



The View

*Parish Magazine of
St Mary with St Peter,
Bury St Edmunds*



January 2019

St Mary's joins other Choirs for Children in Need concert!

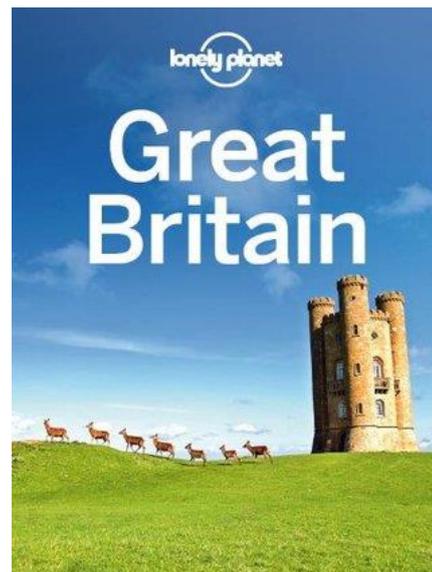


The Choir of St Mary's joined with several other choirs to take part in this year's Children in Need concert at the Arc.

The event seems to have been a great success. Jon Wright, of BBC Radio Suffolk, said, "I just wanted to say a huge thank you for being part of our carol concert. You all sounded fantastic and created an exceptional night of music and fun for our audience."

Adrian Marple added that Jon was very pleased with how the whole evening went, and was particularly appreciative of the Chorister's professionalism, as well as their fabulous singing too!

Lonely Planet



Well, if I'm honest, I hadn't realised that the *Lonely Planet Guide to Great Britain* was so seriously lacking, but it seems that the editors have now pulled their socks up and included St Mary's in the new guide, which is due to be published next May.

I should jolly well think so too. Houses of Parliament? Forth Bridge? Angel of the North? Windsor Castle? All very good, I'm sure, but can you *really* say you've visited Great Britain if you haven't been to St Mary's Church?

Bethlehem



For two thousand years pilgrims have visited Bethlehem to celebrate the birthplace of Jesus. But in November representatives of St Mary's gave up the opportunity to join the crowds at the ancient Church of the Nativity to seek out modern day babies born into poverty and want.

Travellers with the group, led by Bishop John Hayden, had gathered clothes and blankets for the maternity home run by the nuns of the Order of Knights Hospitallers of Malta.

The unit serves the impoverished Palestinian population, providing maternity and neonatal care without charge. Several of the babies in their care had been rejected or abandoned at birth.

"We had a wonderful warm welcome from Sister Maria, who is in charge of the nursery. She was so pleased with the items we had taken and sent thanks to the whole group" said Virginia Dean. "Although we were disappointed to miss the Christian church, we will never forget the work that the hospital continues to carry out for all children whatever their religion or background".

*Virginia Dean
Photo by Paul Harrison*

Fifields Afield

Jemma's recruitment tour was largely successful: there are now 12 education departments and 14 careers departments across the USA who will be promoting Bingham to their graduates. Additionally, we have received 2 applications from people I talked with on the tour – pray that the Lord is moving the right people towards Bingham.

November is a hard month at Bingham because this is when all staff have to make their commitments for the next academic year. We are expecting to lose around 9 staff this year. We still desperately need to recruit English teachers that we weren't able to secure for this year though, so in total we are looking for around 10-15 staff for the 2019/20 academic year.

Please pray for the house we are trying to purchase in Bury St Edmunds – it has been around 5 months now since our initial offer was accepted. We have done everything that we have been asked to do, but there seems to be something slowing down the process – we can't work out if it's solicitors, banks or estate agencies. We would very much like to have it secured and finished by Christmas.

2 days after Jemma returned from the USA we had a surprise visit from a family who have students at the school. They made us sit on the sofa rather formally and we were quite concerned about what they were going to say to us. In fact, they had a marvellous surprise! They had been praying for us and the Lord had told them that Tom and I desperately needed some time together. We hadn't told anyone else that! Organising a vacation from Ethiopia is expensive. Some of you will remember that we tried to get away last Christmas but it wasn't affordable – the Lord blessed our down time over the school holidays and we felt rested and relaxed as term began.

We'd been hoping for the same sort of thing this year -for some quality down time at home. However, this prayerful couple had fundraised for Tom and I to take a vacation

over the Christmas break - 5 nights away just the two of us. They had even organised flights, the hotel and people we love and trust to take care of our girls while we're away. We are still somewhat overwhelmed by this generosity and in awe of the Lord's method of providing for us. A really big THANK YOU if you were part of this secret!

Much love, Tom, Jemma, Ellie May and Mim xxx

Potholes

In winter when I drive my car
I all too often feel a jar –
That awful, cracking, grinding jolt
Which brings my vehicle to a halt.
I sit, and try to comprehend
What's brought my journey to an end?
Then words and phrases can't console –
For I have gone and hit a hole!

A hole I didn't see or seek
It wasn't there at all last week!
It's full of water, just a puddle
But now it's caused an awful muddle.
I've bust an axle, blown a tyre
Such menaces as do conspire
To leave us drivers sad and lost
They're all the work of Mister Frost!

He comes by dark – he works at night
His wicked deeds are out of sight.
He works those tricks which drivers dread
When we are all asleep in bed,
All snuggled in against the cold,
While he's about dark deeds untold.
So hearken to my dismal ode –
Jack's made a pothole in the road!

February View

Back to normal next month – 14 pages to fill! So could I ask for articles by e-mail if possible to nigelbeeton@btinternet.com by 4pm on Tuesday 15th January, or on paper in my pigeonhole by the 11am service on Sunday 13th? Thanks! - *Nigel Beeton*

Humorous View



Lead Bishop for Education calls on Government for Rural Strategy

The Church of England's lead bishop for Education, the Rt Rev'd Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely, has called for a cross-Government rural strategy to safeguard the future of education in rural communities.

Bishop Stephen said that while 'We have been reassured that the Government has a presumption against the closure of rural schools,' and also that 'a number of stakeholder organisations, as well as those who are working with schools and communities, are exploring innovations in collaboration,' yet still 'an overarching rural strategy is now required for the issues facing our countryside communities.'

The Bishop said: 'Over the past 200 years Church of England schools have adapted to significant changes in society... We are committed to working with the Government to achieve this.'

Worship

Sunday 6 January

Epiphany

St Mary's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am 1st Sunday All Age
11.00am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

St Peter's

10.45am Café Church

Sunday 13 January

Baptism of Christ

St Mary's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Holy Communion
11.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Evening Prayer

St Peter's

10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 20 January

Epiphany 2

St Mary's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am Joint service with farewell to
Adrian & Ruth Marple
6.30pm Choral Evensong

St Peter's

10.45am Morning Worship
4.00pm Sunday@4 Goes Messy

Sunday 27 January

Epiphany 3

St Mary's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Morning Worship with baptism
11.00pm Morning Prayer
6.30pm Holy Communion

St Peter's

10.45am Holy Communion

Cornwallis Court

4.00pm All Welcome

**A service of Holy Communion is held
each Wednesday at 10am in St Mary's**

January Diary

2 Wednesday St Peter's Men's Carpet Bowls,
7.30pm, St Peter's.

4, 11, 18, 25 Fridays Morning Prayer, 9am, St
Mary's.

Pastoral Hour, 10am, St Mary's.

5 Saturday Men's Bible Study Discussion Breakfast,
8am.

8 Tuesday Tea & Chat, 2 - 4pm, St Peter's.

9, 16, 23 Wednesdays Little Fishes Babes &
Toddlers, 9:30 – 11:30am, Hyndman Centre.

11 Friday Alpha Supper, 7pm, St Peter's.

12 Saturday Parish Men's Breakfast, 8am, Pilgrim's
Kitchen.

15 Tuesday St Peter's Vision Prayer Meeting,
12noon, 12 Constable Rd.

16 Wednesday, Parish Prayer Meeting, 7.45pm,
Hyndman Centre.

17 Thursday Lunch & Chat, 12.45pm, Hyndman
Centre.

18 Friday St Mary's Pastoral Team Meeting, 2pm,
Tower Room.

24 Thursday Alpha, 7pm, St Peter's.

26 Saturday Men's Bible Study Discussion
Breakfast, 8am.

29 Tuesday St Peter's Welcome Evening, 7.30pm,
St Peter's.

Funerals & Memorial Services

03.12.18 George 'Bob' Stoddart

05.12.18 David Stanley Ridgeon

07.12 18 Edith 'Joyce' MacTavish

Visit St Mary's with St Peter's website at
www.wearechurch.net

St Peter's website
www.stpetersbse.uk