

The evening concluded with a varied selection of works – both ecclesiastical and from the shows – and ended with a fine rendering of *Let all the bells ring*. Thank you St Mary's Teddington Bells.

Mary Oughtred

For anyone making New Year resolutions, here are some good ones to consider.

All I Need to Know I Learned from Noah's Ark

One. Don't miss the boat.

Two. Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three. plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old someone may ask you to do something big.

Five. Don't listen to critics, just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six. Build your future on high ground.

Seven. For safety's sake travel in pairs.

Eight. Speed isn't always an advantage.

The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

Nine. When you're stressed, float awhile.

Ten. Remember the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.

CN Service

Parish Registers

Baptisms – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*

5 November: Matilda Elizabeth, daughter of Justin & Zara Mullick; Amy Rose and James John, children of Mark & Sarah Hallett.

26 November: Thomas William, son of Simon & Pamela Roose; Marnie Leanne Frost (Adult Baptism).

3 December: Gabriel James, son of Neil & Joanne Sinclair; Abigail Mary, daughter of David & Sally-Ann Nettlefield; Hannah Lauren, daughter of Michael & Shirley Donnelly.

Wedding – *We wish every blessing on the marriage of:*

2 December: Rayad Denyer-Green and Linda Uren.

Funerals – *We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:*

22 November: Vanessa McCrow.

29 November: Joan Felton.

30 November: Roger Farries.

ST MARY with ST ALBAN Teddington Parish Church



NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2007

VICAR'S VIEWPOINT

A busy year

2007 is a year of anniversaries. Our Church School, now in Somerset Road, and sponsored by the two Anglican churches in this town, is 175 years old – and a raft of celebrations have been planned. The year will “kick off”, as it were, with our Education Sunday Parade and Family service on February 4.

I am delighted that Anji Phillips, the Director of Education and Children's Resources in Richmond Borough, has agreed to come and preach at this service. I knew Anji many years ago when she was deputy head of a church school in Highbury when I was working at the London Diocesan Board for Schools, so I am very pleased that she is able to join us.

Many activities centred on the school are planned, particularly in the summer, and more details will be available in due course. The celebrations will close with a thanksgiving service attended by the Archbishop of Middlesex, Governor of the Diocesan Board for Schools, and that will take place in the hall of Teddington School on Sunday October 14 at 3.00pm. There have always been close links between Teddington School and our Church School and I am grateful to the head, Richard Weeks, for allowing us to use the hall on this occasion. This means that there will be plenty of room for those who want to come.

Robert Baden Powell started the Scout movement in 1907 and we shall mark this centenary with a special service here later in the year – the date has yet to be fixed. I

have no doubt that our Scout Group will be planning other celebrations along with other groups in the district.

And in June our refurbished hall will have been up and running for ten years. This hardly seems possible. How quickly that time has gone! All recognise that our hall has been a great asset to both the Church and the wider community; for most of the 10 years it has been expertly managed by Gillian Burgess. We are grateful for all that she has done and continues to do for us. We shall have a thanksgiving Eucharist on Sunday June 24 which is our Patronal Festival. This will be at 9.45am.

So – a busy year. Anniversaries – communal or personal – are important. They give us all a chance to celebrate, to take stock, and to thank God for his grace and mercy.

We will have many chances to do that this year.

James Tabor

For nearly three years James has been Curate of Alverstoke in Gosport. Many of you will remember him, Tam and the children, who used to be very much part of our Church life here when they lived in Middle Lane. Diane and I were present at both his ordinations in Portsmouth Cathedral and I preached for him when he celebrated Holy Communion for the first time at Alverstoke. James has just been appointed a Royal Naval Chaplain and for the time being will be based in Portsmouth. We congratulate him on this appointment and assure him and all the family of our prayers as they move to a new stage in

SERVICES: **SUNDAYS:** Holy Communion (Prayer Book) 8am
Family Communion (Common Worship Sung Eucharist with Sermon) 9.45am
SUNDAY SCHOOL: (most Sundays) 9.30am for 9.40am in the Church Hall, Langham Road.
WEDNESDAYS: Holy Communion, 9.30am
SAINTS DAYS and other days as announced

VICAR: The Revd. John Cleaver, The Vicarage, 11 Twickenham Road, Teddington TW11 8AQ (8977 2767)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Mr Harold Lester (8878 0021)

CHURCH WARDENS: Miss S. Cooper, 3 Thelma Grove, Teddington TW11 9AQ (8977 7206)
Mr D. Power, 76 Field Lane, Teddington TW11 9AS (8943 5194)

CHURCH SCHOOL: St Mary's and St Peter's, Somerset Road, Teddington
Headteacher John Logan (8943 0476)

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & HALL BOOKINGS: Gillian Burgess (8943 2262)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Susan Jacobs (8943 0503), Sheila Groom (8977 9399) and Veronica Baker

ministry. They receive this newsletter every month and ask to be remembered to their many friends here.

From my Scrapbook

A prayer by Donald Hilton for the New Year:

“Come to us Lord Jesus Christ.
Come as we search the Scriptures and see
God’s hidden purpose.
Come as we walk the lonely road, needing
a companion.
Come when life mystifies and perplexes us.
Come into our disappointments and unease.
Come at table where we share our food and
hopes.
And, coming, open our eyes to recognise
you.”

With best wishes to you all.

John Cleaver

The Fabulous Bazaar

The *Fabulous Bazaar* took place on Saturday, 25 November and saw a good turn out by all age groups. There was a great deal of activity in the parish hall on the Friday as stalls were erected and Santa’s grotto was decorated ready for his arrival.

As normal, people started gathering outside the hall (in the rain) well before the official opening time. Shortly after eleven o’clock the atmosphere was buzzing with festive music and lively chatter as people visited the various stalls, which included beanie babies, toys, books, bric-a-brac, games, gifts and raffle. Santa’s grotto was a popular attraction and was visited by over 60 children.

The Mina Hogan room was used for selling cakes and preserves and, new this year, a *bible cake* was raffled. Your raffle ticket bought you the cake’s cryptic recipe with Biblical references (King James version) taking the place of the ingredients. the lure of homemade soups and pies in the main hall meant that lunches were enjoyed by many.

By the end of the day, the bazaar had raised

£2,462, exceeding last year’s takings by £140. thank you to all who made it happen and also to those who came along and supported the *Fabulous Bazaar*.

David Power, Bazaar Co-ordinator

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations, languages, races and cultures, who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians in the service of the wider redemption, unity and peace of all peoples.

Every year the dates are the same, 18 to 25 January, regardless of the days of the week. Praying for unity does not involve prayer for any specific schemes for unity. It is about being faithful to the prayer for Jesus Christ, as seen in John 17, ‘that they may be one’. The verse chosen for 2007 is: ‘He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak’. The Bible reading is Mark 7:31-37.

CN Service

The Christingle Service

This year St Mary’s chose a simple traditional play because they wanted to convey the Christmas message in a way that would be understood and enjoyed by even the smallest members of the Sunday school (their ages range from 3 to 13). St Mary’s Teddington Bells played before the service started. the welcome, introduction and prayers were all given by the narrators: Edward, Katherine and Beatrice. The performances of all the Angels, Shepherds, Wisemen, Mary and Joseph were of the highest standard, helped by their imaginative costumes. The traditional hymns sung by the choir with the audience joining in were heart-warming for us all. Helen Thresh provided the accompaniment. We are again in debt to the producer Joy Power, her helper, Ian Bowman, and the parents who made sure their children got to the rehearsals. The colourful, Christingle oranges were presented to all the children.

Our magnificent tea ladies provided the refreshments.

The Christingle Appeal has been used by the Children’s Society since 1968. this year the money will be used to raise vital funds for children facing conflict and war. Closer to home the money will help children who have become alienated from their homes, school or society, caught in a cycle of crime and marginalised due to disability.

Joyce Skerrett

“The Bells of St Mary”

An entrancing evening was enjoyed by many residents and friends at Fullerton Court on 6th December when St Mary’s

Teddington handbell ringers came to ring for us and share some of the background of their art.

the evening started, appropriately three weeks before Christmas, with a varied selection of carols. These were played without introduction which gave a chance to appreciate how tuneful they are in their own right.

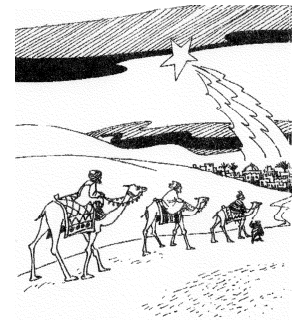
The Team Leader, Sheila Insley, then gave a short talk about the use of bells through the ages – to summon, to warn, to give notice and to aid worship. We were given an idea of the structure of handbells and at one point volunteers were invited to take part – resulting in a rendering of *Three Blind Mice!* (Well done volunteers).

Diary for January

Unless otherwise stated there is Holy Communion (Prayer Book) every Sunday morning at 8.00am and Family Communion with Sunday School at 9.45am (Common Worship).

There is Holy Communion every Wednesday at 9.30am.

Saturday 6th	Epiphany of our Lord. Holy Communion at 9.30am.
Sunday 5th	Services at 8.00am and 9.45am as usual.
Sunday 14th	Epiphany 2.
18th–25th	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
Sunday 21st	Christian Unity Sunday. In addition to our normal services there will be a United Service, sponsored by Churches Together in Teddington at the Church of the Sacred Heart at 4.00pm, followed by tea.
Tuesday 23rd	Churches Together in Teddington meeting at Baptist Church at 8.00pm..
Wednesday 24th	No service.
Thursday 25th	Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. Holy Communion at 9.30am. Parochial Church Council meeting in Mina Hogan Room at 7.45pm.
Sunday 28th	Continuation of observance of Feast of St Paul. World Leprosy Day – retiring collection at both services in aid of Leprosy Mission.



And looking ahead

Sunday, February 4th is Education Sunday. There will be Family & Parade service at 9.45am when the preacher will be Anji Phillips, Director of Education and Children’s Resources in the London Borough of Richmond. This service begins the celebrations marking the 175th anniversary of the founding of St Mary’s & St Peter’s Church School in Teddington.