 1RA
Tel: 0118 951 2339
(Mon-Sat from 10 am to 4 pm)

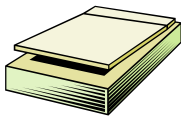
526/8 Northumberland Avenue
Whitley
Reading RG2 8NY
Tel: 0118 987 5427
(Mon-Fri from 10 am to 4 pm
Sat from 10 am to 1 pm)

Good second hand furniture is also needed.

Please contact Loverock Road warehouse on 0870 240 2187

If you are unable to take things to the shop contact Jeannet Roberts on 0118 962 4453 (this does not include furniture)

Jeannet Roberts



Free

I have an old 300dpi A4 flatbed USB scanner looking for a new home. If you could make use of it please contact the editor.

Matthew Slingsby

PASSING ON YOUR CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

"Leaving a gift in your Will to the parish is one way you can make a real and lasting difference."

Alan Titchmarsh

(Please contact the Rector if you would like further information)

PURLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

TALKS

We will not be holding a meeting in January 2003, but the A.G.M. of the Society will be held on Wednesday, 19th February, starting at 7.45 p.m. in Purley Memorial Hall.

After the official business has been completed there will be an illustrated talk by Mr. Ben Viljoen on "Fragments of the Garden History of Purley".

TRADING

The Trading Store is now closed and will re-open on Saturday, 1st February at 10 a.m.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members a very happy New Year and happy gardening in 2003.

Marion Dabbs
942 2349

WEA IN PURLEY

The WEA has just completed the first term of classes in Purley and would like to wish a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to their small but enthusiastic group of students and to all those who have supported this new venture.

If one of your New Year resolutions is to pursue a new interest why not join us Friday mornings at 10.a.m. in the Vestry of St. Mary's for one of these 5 week courses:

The First Crusade: by Marvin Clarke (17/1 to 14/2/03)

In 1095 untold thousands of people set out to recapture Jerusalem and to establish crusader states in the Holy Land. We shall study how the Christian and Muslim worlds started on a path that led to 500 years of conflict and ask what was achieved.

Exploring the City of London: by Val Pretlove (28/2 to 28/3/03)

We shall explore the early developments of London, looking at the Roman, medieval and Tudor city which was so dramatically destroyed during the Great Fire of London of 1666.

If you would like further information on these courses or to share your ideas on adult education in Purley please telephone me: Marvin Clarke (941 4996) or email marvin.clarke@btinternet.com



PURLEY PATHFINDERS

We ended 2002 with three excellent walks. Firstly we went to Stanford Dingley, rated as one of the prettiest villages in Berkshire. Passing the unusually named, weather boarded Church of St Denys, we left the village by way of several fields. The views, unfortunately, were veiled beneath a curtain of mist, but we enjoyed this part of the Pang Valley none the less. Crossing the Pang, (pausing first for a game of Pooh Sticks), we arrived at the old watercress beds of Kimberhead Farm. Here we were met by Gill Woolfe who kindly guided us around the scientifically interesting Blue Pool. At around 18 feet deep in places, in the right light the water of the pool can look a curious blue due to the reflection of light on minerals present in the chalk. Gill pointed out where bubbles could be clearly seen rising up from the bottom. Leaving this magical place we climbed to Rotten Row – a derogatory name for such a charming place. A bench and small green provided a good place for our break, surrounded by pretty cottages. At the sight of 30 ladies outside, one of the elderly resident's curiosity got the better of him, and he came to lean on the gate of Slipper Cottage to pass the time of day. He was delighted when asked to pose for a photo in front of his lovely old cottage. Moving on, passing the cottages of Tutts Clump, we walked beside fields which, not only held horses and sheep, but also some unusual animals to be seen on our walks, including goats, rheas and llamas. A lane took us into woodland where our path twisted and turned down to cross a pretty brook. Soon we were back in Stanford Dingley, crossing the Pang as it rushed towards the old Mill. We passed fine old timber-framed cottages and Georgian houses, and noted a plaque announcing Stanford Dingley's status as having been mentioned in the Doomsday Book. In the refurbished 15th century Bull Country Inn we enjoyed lunch.

After climbing on a zig-zag path beneath the trees of the Holies, we paused at a clearing to admire the view across the Thames to the Chiltern Hills. We pointed out landmarks, especially in areas about which we could say, "We were there!" Then, on we went until the next viewpoint was reached, this time looking down on Stitchens Green. A pretty woodland path led us to an open area of the Holies where we found the Stone Mazes. We rose to the challenge, finding our way to the centre of each, before continuing our walk to cross Streatley Hill. Here we found the gateway into Lardon Chase from where our footpath gave us increasingly wide views down into Streatley and Goring. We noted how the Thames wound its way across the valley floor, bisecting the two villages, and the Chilterns from the Berkshire Hills. A visit to Lough Down gave us an almost 360' view. Then, spotting the smoke rising from the chimneys of The Bull, we bowled down the hill to enjoy lunch at the cosy Inn.

The cloud was low over Purley but spirits were high as we gathered for our annual local Winter Wonderland walk. This year the Wonderland we explored was Sulham Woods. After making our way through these lovely beech woods, we dropped down to Sulham Lane. Soon we were on our way back to Purley via the bridleway with its Thames Valley views. Back at St Mary's sixty of us enjoyed a splendid shared Christmas lunch with mulled wine. Everyone enjoyed a good natter with friends made over the year. The meal finished with tea and Christmas cake, before we made our way home with the anticipation of a New Year of walks ahead.

We have walked over 600 miles of the beautiful countryside around Purley during the short time Pathfinders has been going. We have around 100 members, and with walks being held on different mornings, about 30 manage to walk each week. Walks vary in length from 4 to 6 miles, and en route we enjoy the views, the wildflowers and wildlife, and of course, each other's company. Some excellent walks are planned for 2003, with some extra special ones planned around a wagon and horses ride, a boat trip and a steam train ride. If any ladies would like to join us on any of the walks they will be made very welcome. Just ring me for a programme.

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

*Nicki Woodward
9841919*

(For photos etc click on the Pathfinders link of St Mary's web page)

COMPUTER TRAINING

One-to-one tuition in
image scanning,
manipulation and creation
using
Photoshop/Paintshop Pro

Also
Basic Computer Literacy Skills
(PC Only)

Weekdays, Evenings & Weekends

Contact Carl on
0118 942 2434
carl@artandtraining.co.uk

Father God, still my mind
And open my heart
Ready to receive
Your everlasting love.
Enable me
To love like You.
Amen

Beryl Hunt

PANG & KENNET VALLEY COUNTRYSIDE PROJECTS

The Friends of the Pang and Kennet Valley Countryside Project has been set up to represent all of the people who care about the countryside in the two valleys. The events below are co-ordinated by The Friends and give you the opportunity to come out on practical tasks, learn new skills, meet new people and, above all, enjoy yourself. The tasks usually begin around 10am and finish by 4pm but you are very welcome to come for as much time as you wish to give during these hours. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing, and bring a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. Hot drinks are usually provided, as are the necessary tools.

Conservation Tasks

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Tue 14 January | Hedge Planting
Contribute to the Pang Valley Landscape by helping to plant hedgerows around Pangfield Farm. Meet at Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm* at 10.00am or phone the project office for details of meeting on site. | Pangfield Farm |
| Sun 19 January | Hedge coppicing
Come and help restore hedgerows in the beautiful North Wessex Downs AONB. We will be coppicing a hedge to help regenerate an overgrown hedge. Meet at Kintbury train station. NGR SU386672 at 9.30am. | Holt Lodge Farm |
| Sun 26 January | Hedge Planting
Contribute to the Pang Valley Landscape by helping to plant hedgerows around Pangfield Farm. Meet at Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm* at 10.00am or phone the project office for details of meeting on site | Pangfield Farm |
| Tue 4 February | Barn Owl Box Repairs
Help the Barn Owl Project by helping to repair and replace damaged boxes. Meet at Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm* at 10.00am. | Rushall Manor Farm |
| Sun. 16 February | Scrub clearance
Spend the day in one of the Valley's most attractive woodlands helping volunteer warden Dick Greenaway clear a 13 th Century Deer Park bank and ditch. Meet at the Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm* at 10.00 am or phone the project office for details of meeting on site. | Ashampstead Common |
| Sun 16 February | Hedge Planting
Come and help restore hedgerows in the beautiful North Wessex Downs AONB. We will be gapping up a boundary hedge to restore it. Meet at Kintbury train station. NGR SU386672 at 9.30am . | Holt Lodge Farm |

Bucklebury Heathlands Conservation

Sun 12 Jan
Sat 8 Feb
Sun 16 Mar

Heathland Management
Heathland Management
Heathland Management

Join us as we clear scrub and help encourage heather on Bucklebury Heathland.

For all tasks meet at Angel's Corner, by the Scout Hut on Bucklebury Common (Grid ref. SU 550688) at 10.00 am. Contact Tim Culley for more details on 0118 9714830.

Walks and Events

Fri. 28 February

PVCV Social evening 7.30-11pm Upper Bucklebury

Join the volunteer group for the annual 'Pang Valley Skittles Championship'. Cost £7.50 per person. Tickets include a buffet meal (please bring own drink and glasses)- available from Project Office. Meet at Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall (SU 545 684) for 7.30pm.

Sun 2 March

Yattendon Village 1-3pm Yattendon Estate

Join Dick Greenaway on a guided walk around this beautiful estate village in the heart of the Pang Valley. Dick will point out places of social and historic interest and will include a visit to Yattendons' new dairy with estate manager Alistair Jeffrey. Please wear wellies. **Booking essential** please contact the PKVCP office. Meet at the car park in Yattendon village (SU 552 744).

Sat 23/Sun 24

March Lambing Open Days Rushall Farm

Come and see the first lambs of the season at Rushall Farm, Bradfield*. The farm will be open from 11am to 6pm all proceeds go towards the Reading Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Sun 23 March

River Clean up Shaw/Newbury

The Rivers and Environmental Spaces Clean-Up Event is back! Come and help clean up part of the River Lambourn in Shaw as part of the RESCUE event. Meet on bridge in Walton Way off Turnpike Road at 10.00am.

Wed 26 March

'Working with Water Voles' and Friends AGM

7.30-9.30pm Rushall Manor Farm, Bradfield

The AGM of the 'Friends of the Pang and Kennet Valleys' will be held (any items for the agenda please contact the office), followed by national authority on water voles Rob Strachan (Wildcru and Environment Agency). Meet at the Stables at Rushall Manor Farm, Bradfield*

*The Black Barn is situated off Back Lane between Stanford Dingley and Bradfield, to the west of Scratchface Lane (Grid ref. SU 583723).

PROJECT PURLEY

The next meeting of Project Purley will take place on January 17th at the Parish Office, Goosecroft Lane off Beech Road at 8pm. Member Janet Southall will give a talk about the Workhouse at Battle in Reading.

On November 15th, the members of Spencers Wood Local History Group visited Project Purley. Through a shared interest in their village, four residents got together to research the history of Spencers Wood. In this way the group was formed and the outcome was the publication of a book on local history entitled 'Our Village of Spencers Wood. The cover picture is of the Jubilee Oak planted at the time of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and recently felled. The Group realised that the big old houses in the village were being demolished and replaced by new building and that the history of the village was in danger of being lost. Each member undertook to research a particular area, and older residents were asked if they had memories to share. In addition a questionnaire was prepared and distributed around the village. The response from the older residents was very encouraging and their individual memories are contained in dedicated chapters. Response to the questionnaire was at first slow but by degrees the information began to arrive enabling many facets of the village life to be represented

After studying old maps it was a surprise to discover that Spencers Wood was originally part of Wiltshire and it is believed that it took its name from the DeSpencer family mentioned in a roll dated 1242. The village lay within the ecclesiastical boundaries of Shinfield, Swallowfield and Grazely. It was therefore necessary for the research to cover the whole of this area. Built on common land it wasn't until the 1880s that Spencers Wood became a village. The brick kiln in the area provided the bricks for all the houses that are recorded in the census surveys of 1881 and 1891.

Undeterred by the enormous task they had set themselves the Group have succeeded in producing an evocative and fascinating record with enough material remaining to plan a second publication.

Rita Denman

LAUGHLINES

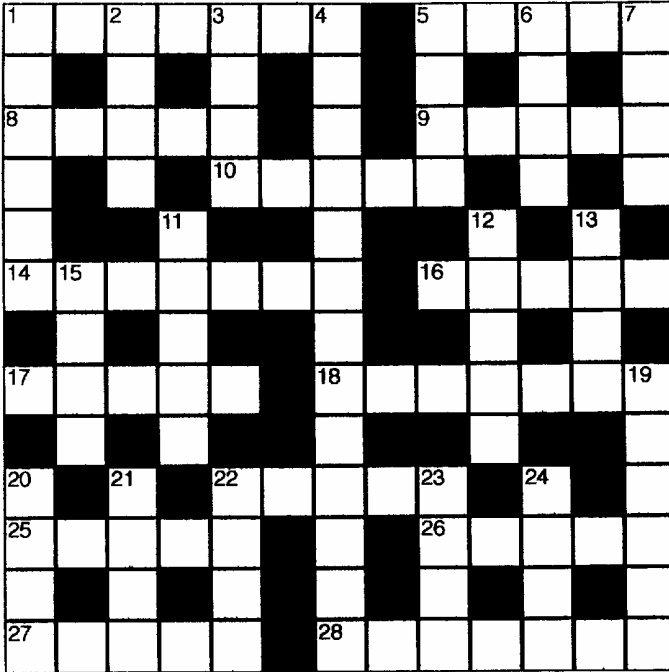
Some "bloopers" from church bulletins (not St. Mary's, of course!)

The Rev. Adams spoke briefly, much to the delight of his audience.

Don't let worry kill you -- let the church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

A NEW YEAR CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 The theory that God does not exist (7)
- 5 Tenth-century English king who helped St Dunstan reorganise the English church (5)
- 8 The unmerited favour of God (5)
- 9 We are all like ... that have gone astray (5)
- 10 Person who believes in the existence of God, without revelation (5)
- 14 Miser in Dickens novel A Christmas Carol (7)
- 16 Palestinian ruler at the time of Christ's birth (5)
- 17 Period during which the Magi were advised not to return to Herod (5)
- 18 Violent storm with whirling winds (7)
- 22 Methodist name for the last night of the year (5)
- 25 Canteen for servicemen (5)
- 26 Permission granted to a priest by a bishop to move to another diocese (5)
- 27 A drudge (5)
- 28 Not artificial (7)

Down

- 1 They sang "Gloria" at Christmas (6)
- 2 To become healthy again (4)
- 3 In winter, your car may be ... up (4)
- 4 Translation from the Greek word Epiphany. Christ appearing to the Magi (13)
- 5 Direction from which the Magi travelled (4)
- 6 Joy (4)
- 7 Carried away with lofty thoughts (4)
- 11 Love of ... is the root of all evil (5)
- 12 Trousers made of denim (5)
- 13 Brought as a gift by the 3 wise men to Jesus (4)
- 15 A king and a merry old soul (4)
- 19 Recording or commemorating death (6)
- 20 Places which the Magi may have searched before finding Jesus (4)
- 21 Arabic word for people of Yemen (4)
- 22 Three ... men came from the East (4)
- 23 Not usual in a Northern winter (4)
- 24 365 days (4)

Michael Dawney
Answers next month!

Scottish Country Dancing For Children

Places available for 4 to 15 year olds

At Norcot Nursery School
82 Lyndhurst Road
Reading

Beginner's Class

4 – 4.45 pm Thursday

Introduces children from the age of four to traditional Scottish Country Dancing. It enhances their confidence, social skills, concentration and teamwork. Helps develop mathematical concepts by listening to rhythm, counting beats and bars and following patterns and sequences. And extends language and communication skills as they follow and give instructions. Most of all though they have **fun** and gain a real sense of achievement as they become part of the pattern of the dance.

General Class

4.30- 5.30pm Thursday

Extends the skills which the children have acquired as they learn more complex steps and formations. **It is also suitable for older beginners.** They build up a repertoire of traditional dances and also have the opportunity to write their own. It is a very social class but we do offer the opportunity to take examinations and earn medals.

Please Phone Andrea on 0779 0030 614 for more details, we're looking forward to meeting you.

PURLEY PARISH NEWS

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I welcome contributions from anyone to this magazine, particularly on local issues and events. Contributions can either be delivered in writing or, preferably, as a WORD attachment by email. Please note however, I reserve the right to edit contributions to suit space availability.

Comments and opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the P.C.C. of St. Mary's Church, Purley on Thames – publishers of Purley Parish News.

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