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January 2011

Those who sit and wait.

Dear friends,

“I hope this year will be better than last year!” I have said it myself and heard many others say it. So much of our thinking is locked up in fears from the past, or hopes for the future that the present moment gets lost. My New Year’s resolution is “Live in the present and live each day as a blessing.”

Last year I spent quite a lot of time in and out of hospitals, not visiting so much but as a patient. I learned that PATIENT is a good description as you have to learn to be very patient! You sit and wait with many others and the minutes, (and sometimes the hours) pass by. You are worried and long to get out of the hospital.

After a while I began to explore the possibilities of the waiting room. I learned to respect the time I spent there. And like all things treated with respect it ceased to be a desert but flowers in bloom (sort of!). I took books to read and found it a good place for spiritual reading. Fellow patients far from being anonymous told me their stories, their tragedies and their triumphs, and the humdrum. They became friends as we shared our fragile humanity.

I watch the people sitting with me and the chairs that fill and empty. It is like a picture of life itself. And if I am very quiet it seems that one of the chairs is empty yet occupied. For the presence of God occupies it and waits for us as we wait for the call of the doctor in the waiting room. It is in everyday experience that the gates of Heaven open for us.

I had returned to Sainsbury’s. I was standing in the queue waiting my turn at the till. Suddenly I felt love flow through me, love for the bent old man standing near me, and for the tired young girl at the cash desk, and the anxious dog peering in at the window and yearning for its owner. Then someone prodded me and told me to move up – and it went. Well, not

quite. In Sainsbury's I bought some bananas and the gates of blessing open for me in a different way when I eat this childhood favourite. It never made it into the excellent recipe book our churches published last year, so here it is now!

Chocolate bananas

4 bananas,	2 tbsp of water,
225gms of dark chocolate,	1 glass of liqueur.
1 knob butter,	

Peel the bananas. Melt the chocolate and beat with a knob of butter, liqueur and water. Pour the sauce over the bananas until coated and place in the fridge until the chocolate sets. Eat them with whipped or double cream.

Let's all enjoy our blessings!

David

Candlemas

Candlemas, or the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, has been a passenger; a great Feast in name, but a neglected one. And yet it celebrates one of the most dramatic Christmas stories.

On 30th January we celebrate this feast both at Beeley and Edensor. Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the Temple, and He was recognised by Simeon and Anna as the Light of the World. "A light to lighten the gentiles and to be the Glory of thy People Israel."

At Candlemas we celebrate and give thanks for the gift of light. "Praise God who sends us the light of heaven," said George Herbert, and added "The parson likes this very much. Light is a great blessing and as great as food, for which we give thanks." And above all we celebrate Christ our Light. "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out."

The Paschal Candle will be lit from which candles are lighted round the Church with songs and thankfulness and praise.

"As we like Simeon and Anna welcome Christ with joy, presented before us as the Light of the World, may we be filled with His spirit and made a living temple to the praise and glory of Thy holy name".

This day marks the end of Christmas and a turning towards Lent.

DCG

FROM THE REGISTERS
St. Peter's, Edensor



Wedding - 27th November 2010
Maureen Groarke & Roger Frank Goddard

**St. Peter's Church 100 Club -
October Draw 2010**

1st Prize £30 no. 79 -Bob Carter
2nd Prize £20 no. 84 - Gladys Hopkins
Funds to church this month - £50

'SPICE' SUNDAY

The next 'SPICE'
Sunday will be on 9th
January - remember
to bring those 5pence
pieces.

'The Bridge'

Magazine Subscriptions

**Your magazine subscription for 2011 is now due -
£7.20**, please give the money to the person who delivers
your magazine - (if I post it to you a book of 12 x 2nd class
stamps [£3.84] brings the total to £11.04 -
or just simply give me a book of stamps).

Thank you for your continued support.
Cheques should be made payable to
Edensor PCC

THANK YOU

A BIG THANK YOU to Rosie Brewer, Christine Robinson, Margaret
Finney, Daphne Feeney, Vernon Mather & Di Homer who deliver the
Parish Magazine (and collect the subscriptions) to many people in our
villages every month whatever the weather - the December issue
being delivered in extreme conditions.

I would also like to thank Roger & Sue Wardle, Susanne Garnett &
Nigel Madin-Davies who helped to clear the church path on Sunday 5
December.

DATES TO NOTE

- Thursday Jan 20th 2pm - Pilsley C of E School Christingle Service
St. Peter's Church
- 20th/21st/22nd Jan 'Cinderella' comes to Bakewell Town Hall
7.30pm & Matinée at 2.30pm on Saturday
Tickets from Bakewell Book Shop

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 8/22 Jan SKIP: Baslow Council Houses 7.45-8.15
Nether end Car Park 8.20-10.45
- 11 Jan BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm at Sarah Porter's house
- Cup-cake icing
- 19 Jan CHATSWORTH WI Monthly Meeting
7.30pm Cavendish Hall Annexe
Speaker: Jan Muse - Reflexology
Competition: A Lavender Bag
Flowers & Parcel: Mrs Blackwell
Tea Hostess: Mrs Sutton & Mrs Margaret Oliver
Vote of Thanks: Mrs Brewer
- 15 Jan SKIP: Beeley Devonshire Square 7.45-8.45
- 22 Jan SKIP: Edensor The Green 7.45-9.30
Pilsley Garage Yard 9.45-10.45
- 24 Jan Beeley Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall -
everyone welcome

'Christmas' Lunch at The Maynard Arms

Due to the inclement weather in December this has been re-scheduled for Wednesday 19th January. Confirmation that you still wish to go should be given to David Jackson by Sunday 9th January.

Useful Telephone Numbers

St. Anne's	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Vernon Mather M.B.E.	01629 732317
<u>St. Peter's</u>	Treasurer:-	Gloria Sherwood	01629 732983
	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		Duncan Gordon	01629 734099
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: mtitterton@btinternet.com	



Traidcraft

Sales this month have been very good at £1806 including £42 at the Oxfam Ceilidh, £150, £358 and £72 respectively at the All Saints', Great Longstone and Hoyle Court Coffee Mornings and £127 at the Choral Society Concert.

Continuing with the Producer Groups Angela and I visited in Chile, we come to Lautaro Wine which gets its name from one of the leaders of the indigenous population, the Mapuches, during the Spanish conquest. This co-operative of small farmers came together in 1997 after its members had all lost the land they were given by the Allende regime in 1967, during the Pinochet years when there was little or no support for small farms.

Raul Navarrete, the manager, worked during the 1990's to create trust among the farmers, encouraging them to work together to obtain better opportunities and better prices for their grapes. We met him and were impressed with his strategic thinking and abilities.

Oxfam Belgium was the first fair-trade organisation to work with Lautaro Wines and Traidcraft has worked with them since 1997. The members greatly value the fair-trade premium they received from their status as fair-trade producers. The wine is illustrated on p120 of the current catalogue.

Peter Bird (01629 813087)

'Cinderella' comes to Bakewell

**Cinderella, with her Ugly Sisters, her Prince Charming
and her Fairy Godmother, is coming to
Bakewell Town Hall on:**

**Thursday 20th, Friday 21st
& Saturday 22nd January 2011 at 7.30pm
with a matinée on Saturday at 2.30pm**

There will be a licensed bar at each performance

**Tickets £5 adult, £2.50 children
from THE BAKEWELL BOOKSHOP**



New Year's Greetings to all our friends at
 St. Peter's & St. Anne's
 from
 Jill & Michael Gowdey



Floral Fanfare....

one year on (written in December)

See amid the winter's snow
 Last year's Floral Fanfare's glow.
 See the blizzards far and wide
 Thankful we can stay inside.

*Praise the helpers from last year
 Praise the visitors who flocked here
 Let us all be glad indeed
 'Twas last year we did the deed.*

Wasn't it a glorious show,
 This year we'd be digging snow.
 The church a warm and welcome
 place
 We still say 'Thank you' to Her
 Grace.

*Praise the helpers from last year
 Praise the visitors who flocked here
 Let us all be glad indeed
 'Twas last year we did the deed.*



How fortunate we were that our Floral Fanfare wasn't December 2010. In November so many people said to me they wished we were doing it again as they'd enjoyed it so much, but the snow would have made everything difficult if not nigh impossible - delivery of flowers, car parking and simply getting people to come to see the wonderful arrangements we had. So, thanks indeed for last year and commiserations to anyone who worked hard to stage events that were affected by the heavy snow or had to be cancelled.

**Serving the churches
 that serve rural
 communities**

What are the challenges facing the rural church? What does it mean to be a disciple in a rural community? **Rural Presence** is the new interactive website for all Christians who live in the

countryside. www.ruralpresence.org.uk provides a forum for rural Christians to share their stories. It hopes to encourage mission, discipleship, and to promote an effective Christian presence in the countryside. As one minister said: "Whether it's setting up community

cinemas or hosting local post offices, the opportunities for rural churches to serve their communities are endless. We want to resource, enthuse and inspire Christians to think differently about their ministry in the countryside."

2011 - THE 400TH BIRTHDAY OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

This year is the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, and it will be a year of celebration! Look out for Biblefresh, an initiative made up of more than 100 Christian organisations, from churches and agencies to colleges and festivals. Biblefresh one big aim: to encourage churches across the UK to a greater confidence and appetite for the Word of God.

For many people the Bible is already a vital part of life. It regularly informs and shapes their lives, their attitudes and actions. But for many others the Bible is something they struggle to engage with. So often it ends up being put to one side, ignored, unopened. They don't see its relevance; they don't see its value; frankly, they don't see the point.

Biblefresh wants to change all that. It wants to encourage all of us to engage *afresh* with the Bible. By bringing together so many different organisations that are involved in one way or another with resourcing Bible reading, study, translation and exploring the Bible through the creative arts, Biblefresh is opening up a wealth of resources and opportunities for every one of us. Just imagine what might happen if we all take this seriously and make 2011

year of the Bible in our churches and in our own lives!

So how can churches, individuals get involved? Biblefresh has come up with four pledges. These are to:

- *Read the Bible*
- *Be trained in handling the Bible well*
- *Give to translate the Bible in Burkina Faso*
- *Provide the opportunity for people to experience the Bible in new and creative ways*

The Biblefresh website (www.biblefresh.com) provides a wealth of creative ideas and suggestions as to how you could explore all four areas further. Think about what you could do to help make Biblefresh a part of your church's year in 2011.

The BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) has created a Year of the Bible Resource pack containing samples of its Bible reading notes, posters and much more, (ready early Feb). If you would like to use this in your church, contact BRF on 01865 319700.

Whether it's to read the Bible in a year, or to read a commentary, or to help organise an event in your church—why not resolve to do *at least one thing* in 2011 related to Biblefresh?

Could you help fight the cholera outbreak in Haiti?

Christian doctors and nurses are urgently needed to help Samaritan's Purse respond to the deadly cholera outbreak in Haiti. By the end of last year, more than 1,100 people had died and over 18,000 had been hospitalized. UN officials fear that as many as 200,000 people may be affected in the weeks to come.

And so Samaritan's Purse has mounted an emergency medical response. Hundreds of lives have already been saved at its three Cholera Treatment Centres, but more nurses and doctors are desperately needed. Can you help? For more details, contact: Ruth Sanders at ruth.sanders@samaritan.org, call 020 8559 2044 ext. 208

27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Jews had come to Poland from all over Europe, where they found freedom to worship and trade. By the beginning of the 20th century, there were 3.5 million Jews in Poland, or a little over 10 per cent of the population. In the Polish town of Oswiecim, that figure was 58 per cent. Jews were welcome there.

But when the Nazis moved in, Oswiecim became the Polish town where the Auschwitz death and concentration camps were located.

Auschwitz 1 was primarily a concentration camp of around 15,000 prisoners. They worked in the arms factories in harsh

conditions, with poor hygiene and nutrition.

Birkenau, or Auschwitz 2, was the main death camp, built in 1941 on the site of the village of Brzezinka, 3km from Oswiecim. In 1944 this area held more than 90,000 prisoners and was the main extermination site, housing the gas chambers and the crematoria.

Auschwitz III developed from one of the sub-camps, Buna, near Auschwitz-Birkenau, and used prisoners as slave labour. It was primarily a labour camp.

Auschwitz-Birkenau is now a state museum, receiving millions of visitors a year. German and Polish pupils have to visit a concentration camp as part of their education.

Vulnerable children ‘paying price for debt-free future’

Thousands of vulnerable children will be the innocent victims of “devastating cuts” in funding to the voluntary and community sector. That is one of several key points raised in an open letter to Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education written by more than a dozen UK charities, including Spurgeons and the Children’s Society.

In particular, the letter highlights that although our generation has a responsibility to the next to clear the deficit, “some of the most vulnerable children will be asked to pay today, in order to achieve that debt-free future.” Children’s and young people’s charities and community groups are already experiencing deep cuts to their front-line services at local level. This will only be exacerbated by the 28 per cent cut in local authority grant, which includes a ‘staggering’ 49 per cent cut in the projected budgets for children in care.

As time goes by!

As a New Year begins, do you suspect it is time to tone down your lifestyle? Remember.....

King David and King Solomon
Led merry, merry lives,
With many, many lady friends
And many, many wives;
But when old age crept over them,
With many, many qualms,
King Solomon wrote the Proverbs
And King David wrote the Psalms.

By James Ball Naylor

2011 – a year to honour our forests

2011 has been declared the International Year of Forests by The United Nations General Assembly. There will be many efforts worldwide this year to raise public awareness on the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. To find out more about what’s happening go to the Woodland Trust website .

Visit: <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/take-part/Pages/get-involved.aspx>

GOD IN THE ARTS

The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts.

Jesus the laughing babe

This month's artwork is a delightful anonymous French carving in ivory from the 13th century. It is now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and depicts a seated Virgin Mary with the child Jesus on her lap. There is an engaging impishness about Jesus, who reaches up a hand to chuck his mother under the chin. Mary looks down indulgently.

Perhaps when the wise men visited the Christ-Child, they saw this playful side to Jesus. We celebrate their journey to the Holy Family as this new year opens. It is a journey we are all called to make, and it may come as a shock and surprise to think of the holy babe in this way. Perhaps we might chuckle with him as we think of the creator of the world coming to us as a babe in the arms of his mother: a babe who will grow up to die on a cross.

Paul called this great truth 'a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles' in his first letter to the Corinthians. That, he wrote, is the scandal of the Gospel. It can still scandalise us to think of God acting in this way. Or as we look on this carving, we may find a playful, laughing Jesus inviting us to see

what we can do for him and for all children.

At the end of last year the Mothers' Union launched the 'Bye Buy Childhood' campaign, which looks at ways of challenging the commercialisation of children in a world where they are treated as consumers, and not as children. That exploitation is evident in all kinds of ways: we read each day in the papers of children who are innocent victims of abuse and neglect, of war and murder. We hear each day of children who have their childhood stolen from them as they are forced into work as slaves with no voice and little power. Even as we rejoice in new life and a new year at this time, we are never far away from the sound of lamentation at this harsh reality. But the laughing Jesus stands for each of them in their innocence and vulnerability.

The face of Jesus in this entrancing sculpture looks out to us in joyful innocence. He assures us that God has claimed this world as his own – not just watching over it, but entering it and being born in a manger. And he calls us to place our allegiance with right and not might, so that we can protect all God's little ones and lead them from tyranny and oppression into the playground of fun and laughter, to rejoice with the babe of Bethlehem.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament: PHILIPPIANS

For a short letter of only four chapters and 104 verses, Paul's Letter to the Philippians is amazingly profound. At one level it is a poignant epistle from a jailed apostle to a beloved supporting church. At another level it contains one of the greatest passages about Jesus in the whole New Testament.

The letter was written to Christians in the Macedonian city of Philippi. It had the status of a Roman Colony, which means it was governed by Roman law and its people were Roman citizens. The church in Philippi was planted by Paul, on his second missionary journey, with three very different people: Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth; a slave girl delivered from an evil spirit; and a jailer with his whole household.

Philippians was written when Paul was in prison, probably in Rome (60-62 AD). His primary purpose in writing was to thank them for the gift they had sent him upon learning of his imprisonment. However, he also uses the letter as an opportunity to report on his situation; to encourage the Philippians to stand firm in the face of persecution and rejoice regardless of circumstances; to exhort the church to live in humility, fellowship, and unity; to commend

Epaphroditus and Timothy to them; and to warn them about false teaching. This included Judaizers who were persuading the Philippians to submit to circumcision.

The central message of Philippians focuses on Christian joy (the word occurs some 16 times!). For Paul, joy isn't simply an emotional response to favorable circumstances. True joy is to be found through a relationship with the resurrected and glorified Christ. Death ceases to be an enemy, because through it we can more fully enjoy the presence of Jesus. This joy is also rooted in an expectation of the return of Jesus, which gives urgency to the task of sharing the gospel. So, Paul begins his letter by thanking the Philippians for their partnership together in the work of the gospel through the offerings they have sent. Therefore, Christian joy forms a vital part of the body of Christ.

Paul also powerfully appeals to the Philippians to be of *'one mind'* in pursuing humility and unity. He gives the example of Jesus himself *'who made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant'* (2:7) to the point of dying the death of a common criminal. *'Therefore'*, says Paul, *'God exalted him to the highest place'* (2:9). This is the Christ whose attitude all believers must share.

Priming the pump for community projects

Did you see the recent TV series called 'The Choir: Unsung Town'? It raised the profile of South Oxhey, Hertfordshire, where the community has a number of social issues. All Saints Church in Oxhey is actively tackling some of them.

Helped by a grant from the Church and Community Fund, it has set up a charity called ASCEND whose main focus is to train and support people back into employment and to give them life skills so that they can take control of their own lives. Many 'clients' have gained nationally recognised qualifications. Gareth Malone, star of the TV series, has become the charity's first patron.

This is just one of many projects helped by grants from the Church and Community Fund, chaired by the Ven. George Howe, Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness. Parish-linked projects around the country are benefitting from CCF grants that total around half a million pounds each year.

Another initiative was awarded a grant of £3,000 in 2009 towards a

scheme to re-order St Leonard's Church, Yarpole (near Leominster) so that it can provide a broad range of community uses. Back in 2005, the PCC created an action plan which identified the importance of the village shop and the need for more community use of the church building. When the existing shop subsequently closed, the PCC set out to provide a village co-operative shop, a Post Office outlet, a café and a flexible space for community and arts activities. As you enter the church on a weekday morning, background music is playing, newspapers are available, fresh coffee is brewing and villagers are mingling. The police and council hold drop-in centres in the café.

Elsewhere, the Shrewsbury Ark (another CCF beneficiary) is a direct-access drop-in day centre that helps the homeless and vulnerable who live in the town. The centre aims to welcome everyone in a non-judgmental way, so as to stand beside those with life difficulties such as addiction, or personal and social problems that seem insoluble at the outset.

Smile..... IT picnic

Looking over the log book kept by the computer support staff at my office, I noticed several entries stating the problem was PICNIC. I asked one of the technicians what PICNIC meant.

He laughed as he told me it meant "Problem In Chair; Not In Computer."

In search of a New Year's Resolution?

As well as your New Year diet, here is another resolution for the year ahead. Everyone has heard of it – but who do you know that has really tried it? It is found in the Sermon on the Mount, and is one of the most famous things that Jesus ever said. It is also without parallel in all the teachings of the world.

Several religions urge followers to refrain from harming others. That is a first step towards building a just society. But only Jesus said that we should live our lives actively seeking to do good to others. It is an attitude warm with generosity, with kindness, brimming with quiet graciousness and compassion. We are to go out

of our way to encourage the depressed, to forgive those who have harmed us, to help those in need.

To refrain from doing injustice takes strong self-control. To live caring for others takes something more – a life-attitude of self-sacrificial love. Such love we see first in Jesus, in his death for our sins on the cross. When we follow him, our Heavenly Father wants to see his Son's characteristics grow in our lives. If we are his children, he expects a family likeness!

So – here is a challenge for 2011: 'In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.' The alternative is not an option!

Clergymen of the Church of England *(review)*

By Anthony Trollope, DLT, £12.99

This handsome facsimile edition of Trollope's insightful and entertaining clerical portraits, introduced by Michael Mayne and with charming illustrations by David Eccles, is of wonderful entertainment. The great Victorian novelist scored his first popular successes with *The Warden* and *Barchester Towers*. He went on to write four more novels in the

Barssetshire Chronicles series, which he is said to have conceived while wandering round Salisbury cathedral on a summer evening. These gentle but often pointed sketches of evangelicals and high church vicars, of bishops and parish clergy, first appeared in *The Pall Mall Gazette*. They still tease and resonate as well as amuse today, and their reappearance in this new edition will deepen our understanding of the work of one of the great English novelists.

Nigel Beeton is married to a Church Warden and so he writes: "I'm aware of how hard people work at Christmas so that folk can enjoy their Carol services and special Christmas services... so January can be a time of much deserved rest for them!" Nigel suggests that in the poem below you may wish to change 'their' to 'his' or 'her' according to the gender of your own exhausted churchwarden!

Why churchwardens love January

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Both clergyman and lay,
They're seldom disappointed
To get past Christmas Day!
The hectic Christmas season
Of service constantly –
There can't be better reason
To welcome January!

The Curate and the Vicar
A busy schedule keep,
As they rush, ever quicker -
They don't get that much sleep.
The overworked Churchwardens
And their sidespersons team -
Sure don't get time for boredom
And only seldom scream!

So, when the season's over;
The crib has been put by,
The drapes to green changed over
They breathe a heartfelt sigh!
They laugh and smile with
pleasure
And sing a merry rhyme,
But short-lived is their leisure –
For soon comes Easter time!

By Nigel Beeton



With Epiphany in mind, here are some lovely lines from a longer poem by U A Fanthorpe, a very popular English poet (1929 – 2009)

This was the moment



This was the moment when Before
Turned into After...
When ... three
Members of an obscure Persian sect
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.

by U A Fanthorpe

Recipe of the month -

White chocolate, lemon and raspberry muffins

This year (2011) the well-known Christian conference centre, The Hayes, at Swanwick in Derbyshire, celebrates its centenary. If you have any special memories of any visit you have ever made to The Hayes, they would welcome you at their web-site, where you can write about it. (visit <http://www.cct.org.uk/smartweb/the-hayes/thinking-back>) Did you meet your future partner there? Were you called into some kind of ministry while there? The stories are mounting up – please go and share yours as well!

Whether or not you have a special memory, this year The Christian Conference Trust, which runs The Hayes, are sharing with us a number of their most popular recipes....here is the first one! It is supplied by David Gregory – a chef at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire. (More details at www.cct.org.uk/thehayes)

White chocolate, lemon and raspberry muffins

These muffins are very quick and easy to make. All you need to do is mix the dry ingredients with the wet and mix briefly. The lumpier the mixture, the lighter your muffins will be.

300g Self raising flour

1 tsp Baking powder

4 tsp Butter

80g Sugar

100g Raspberries

150g Chopped white chocolate

Grated peel of a lemon

2 Eggs lightly beaten

225ml Milk

These ingredients will make 12 portions.

Preheat the oven to 200c.

Line a 12-cup muffin tin with grease paper.

Mix the flour, baking powder and butter until it looks like breadcrumbs.

Stir in the sugar, chocolate, raspberries and lemon peel.

Whisk together the eggs and milk in a jug, then pour this into the dry mixture.

Mix briefly and do not worry if the mixture looks lumpy.

Spoon the batter into the muffin cases and bake until well risen, golden and firm.

Cooking time approx 18 to 20 minutes.

Serve warm or cold.

GLORIOUS THE SONG WHEN GOD'S THE THEME' :

The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

'There is sweet music here'

With those words Tennyson expresses the special gift of music to illuminate life and to comfort sleep. In the waking hours and as the day ends, music can open up a new world of sound and melody that somehow we feel hinges onto eternity. Last year we looked at settings of words to music through the centuries which do just that. For this year we shall explore instrumental music, to see how different instruments can express and conjure up a whole range of feelings and longings.

We open the year with the piano. George Bernard Shaw described it as 'the most important of all musical instruments: its invention was to music what the printing press was to poetry.'

Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert knew and understood the capabilities of the piano and so created some of the most enduring music for that medium, but here we focus on the Romantic composer, Robert Schumann. In a short life of 46 years, he composed

music that inhabited worlds of the beautiful and the grotesque, the fantastic and the whimsical.

He was not always at ease with larger structures, but composing for the piano allowed Schumann to give full expression to his feelings on life and love. They were feelings he found fulfilled in his marriage to Clara Wieck, but sadly, they were short-lived. The last decade of his life was marked by poor health, and his final days were spent in an asylum where he died in July 1856.

The piano piece we look at this month is a short one – just a page long and entitled 'Dreaming.' It is from a collection of 'Scenes from Childhood' composed in 1838. It is characterised by a soaring, yearning melody that somehow expresses the dreams and hopes of a child.

As we listen to that melody, it can express the hopes and ideals we might have as we begin this new year. For all its twilight mood of nodding by the fireside, the melody is repeated eight times, and each time we feel it reaching up to the dawn of a new day. And reaching out to a new world in our relationships with those around and perhaps with God.

We know how easily the individualism that marks our secular world can move into isolation away from relationships. Henri Nouwen has written movingly of this in his book, 'Peacework', where he describes isolation as the greatest tragedy of our time. 'Young children feel lonely and unable to find friends, adolescents band together to have some sense of belonging, young families don't know their neighbours.' He writes of office workers sat at desks under neon lights, drinking instant coffee from

paper cups and eating instant lunches out of paper bags who wonder if they make any contribution at all.

Schumann knew that isolation which tragically in the end turned his mind. But in 1838 in this piano work, hope was alive; it is there in the notes that reach out from the page into our hearts and minds to tell us of a new world of peace and unity. With that hope we begin this year, praying for that peace of God, which can transform our lives and our world.

Left out in the cold

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services each week, stopped going. After a few weeks, the minister decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The minister found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his minister's visit, the man welcomed him warily, led him to a big chair near the fireplace and waited. The minister made himself comfortable, but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the play of the flames around the burning logs.

After some minutes, the minister took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair,

still silent. The host watched all this in quiet fascination.

As the one lone ember's flame diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead and dark. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The two men sat on in reflective silence.

A little while later, just before the minister was ready to leave, he picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the minister reached the door to leave, his host said, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

BBC's Bible marathon

BBC Radio 4 is going to broadcast a day of readings from the Bible this month in order to mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible. On Sunday 9th January BBC Radio 4 will broadcast 28 readings of 15 minutes each, lasting a total of seven hours. Prior to the Sunday 9th, there is also a series of three documentary programmes presented by Jim Naughtie - these are going out on 3rd, 4th and 5th January from 09:00am - 09:45am on BBC Radio 4 and are entitled The Story of the King James Bible.



When the snow falls.... do's and don'ts to clearing it

A detailed government guide to coping with heavy snowfall, including advice to clear a path, use table salt and how to get the sun to help you, is now available at www.direct.gov.uk



The guide reassures people that if they clear the path outside their house in a responsible way, they will not be sued if someone slips. The guide advises people to shovel the snow off BEFORE it gets impacted by heavy feet. It is stressed that you should NOT use hot water to clear the snow – it will only melt and then refreeze into black ice – thus increasing the risk of injury.

1	5	6	9	4	8	3	7	2
3	9	4	2	7	6	1	5	8
7	2	8	3	5	1	9	4	6
2	4	3	6	1	5	8	9	7
5	8	7	4	2	9	6	3	1
6	1	9	8	3	7	4	2	5
4	3	5	1	6	2	7	8	9
8	7	1	5	9	4	2	6	3
9	6	2	7	8	3	5	1	4

December solution



January Sudoku



			6				7	
		7			3	5		
3					7		4	
					2	6		
8	5						1	7
		9	3					
	9		5					3
		4	1			8		
	2				9			

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SERVICES & ROTAS FOR JANUARY 2011

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>			<u>FLOWERS</u>
2	9.30am	Holy Communion	Mrs Hopkins
9	9.30am	Holy Communion	2.30pm Evensong Mrs Evans
16	9.30am	Holy Communion	" "
23	9.30am	Holy Communion	Mrs Reeve
30	9.30am	Holy Communion	" "
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>			<u>SIDESMEN</u>
2	10.30am	Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Jackson
9	10.30am	Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Machin
16	10.30am	Matins	Mr & Mrs Wardle
20	2pm	Pilsley School Christingle Service	
23	10.30am	Holy Communion	R S Sherwood/Diana Walters
30	10.30am	Holy Communion (Candlemas with choir) R A Gray/John Bowns	
<u>COFFEE</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>	
2	Mrs Cooper/Mrs J Clarke	Mr & Mrs Jackson	<i>Christmas flowers</i>
9	Mr & Mrs Bosett	-----	Susanne Garnett
16	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Wardle	" "
23	Mr & Mrs Carter	-----	Liz Bradshaw
30	Mr & Mrs Dempsey	Mrs Bateman/Mrs Robinson	" "
<u>READINGS</u>	<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S & SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	
2	Isaiah 60: 1-9	Diana Symonds	Fiona Swain
	Matthew 2: 1-12		Lynda Hinxman-Allegri <i>No Sunday School</i>
9	Romans 12: 1-5	Tony Gray	Di Homer
	Luke 2: 41-end		Lynda Hinxman-Allegri <i>Sarah Porter</i>
	<i>Sunday School</i>		
16	2 Kings 4: 1-7	David Jackson	Judith Fraser-Martin
	John 2: 1-11		Fiona Swain
	<i>Sunday School</i>		Lynda Hinxman-Allegri
23	Romans 12:16-end	John Bowns	Rupert Turner
	Matthew 8: 1-13		Sarah Porter
	<i>Sunday School</i>		Fiona Swain
30	Malachi 3: 1-5	Roger Wardle	Judith Fraser-Martin
	Luke 2: 22-40		Lynda Hinxman-Allegri
	<i>Sunday School</i>		Sarah Porter

'The Bridge' Parish Magazine - 60p per copy (£7.20 per year).
 Items for the February Magazine should reach me no later than
Monday 17th January. Mail to: liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk