



Wimborne
Minster



Parish Magazine
December 2024
No. 460

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*Ts&Cs apply. Offer is valid for reservations at Market House made between 1/11/24 to 28/03/25 that go onto complete by 25th April 2025. Available on select apartments and subject to availability. See mccarthystone.co.uk/market-house for full details. *Additional charges apply.

(Cover photo: Creativity Planet on Facebook)

Chocolate Angels for the Food Bank

We will be again providing Chocolate Angel packs to the food bank this Christmas. These Chocolate Angels are not only enjoyable to eat, they tell those receiving them about the true meaning of Christmas. Each Chocolate Angel pack cost £5 and donations towards the cost can be placed in the white donation envelopes that have 'Angels' written on the front. These envelopes can be placed in the donation boxes between 4th November and 15th December. For more information please email:

claire@wimborneminster.org.uk



Family events in December

1st - 24th - Christmas Pudding Trail

Our Christmas puddings have escaped!
Find them hiding in the Minster and claim a small prize

Sunday 8th, 2pm-3.30 pm - Wimborne Minster: A Taste of Christmas

Join us in the Minster to make a small Christmas wreath and decorate a bauble, while enjoying mince pies, warm drinks and mulled wine.

Suggested donation of £10 per person.

Booking preferable: email claire@wimborneminster.org.uk

Saturday 14th, 11am - 3pm Minster Christmas Craft Fayre

Join us for festive shopping! We have a huge range of stalls including Lego, jewellery, clothing, homeware, decorations, woodwork and sweets and savoury treats. We will also have performances from local choirs and music groups, a pop up cafe, Santa's Grotto and Christmas Pudding Trail.

Saturday 21st 11am - 12.30pm - Children's Christmas Party (Church House)

Join us for a morning of Christmas crafts, games, Lego and seasonal refreshments for adults and children. Suggested donation of £5 per family.

Booking preferable: email claire@wimborneminster.org.uk

Tuesday 24th, 3pm Crib Service

Come dressed as your favourite Nativity character, with Elsa and Spiderman also welcome to retell the Christmas story. Audience participation fully encouraged! All children attending receive a gift.

Please check the diary for other events in the Minster.



Save the Date: 21st December

If part of the lead-in to Christmas for you is hearing Handel's immortal oratorio Messiah, then save this date!

At 7:30pm, the Minster is hosting Bournemouth

Bach Choir under the baton of Tim Hooper for this seasonal favourite. It will be performed with a chamber orchestra and a line-up of soloists. Take time out, bring visiting family, focus on the reason for the season and let

Contact details

Rector	Canon Andrew Rowland rector@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 882340
Churchwardens	Mr Bruce Jensen bruce-churchwarden@wimborneminster.org.uk Mr Andrew Patrick andrew-churchwarden@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 848889 01202 886871
Assoc. Priests	The Revd Heather Waldsax heather-assocpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk The Revd Bill French bill-assocpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk The Revd Sharon Boyle sharon-assocpriestpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 884753 01202 885746
Assistant Priests	The Revd Elise Harding elise-assistpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk The Revd Canon Nigel LLOYD nigel-assistpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk The Revd Derek Butler derek-assistpriest@wimborneminster.org.uk The Revd Marianne Mangham marianne-curate@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 884775
Curate		
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Families' Worker	Mrs Claire Lehmann claire@wimborneminster.org.uk	
Vergers	Mr John Hughes john-verger@wimborneminster.org.uk Mr Martin Smith martin-deputyverger@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 884753 01202 884753
Safeguarding	Mrs Jane Davidson safeguardingofficer@wimborneminster.org.uk	08962 718724
Stewardship	Mr Dennis Child stewardship@wimborneminster.org.uk	07973 698576
Villages Admin.	Mrs Judith Lane villageadmin@wimborneminster.org.uk	
Finance & Admin.	Mrs Jackie Morgan finance.admin@wimborneminster.org.uk	01202 884753
Parish Secretary	Mrs Ruth Marshall	01202 884753

The Parish office is open Monday-Friday, 10am-12 noon,
email enquiries only, please: parishoffice@wimborneminster.org.uk
www.wimborneminster.org.uk



socialmedia@wimborneminster.org.uk

Parish Magazine publication details

Co-editors: Rosalind Jensen and Andrew Kelley

Please send articles and information, by email if possible,
to parishmagazine@wimborneminster.org.uk or leave at the Parish Office.

Copy deadline for January 2025 issue: **Thursday 16th December.**

For advertising information, contact the e-mail address above.

Services at the Minster

Sundays

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) <i>with prayer for healing on the 4th Sunday of the month</i>
11.15 am	Minster Praise <i>with Communion on the last Sunday of the month</i>
6.30 pm	Choral Evensong

Weekdays

Holy Communion	11.00am, Wednesday <i>(in the Minster)</i>
Morning Prayer	8.30 am, Monday to Saturday <i>(on Zoom)</i>
Evening Prayer	5.00pm Monday to Saturday <i>(on Zoom)</i>

Services at St Margaret's Chapel

11.00 am 3rd Thursday Holy Communion (Common Worship)

We continue to stream the 9.30 am services at the Minster. Look for the 'Wimborne Minster official' Youtube channel for live and recorded services.

Minster Praise offers all-age informal worship every Sunday from 11.15 until noon, and includes Kids in the Crypt for children.
Come as you are, relax, and enjoy

In November

17th	Baptism of Ada and Sadie Zata
24th	Baptism of Jack Freddie White
14th	Funeral of Michael John (Mickj) Bailey aged 65 years

Dates for your diary - December

Sunday 1st, First Sunday of Advent

	12.30pm	Bring and Share Lunch (Church House)
	4pm	Hurn Court Opera (Church House)
	6.30pm	Advent Candlelight Service
Monday 2nd	6pm	St Michael's School Carol Service (Minster)
Tuesday 3rd	10am	Wimborne First School Christingle

Wednesday 4th	1pm – 1.30pm	Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)
	4pm	Prayer Circle (Church House)
Thursday 5th	9.30am – 11am	Two By Two Toddler Group (Church House upstairs), with Service at 10.30am (Minster)
	11am	Burial of ashes of Beryl Sexton
	11.30am	Mothers' Union Christmas Lunch (Church House)
Friday 6th	12 noon – 1pm	Lunch and Chat (Church House)
	6pm	Yarrells School Carol Service
Saturday 7th	7pm	Bournemouth Symphony Chorus concert
Sunday 8th, Second Sunday in Advent		
	2.30pm	A Taste of Christmas: Wreathmaking and crafts (Minster)
Monday 9th	7pm	Queen Elizabeth's School Carol Service
	7pm	Aspects of Spirituality (Minster)
Tuesday 10th	10.30am-12 noon	Forest Garden for Toddlers
	6pm	Poole Grammar School Carol Service
Wednesday 11th	1pm – 1.30pm	Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)
	2.30pm	Franciscan Group meeting (St Margaret's Chapel)
	4pm	Prayer Circle (Church House)
Thursday 12th	7.30pm	Canford School Carol Service
Friday 13th	10.30am-12 noon	Forest Garden for Homeschooling families
	12 noon – 1pm	Lunch and Chat (Church House)
	3pm	Castle Court School Carol Service
	7pm	Broadstone Community Band Concert
Saturday 14th	10am-3pm	Christmas Fair (Minster)
	7pm	Bournemouth & District Concert Band Concert

Sunday 15th, Third Sunday in Advent

	6.30pm	Taize Service (no Evensong)
Monday 16th	7pm	Corfe Hills School Carol Service
Tuesday 17th	2.30pm	Dumpton School Carol Service
Wednesday 18th	1.00pm – 1.30pm	Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)
	4.00pm	Prayer Circle (Church House)
	7pm	Dorset Police Carol Service
Thursday 19th	11am	Carols at St Margaret's Chapel
Friday 20th	12 noon – 1pm	Lunch and Chat (Church House)
	6pm	Carols in the Cornmarket (in Minster if wet)
Saturday 21st	11am	Shoppers' Carol Service
	11am – 12.30pm	Kids' Christmas Party (Church House)
	7.30pm	Bournemouth Bach Choir Concert

Sunday 22nd, Fourth Sunday in Advent

	6.30pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Tuesday 24th, Christmas Eve	3pm Crib Service.	No-rehearse Nativity: come dressed as your favourite character.
	11pm	Midnight Eucharist

Wednesday 25th, Christmas Day

	8am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist
		(No Minster Praise, no Evensong)

Thursday 26th – Saturday 28th, Minster closed

Sunday 29th	8am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Benefice Eucharist
		(No evening service)

**Cards for Good Causes**

in St George's Chapel in the Minster is open 10am – 4pm Monday-Saturday, into December. Look in the Minster Shop for lovely calendars and cards by Hannah Dunnett, which weave inspiring Bible texts into landscapes.

Advent and Christmas services at other Benefice Churches

Sunday 1st	6.30pm	Service of Light (Chalbury)
Sunday 15th	4pm	Christingle (Kingston Lacy)
	6pm	Carol Service (Witchampton)
Tuesday 17th	6pm	Carols Round the Christmas Tree (Horton)
Friday 20th	7pm	Carols Round the Cross (Shapwick)
Saturday 21st	6pm	Carol Service (Hinton Martell)
Monday 23rd	10am	Posada (Witchampton Village)
Tuesday 24th	11pm	Midnight Communion (Witchampton)



CHRISTMAS EVE SIMPLE LUNCH

Tuesday, 24th December, 12noon - 1.30pm
at Wimborne Methodist Church, King Street
Enjoy a simple meal of homemade soup and bread



As families and friends gather to celebrate Christmas together, we are reminded that far too many people worldwide have little reason for celebration, except enduring faith and hope. This year we will be remembering especially the peoples of Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Lebanon and South Sudan. Donations made at the meal will go to support communities in these deeply troubled places through current Christian Aid Emergency Appeals.

You could also consider making a donation to the Wimborne Christian Aid Bank Account: account name – *Christian Aid Wimborne Area*, account number 67340826, sort code 089299 or use one of the Christian Aid Emergency envelopes in the Minster, by the vergers' desk opposite the main entrance. Our two autumn lunches raised around £1,100 - a fantastic response from all who attended.

Our next event is the popular annual **Christian Aid Quiz on Sunday 26th January at 7.30pm**, in Wimborne Methodist Church, when Irene Selway will again be asking the questions. Thank you for your continuing love and support. We wish you a very Happy Christmas.

The Wimborne Area Christian Aid team



On Saturday December 7th, 10am – 3pm, join Wildlife Trust wardens and Young Conservationists for a family Christmas Tree Hunt on Upton Heath. There's a small prize for the best-looking tree! Enjoy a feast cooked on the fire and festive games/activities.
 Details at <https://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk>.

Praying for the Minster and the Northern Villages, Wimborne and the world

Prayer cycle for December

1	Museum of East Dorset, Walford Mill and Model Town	15	Minster
2	Our vergers, John and Martin	16	Church Mission Society
3	Lay Worship Leaders	17	The Anglican Community in all its diversity
4	Prayer groups	18	Twinning Associations
5	The Mission to Seafarers	19	Prison chaplains
6	Archdeacon Anthony	20	Local farmers
7	Wimborne Civic Society and Wimborne in Bloom	21	Allenbourn School
8	Local businesses, the Chamber of Trade, the BID	22	PCC Treasurers and Safeguarding representatives
9	FairTrade	23	Two By Two
10	GPs, nurses, carers, physiotherapists	24	The Minster bellringers
11	Our retired clergy	25	God's Acre Group
12	The Minster Choir, children and adults	26	Pramacare
13	The flower arrangers, silver polishers	27	Dioceses of Yambio and Nzara in South Sudan
14	The Friends of Wimborne	28	Vision Wimborne
		29	The financial sector
		30	Climate emergency
			Local Hospices

*Please use this diary as a part of your own prayers.
 In this way we can pray together as a parish for our common concerns.*

Curious about the Christian Faith ?

Thinking about Confirmation?

Enjoy pizza ?

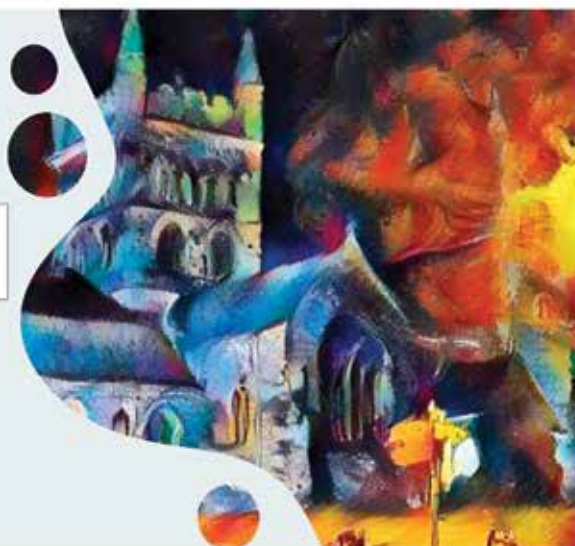
Those aged 10-18 are invited to meet at the Minster on Tuesdays during term time between 6-7pm from the 21st January 2025

Discussion, Food and Confirmation preparation

For more information please email

claire@wimborneminster.org.uk

marianne-curate@wimborneminster.org.uk



The Year Turns



December is a month of Carol Services for the clergy team and very welcome too, as we have the joy of seeing many folk in our churches from our schools, local charities, and even the Dorset Police at Wimborne Minster.

Last year I had the discombobulating experience of singing carols and wishing everyone at the W.I. service a *Happy Christmas* before Advent had even began! I do remember Father Christmas in late November being our busiest Messy Church session at West Moors – we were all too busy in December, it just wasn't convenient with everything else going on! Before we get sniffy about the earliness of the season, (and how nowadays it starts just after Halloween) don't forget that we have always combined Epiphany (the visit of the Magi) with Christmas, even though it patently happened much later – the evidence is in the Bible story.

We are pretty sure about Easter, but we don't know at what season Jesus was born. Christmas was developed to overlay former ancient pagan festivals (such as the Roman Saturnalia),

Carol singing is a Christianisation of the Germanic and Norse Yule festivals – *In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan* etc. It was originally the observance of the Winter Solstice (shortest day) of 21st December. Choir and clergy get to bless the Christmas Tree in the Square at 4:30pm on Saturday November 30th amongst much joviality and carol singing. The festive season starts from Advent Carols (Sunday 1st December) and carries right through to mid-January. Have you experienced the Darkness to Light Advent Service at The Minster yet? It is not to be missed! All our benefice churches will *keep the feast*, as always, so please look out for all the events, social and religious. The Minster will follow the normal pattern of services and be pleased once again to welcome many schools and societies for their carol services and celebrations.

December 29th, being a *Fifth Sunday*, will be a United Benefice Service at the Minster so do please come along, once you've digested all the festive fare! Epiphany Sunday, when *Wise men come to Jesus...* is officially January 6th (Monday) but we will keep it on Sunday 5th. So come and welcome the Lord. Happy Christmas and a peaceful and blessed New Year to all.

Yours in Christ – **Andrew, Rector**

The Children's Society and Christingle

The Wimborne in Bloom Charities Fair was held in the Allendale Centre last month, where we had our usual Christmas stall for The Children's Society which raised £223.20. Again, we were blessed with a dry day. Thank you for all who supported this event either by visiting our stall on the day or

contributing to it – lovely prizes, gifts, baked goods and bring and buy, along with Christmas cards. The amount raised all goes to help the valuable work the Children's Society does with children and young people at a time when need for such support is growing.

As it is the approaching the season for

Christingles we look forward to seeing Wimborne First School in the Minster, while Witchampton First and Pamphill First also celebrate in their own village churches.

A Christingle Prayer

*God of light,
we thank you for the work that
The Children's Society does,
drawing alongside young people
who feel alone or afraid,
and in need of comfort and support.
Thank you for the light brought to young people who may feel
as though they're surrounded by darkness.
As we light our Christingles, help us to remember the part we play,
and the light we can bring to those young people who need our support.
Thank you for caring about young people, and we ask that we too would
share these lights with them.
Amen.*

Christingle



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Bournemouth Bach Choir FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

Saturday 21st December, 7.30pm
WIMBORNE MINSTER

Handel
MESSIAH

Saturday 15th March, 7.30pm
CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY

BACH
St John Passion

Saturday 14th June, 7.30pm
ROMSEY ABBEY

HAYDN
The Creation

See bournemouthbachchoir.uk for ticket information

Unreserved tickets for Messiah at £20 are available from members, Square Records and www.ticketsource.co.uk/bournemouth-bach-choir

Aspects of Spirituality

Hello! I'm Heather Butler and was asked to organise *Aspects of Spirituality* this November. Here's how it came together; but first, a massive thank you to all those who made it possible. So many of you. One of several internet definitions I've read attempting to define spirituality says "it includes a sense of connection to something bigger than ourselves, and typically involves a search for meaning in life." As the new team running

the four evening sessions, Gilly, Paula and I met in early summer to share a meal and shape the event. We pondered how to help others engage with God who is much bigger than themselves. We could facilitate intellectual lectures, lead discussions, introduce monastic silence or repeat rituals. None of these floated our boats. What did emerge as we talked to God and each other was a banner headline - *Today's Issues Confronted by Yesterday's Giants* - and the names of four Old Testament prophets; Moses, Elijah, Jonah, Miriam. Each had colourful experiences meeting the living God and we decided to explore their lives as they craved affirmation, faced disillusion, exploded in anger and found hope in adversity through a reflective, creative style of spirituality. Gilly and I then visited Ann King who had led *Aspects* for the last few years. 'How do we find a speaker?' we asked. 'Ask God,' she replied instantly. 'He'll show you.' Hmmm, I thought. *I don't know anyone*. But I do know about God nudging and opening conversations to guide, so let's see what happens. A few weeks later someone randomly lent me a book of reflections

written by Amy Scott Robinson. The first chapter mentioned Moses. Interesting. Then Elijah got a mention. Even more interesting. Then Jonah. An email and telephone call later, Amy Scott Robinson was booked. Amy wrote four talks specifically for us; but she lives in Bury St Edmunds so delivering them in person was not an option. Usefully, my husband is a retired BBC director; so we headed for Bury with his film camera. Making a reflective, creative space for contemplation was our next challenge. In an unhurried, peaceful atmosphere we offered three options after Amy's twelve-minute screen talk. The crypt was a perfect place to examine Bible verses, pictures and pertinent questions to think about Amy's talk and how God can be part of our lives. Those unable to negotiate steps had the same resources in Trinity Chapel. Others headed for the back of the Minster to create Moses's staff, Elijah's wind catcher, Jonah's boat and a representation of Miriam's hope and joy with questions to chat about as they created. Others chose to stay in their seats to pray or just be quiet. Reflective time was followed by Amy Zoom-

calling us to answer questions. This became a special feature as her delightful character danced on the Minster screens and week by week the questions became more difficult and probing. Why did Moses have to spend so long in the desert herding sheep? How does God communicate with us today? Is it okay to get angry with God? Is the story literally true? Does God send judgement on nations today? People were positive and came back for more. With God, they processed meaningful thoughts and questions in a safe space. God was in nudging mode. We prayed *Disturb us Lord*. And God did. As for what we do next year, you'll have to wait and see!



Families and children at the Minster

Clothes and Toys Swap

Over a hundred people visited the Minster to participate in our clothes, toys and books swap during half term. This initiative supports local families to provide their children with clothes, toys and Christmas presents in an eco conscious way. Our next clothes and toy swap will be in the Spring.



Mrs Tiggywinkle and family

A children's trail around the Minster led to little knitted hedgehogs up to all sorts of activities, including skateboarding! Here is Mrs Tiggywinkle emerging from her teapot before disappearing to hibernate. The Advent trail is 'Find the Christmas puddings!' Thank you so much to the knitters who keep us all entertained with their work!



Forest Garden

Creative play and crafts continue in the Forest Garden (or in the Minster if it's too wet or cold). New families are still discovering us, and the parents enjoy talking together.



Christmas stockings for teens

There were many generous donations to the collection of small gifts for teenagers who otherwise would have no presents



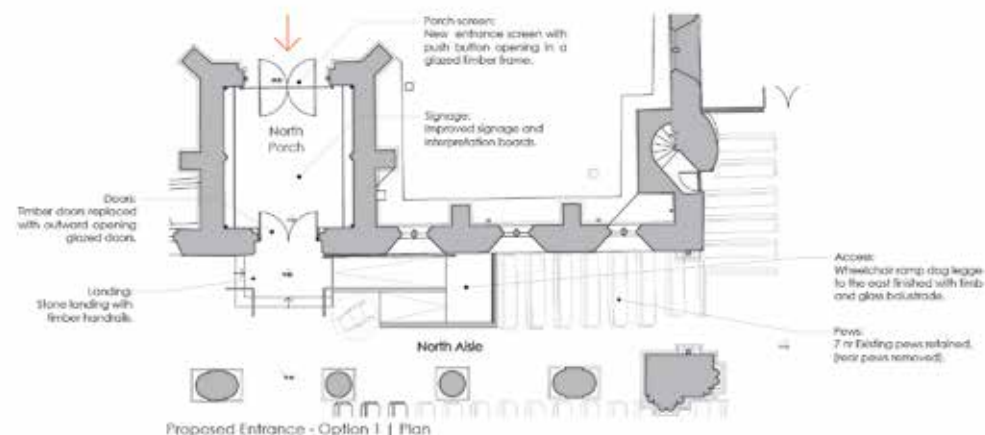
PCC Report

Are you sitting comfortably because the following news may come as a shock? The Minster may have toilets within about a year. After years of trying to get agreement from Dorset and Salisbury to extend the vestry, we have decided that we could be on a five-year journey that still won't lead us to what we want; so, with the Archdeacon's blessing, the PCC agreed to ask Salisbury to allow us to put toilets at the south end of Trinity Chapel. They will be discreet, away from the congregation and blend architecturally with the organ case. Fortunately Dorset does not need to be involved and we have real hopes of this going through. In a meeting filled with good news, the PCC also approved the 2025 budget. Thanks to a large cut in our Parish Share (as we now have only one priest with a stipend) a balanced budget includes a significant sum to add to the monies already raised towards the cost of the 2025 Quinquennial visit. *(The regular Quinquennial inspection produces a list of recommendations by the architect for work that is needed on the building - Ed.)* Perhaps more significantly, a very generous bequest will allow us to employ someone to take on much of what the Church Wardens now do in terms of

running the building. Thirty years ago it was possible to be a CW and have a full-time job; now it is a seven day a week slog. This new role will have a significant effect on the CWs' workload and should encourage candidates to come forward to replace CW Bruce next April. Typically he is trying to squeeze a year's work into the next five months; and has added creating a complete inventory (including all the stained glass windows and a re-evaluation of all our silver) to his normal workload.

CW Andrew updated us on the Grand Plan and the PCC was able to approve the siting of a servery where the shop is now and a ramp for disabled access at the main north door (see plan). Let us hope that the architects and Salisbury allow all this to happen in the near future. If that wasn't enough good news, the Rector added that (at some cost) we had moved closer to having a new rectory.

And when all this was agreed, we faced the big question of the day: how do we stop dogs fouling Minster Green? A few thoughtless visitors, who do not even pick up after their dogs, mean that we may have to limit dogs to the paths around the Minster. - **Richard Knott**



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Minster Events in November



Left to right: **Rev. Elise Harding** celebrated a special birthday with an open party in the Minster; here she is cutting her cake. We said goodbye to **Jackie Morgan**, who has been working as our finance officer behind the scenes for some years. Minster staff invited her to lunch and she was presented with flowers and a card. A successor has been appointed, and will be working the same hours as Jackie from January. As part of the season of Remembrance, Lewis-Manning Hospice Care again organised a **Candles on the Green** event, 'to reflect, celebrate and remember those we love and care about'.



Annual Churchwardens vs. Bellringers Skittles Match

This year the two teams enjoyed fish and chips (served by Moby Micks Fish and Chips van) at Colehill Cricket Club, before beginning the match. The 'trophy' is Maurice, a stuffed toy named after a memorable previous verger. The Churchwardens team retained Maurice, who will now spend another year in the clergy vestry. In the photo: Tower Captain David Warwick, Maurice, and Churchwarden Bruce Jensen. Thank you to Bruce for organising the evening.

A 60th Anniversary celebrated

In September, the Revd Canon David Price, Rector of the Minster 1986-2001 marked the 60th anniversary of his priesting in Rochester Cathedral on 27th September 1964. The midweek Communion Service in the Minster celebrated his years of service, with the lessons read by two of the curates he trained, Revd Jeremy Law and Revd Tim Clapton, and the Gospel read by the current curate, Revd Marianne Mangham. The Rector preached; David spoke of the other parishes where he had served, led prayers with the Rector, and gave the blessing. (See photo top of next page)



(Back row) The Rector, curate Revd Marianne Mangham, former curates Revd Jeremy Law and Revd Tim Clapton, former Churchwardens Derrick Powell and Anthony Oliver, and Town Crier Chris Brown, **(front row)** Revd Canon David Price flanked by Tony Knight and Anne Pollard also former Churchwardens.



Simon Morley, the Minster's Assistant Organist in the mid-1980s, is now organist in Tampa, Florida. In November he was visiting his parents in the New Forest; Anthony and Christine Oliver invited him for lunch, and he then enjoyed playing on the re-built Minster organ. We hope he might play at one of the lunchtime recitals in the Minster next August.

Remembrance on the Green



(Photos: Copyright Tom Scrase, by kind permission)

On Remembrance Sunday silence was observed by the congregation at the War Memorial after the 9.30am Eucharist. In the afternoon around 600 people attended the Royal British Legion Service in the Minster, with more present on the Green for the wreath laying at the Memorial. On Armistice Day, two minutes' silence on the Green was followed by a roll call of the dead, and members of the RBL were again in attendance.

Flock Report



The churchyard of St Wolfrida's has been attracting wide attention, from South West Farmer and the Bournemouth Echo to the BBC. As reported briefly in our last issue, the churchyard is now home to a number of sheep. Churchwarden Phillip Bailey decided to organise the sheep because of difficulties looking after the large area. Sheep have been



kept here on and off over the past hundreds of years, until the owner of the last flock moved away about 20 years ago. Money for upkeep is short since the church faces the challenge of treating and repairing deathwatch beetle damage. Luckily Wimborne Minster Parish Secretary

Ruth Marshall is also experienced with shepherding. Using her contacts, she sourced first some goats and then, through the goats' owner Alessandra Savoca, rare North Ronaldsay sheep which will eat weeds, and which are bred by Vicky Walters. Ruth and



Alessandra have now bought the sheep and loaned them to Horton for as long as needed. All the locals, especially next door neighbour/



verger Jackie Lydford, keep an eye on the livestock and feed and water them daily. The fourteen members of the "flockwatch" team help make the sheep project successful, and an extended neighbourhood team of volunteers manages the rest of the graveyard gardening. For the parts that the sheep cannot reach, tidy up days involve locals with trimmers, rakes and pruners with a hearty lunch laid on by the warden and his wife Anne. The goats have gone home now because they need winter shelter, but the sheep can tough it out. If anyone would like to donate or help fundraise for the churchyard or deathwatch beetle projects, please get in touch with Ruth at the Parish Office.

(Top photo: <http://www.ramblingsheep.co.uk> from 2018)

Other photos: Ruth Marshall

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Book of the month: Books in Chains

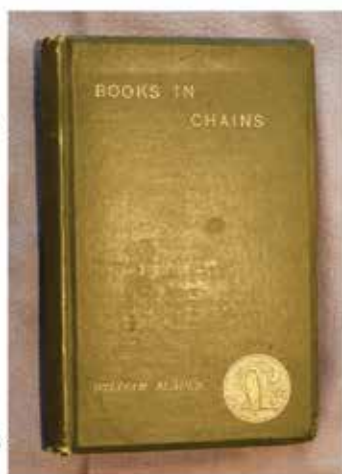
We, the Chained Library, have recently been given by one of our own Librarians, Ian Broadway, two interesting books. They are linked both to each other and to our own Chained Library. The author of the books, William Blades, born in Clapham, London in December 1824, was apprenticed at his father's printing business at the age of 16, later

becoming a partner in the firm, renamed as Blades, East and Blades.

William had a lifelong fascination with the history of printing and typography, which led him to write a two-volume *Life and Typography of William Caxton, England's First Printer* first published in 1861.

While remaining dedicated to printing,

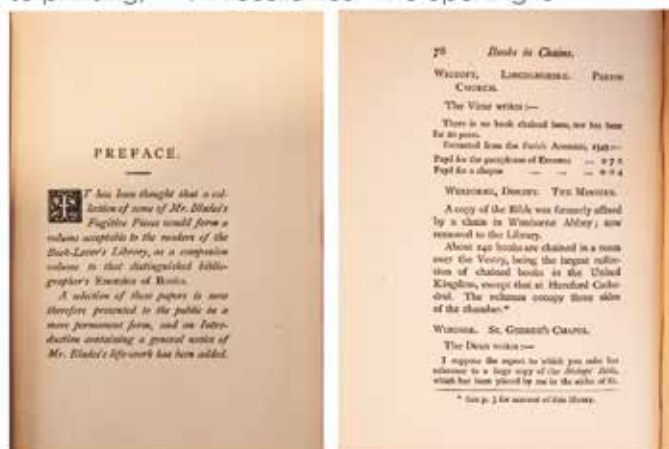
he had a major part in organising the catalogue of the Caxton Collection, an international exhibition in 1877 to celebrate 400 years since Caxton printed his first book. He was also a leader in the founding of the UK Library Association (now CILIP), which connects libraries



and librarian workers at a national and international level. The first of our books, *Books in Chains*, is the larger of the two and was published in 1890 by Blades, East and Blades. It measures 17cms by 27cms with a blue board cover and has 105 pages. Chapter 1 is about Wimborne Minster and the

Chained Library: "Who can look at that old building without emotion? The grand Norman arches, with the Gothic additions of later centuries, are, of themselves, an abridged history of England." He goes on to describe the library itself, followed by a comprehensive list of all the books including title, author, printer and date. A mammoth task if he undertook this himself - he may have used the 1725 original catalogue to assist him.

Chapter 2 is titled 'Bibliographical Miscellanies.' The opening is



concerned with why books are chained and he describes chained books as distressing "as a shorn Samson among the Philistines" because books, before mass printing, were rare and valuable and chaining became a common practice. He also briefly mentions many collegiate libraries from Oxford and Cambridge, for example: "1580, Jesus College, Cambridge is recorded... cheyneynge all books with staples in the Chapell..." The remaining 44 pages catalogue 89 parish churches and cathedrals (including Hereford) where books are displayed "in chains", the vast majority with less than five books. The book ends with some interesting examples of printers' frontispieces. The second volume is *Books in Chains and Other Bibliographical*

Papers by the late William Blades, printed in London by Elliot Stock in 1892. It measures 12cms by 18cms with a green board cover and has 232 pages. It was edited by Henry B. Wheatley, based on papers and notes left by William Blades at his death. After a lengthy introduction, the first two chapters are identical to the first book. There follows a series of essays and articles on topics relating to the history of printing, typography and bookbinding, including the history of chained books, the development of printing in Haarlem, and the early schools of printing in England. It also includes a detailed account of the printing of the Gutenberg Bible and an essay on the history of bookbinding.

William Blades died at Sutton in Surrey in April 1890. On his death, his library was acquired by the St Bride Foundation, off Fleet Street, as the initial part of its collection, which encapsulates the history of print, typography and design. Within the library, the architect created a near replica of Blade's original library to house his collection; this was refurbished in 2015.

Again, we thank Ian for his thoughtful and generous donation.

- Mike Twomey



Sources:

<https://stbridefoundation.wordpress.com/2015/04/30/william-blades-and-theblades-library-a-commemoration-and-celebration/>
Encyclopædia Britannica Wikipedia, 'William Blades'.

Editor's note: *Books in Chains* is available as a print on demand book from bookshops if you want your own copy! More details about William Blades at Ursula Jeffries, 'William Blades, Champion of Caxton and Posthumous Benefactor', *Skin Deep* vol 33 (2012) https://www.hewit.com/skin_deep/?volume=33&article=1

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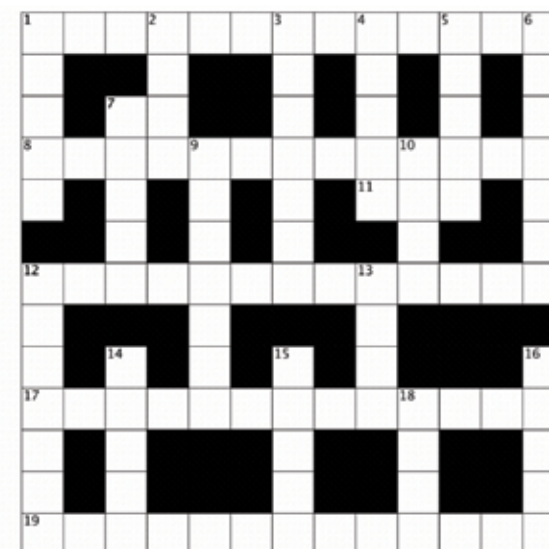
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December Crossword set by Bruce Jensen

ACROSS

1. Decorated pine in the front room (9,4)
7. 'And __ I am with you, even until the end of the world.' (2)
8. Sunday Eucharist, Evensong, Midnight Mass are examples of this (6,7)
11. Transgression against divine law (3)
12. Christmas hymn by Isaac Watts (3,2,3,5)
17. Often sprinkled on mince pies (8,5)
19. Early Christian bishop who gave anonymous gifts (5,10)



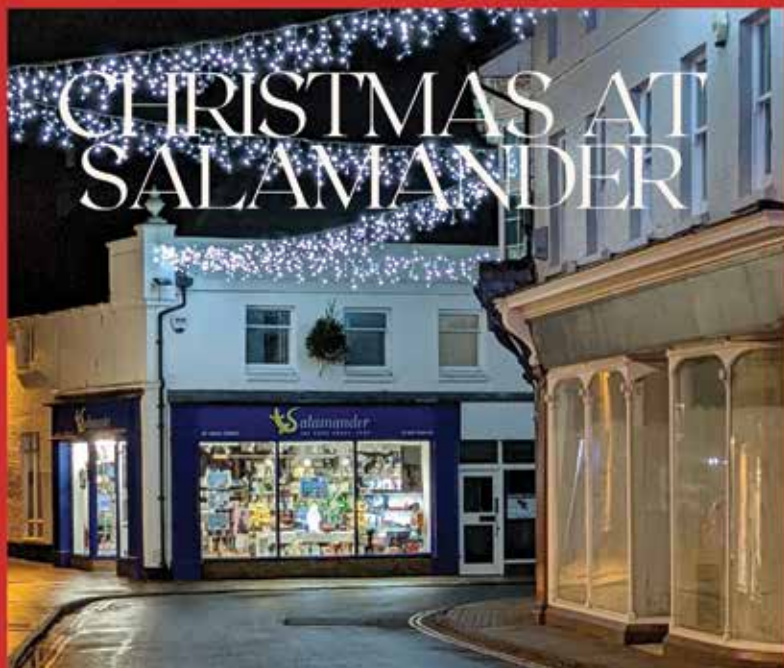
DOWN

1. 'Button up, don't __ cold over the holidays' (5)
2. Dr. Frankenstein's assistant (4)
3. In Hebrew, 'anointed one' (7)
4. 'The __ in the bright sky looked down where he lay.'
5. Red-breasted bird often found on Christmas cards (5)
6. Came in (7)
7. Fortunate (5)
9. Unit of energy, often used by dieters (7)
10. Wine (Italian) (4)
12. Woolies, sometimes with silly Christmas designs (7)
13. Quick thinking; 'He learned to survive on his __'
14. Hindu holy man (5)
15. Coke's rival (5)
16. 'He can't see the woods for the __.' (5)
18. 'For __us a child is born...' (4)

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SEANCONNER
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BOND JAMESBOND
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ERNEST AND
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