Leaves from the Rector's Diary

23 March - A great deal of hard work has been put in preparing for tonight's Licensing. I have looked in on enthusiastic groups in each of the churches preparing the buildings for the new Rector so they appear spick and span for a new era.

28 March - The Benefice Service held at Compton Dando this Palm Sunday morning was very special for all of us here at the Rectory. People are very welcoming and naturally curious to see what the new man is like.

30 March - The Chrism Eucharist at Wells Cathedral this morning brought together the clergy of the Diocese for the renewal of our Ordination vows and the blessing of Oils which we use in our pastoral ministry with the baptised, the sick and anointing. It was a strange experience coming from a Diocese where I knew personally and recognised by sight over 80% of the clergy to being in Wells where I recognised only one. Quite lonely.

4 April - Super congregations for Easter Day, churches glorious and sun shining. I had a priest friend who had lost all muscle movement and speech who wrote on Easter morning that he was so sad not to be able to shout out "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!" But then he added, "How much sadder not to want to call out Christ is risen!" He died with resurrection hope in his heart and mind.

9 April - Some of the grandchildren down this week to see our new abode. Middle daughter, Nicola, with her husband Elliot lives in Birmingham. Youngest daughter Glenda and husband Jason live in Caterham. Each has two children; Nicola a pair; Madeleine and Joel; Glenda two daughters, Georgina and Lucy. They were this week's visitors. Paula and husband Matthew live near Manchester with two, Ricky and wife Jo in Lowestoft with one and a half.

14 April - Dom Richard Yeo, Abbot President of Downside called today. He was at my Licensing. Twenty years and more ago he was Parish Priest in Bungay, Suffolk where I was the non-conformist Minister and the local Rector was Stuart Morris (who incidentally began his ministry as curate of Whitchurch many years ago.) The three of us became an ecumenical trio, resolved not to do separately what in good conscience we could do together. Thus was born a very exciting co-operation between the churches in the town. It was good to renew acquaintance again.

Off to Weston to visit John Merchant in hospital. John was telling me of his very long association with All Saints as organist. I hope his stay in hospital is short. I would be glad to hear of a hospital ion this country where it is possible to park a car especially in the afternoon.

22 April - To the Theatre in Taunton this evening. That is like beginning to appreciate retirement – having time to take off for pleasure without feeling guilty.

Canon John

Bath International

MusicFest

Dancing in the Streets: 26 May – 6 June Booking open for Bath International Music Festival Dance is added for the first time this year to the menu of classical, jazz, folk and film already well-established in the programme of Bath International Music Festival. The highlight will be the world premiere of a collaboration between English National Ballet and Norwegian trumpeter, Arve Henriksen, in the suitably spectacular setting of Bath Abbey on Saturday 5th June.English National Ballet are additionally bringing their full orchestra for a separate evening of romantic ballet music in the Forum whilst the first day of the Festival, Wednesday 26th May, sees Georgia's leading folk organisation, Rustavi Ensemble, introduce the dance theme with their striking performances combining polyphonic singing and traditional Georgian dance. Queen of soul, Martha Reeves will be leaving us dancing in the streets as she hosts the Festival closing party night with her Vandellas on 6th June. Sequined dresses will be de rigeur for this exclusive UK date by some of the most famous voices of Motown. After last year's sell-out opera in the Roman Baths, the Festival has commissioned a brand new staged production of Handel's oratorio Israel in Egypt. With a specially built stage erected in the water, the production will bring to life the ten plagues including locusts, frogs, water turning to blood and even the Parting the Red Sea!Regular series, On the Edge of Life, which has previously covered issues of early life, homelessness and children, this year tackles war and its aftermath. An installation of shoes in St Michael's church will represent people's stories and resonate with the piles of shoes found in Auschwitz and the symbolism of an Iraqi journalist throwing a shoe at George Bush. A specially commissioned, staged production of Stravinsky's The Soldier's Tale will be performed by Charles Hazlewood and his ensemble Excellent Device with actors and dancers from Drama Centre London. As usual the big free event, Party in the City, takes place on the first Friday of the Festival, this year falling on 28th May. It will be renamed the Wylde Party in the City since jeweller Nicholas Wylde won the prize draw for title sponsorship and, coincidentally, the headline band are Kansas-based bluegrass band The Wilders. A schools procession to the Abbey will set the evening off and the first event in the Abbey, tying in with the theme exploring war, is a revival of The Rainbow, an epic work commemorating the battle of Dunkirk by British composer Thomas Wood. Other special events this year include a celebration of Chopin's 200th birthday with a rare performance of all 58 of his mazurkas performed by Joanna MacGregor as a coffee concert in the Assembly Rooms. Chopin's Nocturnes, meanwhile, can be enjoyed with a hot chocolate or hot toddy at two late evening concerts in the Guildhall played by two up-and-coming young performers, Sasha Grynyuk and Alexander Dariescu.Celebrated Scottish composer Judith Weir, is the subject of this year's composer day with performances of her chamber music, collaborations with storyteller Vayu Naidu, discussions with Judith, an installation, Judith's Room, and a documentary about her music.The life of one of Britain's most loved and iconic singers Kathleen Ferrier, is also celebrated with a concert, film and an exhibition of her elegant eveningwear, also a number of letters and diaries on loan from the Blackburn Museum.Top quality jazz is focussed around the bank holiday weekend with established names such as Kenny Wheeler, David Murray and Martial Solal alongside young rising stars Led Bib, Acoustic Ladyland, Tom Arthurs and more. To spoil you for choice, funk legend, Booker T, will also be here on bank holiday Saturday. Along with a strong showing of British folk from Eddi Reader to The Unthanks, there will be a fascinating exploration of modern folk at the Rondo by writer Will Hodgkinson, who has travelled Britain in search of the sometimes eccentric and surprising traditions of our land. He will be joined by musicians from all points of the compass including home boys the Bathampton Morris Dancers.

www.bathmusicfest.org.uk

From the Parish Register of All Saints', Publow

Funeral Service followed by Cremation

26th March David CHILLCOTT

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A very good total of £703.87 has been sent to the Children's Society as a result of the annual box emptying. This is an increase of more than £30 on last year's total which is a great achievement. Thank you very much indeed for all your contributions.

The Society raises over £2million each year from this source and the money goes towards its many projects, including those which support children who have been bullied and who run away from home.

If there is anyone else who would like to have a collection box in their home, please do contact me. Many thanks again.

Judith Hillman, Hon. Local Secretary. 01761 490324

We would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their support on our sad loss off Graham, also for cards, donations and offers of help. Thank you all, Audrey (Baber), Joy, Lyn & Barry

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We are delighted to report that Sally Brain of Hillcrest Pensford, has become the new secretary of the Hall Committee.
Terry Phillips

Many thanks to everyone for their very kind gifts, collection and all their best wishes I have received on my retirement.
Janet Smith

ALIDE HIRE SERVICES

Tool Hire - Diggers & dumpers - Toilet Hire

0845 205 2002

Are Proud to sponsor the local Parish Magazine

Defibrillators for Woollard & Pensford

22 members of the public attended a meeting on 30 March at the Memorial Hall to hear Clive Setter explain the advantages of acquiring a Defibrillator. These advantages were very compelling and all those present appeared to feel that steps should be taken to raise funds to acquire a machines for both Pensford and Woollard,

A Defibrillator could be seen as analogous to a "Jump Lead" to start a weak battery in a car, only this machine could start a heart after a cardiac arrest, a life could be saved. The machines are reasonably simple to use and do actually talk the user through the process in easy steps, and if acquired will be sited in central parts of our villages.

The cost of a Defibrillator is approximately £2,000, including it's storage cabinet, and we would like to have two, the Parish Council have undertaken to take the initiative in fund raising, but are delighted that the 10K have offered to support the appeal by publicising and raising funds at the forthcoming race. There will be a demonstration of the Defibrillator on the memorial Field on 25th April and an opportunity to contribute to the appeal.

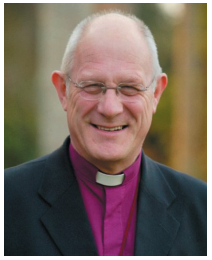
We hope that these activities and a promised local contribution will kick start this appeal, but all donations to this very worthwhile initiative will be welcome. We will keep you informed through the Newsletter of further progress.

Tony Heaford :490271 Janette Stephenson : 490352

March Chelwood Lucky Draw

£15 - T. Sherborne : £10 - B.Godfrey

£3 - B. Parsons : £2 - R&J Ashman



Responsibilities build society, not rights

By the time this message is published, we will know the results of the 2010 General Election and may even have a new Government.

The election was held at the end of a series of the most intense legislative parliaments in history, with some four thousand new laws entering the statute books.

Many of these new laws placed responsibility for clearing up society upon educationalists, doctors and health workers, social services, the police and other institutions and structures.

The notion of individual responsibility barely featured - if at all - yet, paradoxically as individuals, we have more rights than ever before.

There is always someone or something to blame, whether it is background, social status or environment. Fault and accountability for one's own actions has been significantly diminished. Rights are no longer an individual's defence against the state; they have become a claim by the individual on the state.

Much of what creates community lies in the practice of social virtues, common good: giving to people in need, visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved, offering solace and such help as one can to a neighbour who has lost a job, respecting the dignity of the 'other.' Such actions are best not done alone, and historically, churches, synagogues, mosques and gurdwaras provided places where simple human virtues of support, care, as well as conversation, shared standards, civility and politeness were practiced.

A culture of suspicion, accompanied by a climate of fear that to engage with strangers, even those in desperate need, is stultifying both innate social virtues and common good. The outcome of this is the denial of responsibility, and as in the Adam and Eve story, such denial leads to the loss of paradise.

Regardless of creed or faith, few could disagree that a society without a community of ideas, shared values on politics, morals and ethics, with agreement about good and evil, can only disintegrate and fragment.

To create a society, we must embrace values that are often spoken of in religious story as covenant. Covenants belong to families, communities, charities, to the arena of cooperation, mutual trust, not doing alone what can be done together, shared lives, and interests.

Covenant is about identity. Covenant restores the language of cooperation in a world of competition. It focuses on responsibilities, not just on rights. Social covenant creates a society.

In this new Parliament, may we seek the signs of covenant over contract; society over state, cooperation over competition, responsibility over rights. There is a role here for us all, people of faith, and of no faith. We do not have to complete the task, but neither are we free to stand aside from it.

Peter B Price, Bishop of Bath and Wells

Come and speak to one of the team!

Chelwood Village Hall Car Park
WEDNESDAY 19th MAY 12noon - 2.00pm
PC Stuart Peard 3455
PCSO Shelley White-Sharman 8570
PCSO Kate Chamberlain 7752
Non –emergency Tel: 0845 456 7000
Emergency Tel:999
SSNRADSTOCK@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Publow with Pensford MU

"A Journey through Music" by Sheila Rice This was the subject for our Mothers' Union meeting on a gorgeous afternoon of Spring Sunshine, a talk with interludes of musical recordings.

Our member, Sheila, as many will know, has many times during the past months, played at our Publow Church Services. Hearing how her world of music all began was very interesting. At the age of seven her piano lessons began and she was soon able to read music well. She loved it, attending the Knowle Garjulo Studion and one of her first vivid recollections are, of learning the Beethoven "Moonlight Sonata", this piece encouraged her to spread her fingers over nine notes; good practise! She became involved with music shows around the age of eighteen and performed many times at the Bristol Victoria rooms where, each year a popular production was held. She joined the Gilbert & Sullivan Society and also conducted the Townswomens Guild Choir at Knowle. A choir member herself, of one of the famous Abigail Dodds Choirs. Abigail, in those days ran about ten different choirs and was very much in demand around the West Country.

During a six month visit to her sister in San Diego in America, Sheila joined a Barber Shop Choir and became very taken with it, so that on her return to Britain she started a similar one here. These were exciting and colourful times, each performance the choir gave required a new outfit and her photographs were able to show us just how attractive and flamboyant they really were. Splendid occasions indeed!

The various Choirs have taken her to Canada, Germany and Holland, she so enjoyed being a member of The Bristol Operatic Society and the years she conducted the Police Choir, which was for some considerable time, Well 'turned-in' to the Church Music, masses, chants etc. as we at Publow know well. Thank you Sheila, for all those occasions and for your talk and musical interludes on 8th April.

We meet again on Thursday 13th May in The Church Rooms, Pensford. Do come along and join us at 2.15pm.

Mary Thomas

Pensford with Publow W.I.

Mrs Baber welcomed members to the April meeting, including one guest staying with a member in the village and herself was a member of WI in Bournemouth. Janet Dando was thanked for the lovely Spring flowers for the table. These were sent to Daphne, who is suffering from shingles, with good wishes for a speedy recovery. One birthday card was presented. A board was sent round for items for the Coffee Morning in May. Correspondence and Avon News was dealt with. A report from the Hall representative was also given.

The speaker this month was Amy Garrahy. She called her demonstration "Stretch and Relax" and had members up and doing many exercises, plus doing some sitting in a chair, these being very beneficial to the head and neck muscles. These were accompanied by soft music and ended with deep breathing exercises. As there was no competition this month all members received points for their efforts.

At the May meeting the resolutions for the National AGM in Cardiff will be considered. There will be a Silent Auction and Beetle Drive. Visitors always welcome.

Chew Valley Gardening Club's

Chew Valley U3A has a monthly meeting on the third Monday of the month at Ubley village hall. Meetings start at 10:30 with refreshments beforehand. The meeting in May will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 17th. This will be followed by some entertainment which has not been decided at the time of writing. There will not be another monthly meeting until August 16th when Professor Tony Miles will speak about Hip Dysplasia. On Monday 20th September David Dennis will talk about the Workings of the Magistrates Courts. Although there are no monthly meetings during June and July many of the interest groups continue to meet during the summer and trips to places of interest, or for interesting experiences, usually continue during the summer months. Contact the Secretary, Christine Evans on 01934 832841 or visit our website, **chewvalleyu3a.org.uk** for more information.

Our next Meeting is on Thursday 13th May when our speaker, Diana Redfern, is going to talk to us on Gardening with Wildlife in Mind - very topical these days! We meet in the Old Schoolroom, Chew Magna at 8.00pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome. As well as our monthly meetings, in June we are organising an outing to two contrasting gardens in Wales, Dewstow and Dyfrryn.

Gardening in the Compton Dando Area

Let our 'experts' help make your garden gorgeous
Suitable plants will be on sale to get you started
7.30 pm Tuesday 11th May
Compton Dando Hall
Everyone welcome
Refreshments available

Christian Aid Week

The Christian Aid envelopes are enclosed with May's magazines for ease of distribution only. No-one should feel under any obligation to contribute. However, Christian Aid and all the people they support throughout the world will be grateful for any donation no matter how small.

Christian Aid is the official development agency for 41 church denominations in the UK and Ireland, they help those in need regardless of faith. They have 650 partners in 50 countries, so are especially well placed to help with natural disasters.

Things that we take for granted are denied to so many. Early this year we were without water for a day in Chelwood because of a fractured main. Remember how inconvenient that was? We collected pans of snow to thaw but I forget how many times we went to the tap to top up until we remembered - NO WATER! Supplies of clean water and providing healthy sanitary conditions are some of the many projects that Christian Aid works on. They are particularly good at helping set up a frame work so that people are able to manage and help themselves, rather than be reliant on handouts.

If you are able to, please help with a donation; it will be put to good use. **Your magazine distributor may call to collect the envelope but if they don't, please take it to your church, Maureen Ford in Pensford or Jackie Young in Chelwood.**

Teatime Madness

The Benefice After School Club

for primary school children

Crafts & games : Snack tea

Music : Praise & bible story

Monday 17th May

3.30pm - 5.00pm

Pensford Primary School

Pre-school children welcome
accompanied by a parent
Older children come along as helpers
There is no charge for the club
For more information

Revd Sue Sevens 490898

Compton Dando Coffee Morning

10.00am - 12.00noon

Saturday 22nd May

Parish Hall

Come and join us for complimentary coffee/tea and cakes -Bring your family & Friends

A chance to meet up and spend some time getting to know each other

Games to play and books to swop

If you need a lift call

Alison 490903 or Steph 492500

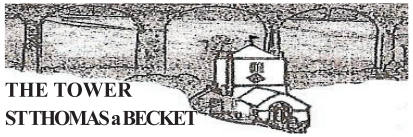
SATURDAY MARKET

for Publow Church

Saturday 1st May
Church Rooms, Pensford
10.00 – 11.30am

HOME BAKING
TRAIDCRAFT STALL
PLANTS from Peter Jones

Proceeds towards Church Funds
Admission 50p to include coffee and biscuit



OPEN

For any information contact:
Jane Flower 490234

Pensford with Publow Women's Institute

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 15th May
Pensford Church Room
10.00am - 12noon
Home Made Cakes : Bric a Brac
Books : Raffle

Admission 50p includes coffee & biscuit

Marje & Bryan's Coffee Morning & Sale

Saturday 8th May
10.00am to 12 noon

Venue as last year
Lodge Farm, Chelwood
By kind invitation of
Mrs E Jones & family

Plants : Cakes : Jams & Pickles
Books & Gifts : Raffle : Bacon Butties
50p Entry includes Coffee & Biscuits

Proceeds to St Leonard's Church

MONDAY 31ST MAY
GARDEN FETE
PARSONAGE FARM
PUBLOW
2.00 – 5.00PM

CREAM TEAS : ICE CREAMS
CAKES : PLANTS
CARDS : BOOK STALL
GARDEN OBELISKS
IRONWORK : RAFFLES
TOMBOLA : FAIRGROUND ORGAN
GUESS THE WIEGHT OF THE CAKE

*GARDEN ENTRANCE £2.00 : UNDER 14 FREE

SUNDAY May 16th

OPEN GARDENS in COMPTON DANDO

2pm - 6pm

Tickets £4 from the Village Green (children free)

cream teas
free parking

In aid of building projects at St. Mary's Church

Compton Dando Village Fayre 2010 | **Sat July 3rd**

Marmalade & Jam Competition

After the success of last year's Men's Marmalade & Jam Competition we shall be repeating the event at this year's Compton Dando Village Fayre, Saturday 3rd July, 2pm - 5pm

We have extended the categories to include preserves and chutneys, and have also opened the entrance categories to include women.

Thus, if you are so inclined, start chopping those citrus fruits and when the early summer produce appears make those jams. Or for those enthusiasts, who were busy in the Autumn, reach for a jar and put it aside for the competition.
Entries are free

Please bring your entries to the organiser's table by the start of the afternoon's proceedings.

May 2010

Sat	1	Publow Church Market. Church Rooms 10.00am - 11.30am
Wed	5	Mobile Library
Sat	8	Marje & Bryan's Coffee Morning & Sale at Lodge Farm
Sun	**9**	**St Mary's Church Brunch. 10.30am**
		Christian Aid Week
Mon	10	Parish Council Meeting
Tue	11	Gardening in the Compton Dando Area. Parish Hall. 7.30pm
Wed	12	Publow PPC. Pensford Church _Rooms. 7.30pm
		Benefice Holy Communion 10.30am St Mary's, Compton Dando
Thur	13	MU Tea Party for Ascension Day. 2.15pm Pensford Church Rooms
Sat	15	Pensford with Publow WI Coffee Morning. Pensford Church Room 10.00am - 12noon
		The Mersey Beat Legends at Pensford Memorial Hall
Sun	**16**	**Compton Dando Open Gardens. 2.00pm - 6.00pm**
Mon	17	U3A AGM, UblyVillage Hall. 10.30am
		Teatime Madness. 3.30pm Pensford School
Tue	18	Chew Valley Gardening Club. Old School Rooms. 8.00pm
Wed	19	Mobil Library
		Neighbourhood Policing Meeting. Chelwood Hall. 12noon - 2.00pm
Fri	21	The 3 peice Suite. Pensford Memorial Hall. 8.00pm
Sat	22	Compton Dando Coffee Morning. Parish Hall. 10.00am - 12noon
Sun	**23**	**Whit Sunday**
Tue	25	Compton Dando Parish Hall Committee AGM 7.30pm Parish Hall
Thur	27	Deanery Synod. Blagdon Church. 7.30pom
Sun	**30**	**Benefice Holy Communion for Trinity Sunday**
		St Leonard's Church. 9.30am
Mon	31	Parsonage Farm Garden Fete
June		
Sat	19	St Thomas a Becket Tower Tea Party Weekend

ALIDE HIRE SERVICES
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0845 205 2002
www.alidehire.co.uk

"Live Band"
The Mersey Beat Legends

A night full of 60's music
(Please feel free to dress for the occasion)

Pensford Memorial Hall

Saturday 15th May
8:30pm start (until late)

£10.00 per person to include Buffet Supper
Bar Available
Tickets available from
Alan & Debbie Hunt 490409 or Alan & Jan Vowles 490753

All proceeds to Pensford Primary School

A SOCIAL EVENING WITH
THE UNIQUE JAZZ & FOLK TRIO

JOHN HOOPER
HELEN JAMES
ALI NOURSE

THE THREE PIECE SUITE

@ PENSFORD MEMORIAL HALL @

Friday 21st May

BAR/FOOD AVAILABLE
ADMISSION £5 (ON DOOR) 8PM START